

Mayor Pro Tem Martin's July 8 Public Meeting Comment Cards and Responses

Neighborhood	Question/Comment/Concern	Agency/ Company	Response to Questions
Kingwood Greens	<i>Please explain how successful you think the environmental impact study will be.</i>	Black & Veatch	Based on the minimal impacts of the proposed project this project action qualifies for an Environmental Assessment (EA) versus an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which is required for large scale major federal actions. The project team prepared a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit to be submitted and reviewed by the USACE as well as an Environmental Assessment to be submitted and reviewed by FEMA. Both of these documents have reviewed several alternatives. The proposed project is within existing structure footprint and poses minimal environmental impacts.
Forest Cove	<i>Will Black and Veatch put their PE seal on any studies that will show this expenditure, and will significantly reduce W.F. San Jacinto River flood levels at us 59 and W. Lake Houston Drive?</i>	Black & Veatch	B&V will affix their PE seal to engineering reports, drawings, and specifications in accordance with state laws.
GreenTree	<i>Will this project be automated based on water coming into the Lake? Will Luce Bayou be shut off when new gates open?</i>	Houston Public Works	1. Details regarding future gate operations are still under development as part of the preliminary design. 2. Houston Public Works to respond.
The Enclave at Town Center, Kingwood	<i>The presentation showed (2 I think) additional discharge at Lake Houston Dam of 45,000 cfs. At peak flow from Harvey & SJRA discharge flow over dam was approx. 400,000 cfs. Does this mean the dam project will only increase capacity by 11%?</i>	Black & Veatch	At the 100-year water surface elevation in Lake Houston (49.6 feet), the additional gates will increase the capacity of the spillway by 45,000 cfs. This discharge rate increases as the lake elevation increases. Hurricane Harvey was greater than a 100-year storm event and water levels in Lake Houston reached elevations above 52 feet. The new gates will increase the dam's discharge capacity by approximately 25% overall.
Sand Creek	<i>Are there plans to construct a straight and deep channel from just below the Lake Houston dam all the way down the Houston Ship Channel? If not, why not?</i>	Houston Public Works	This project does not include construction of a "straight/deep" channel south of Lake Houston. This project relates solely to the Spillway Gates.

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Woodstream	<p><i>How can we get updates when Lake Houston is lowering the Lake because of approaching storms?</i></p> <p><i>How can we get updates when Lake Conroe is increasing their releases?</i></p>	District E Office	<p>All residents that wish to be added to our Distribution List are encouraged to email our office at DistrictE@houstontx.gov, with their email address and physical address. Please include subject line "Distribution List Request" and we will get you added. Our office provides notice of when Lake Houston is being lowered whether it be due to weather, construction work, or any other reason. We also include information on Lake Conroe releases when it is relevant as well as SJRA's website where you can see the data for yourself.</p>
North Woodland Hills	<p><i>Will the drainage ditch that flows behind McDonalds ("fire tower/fire station?) (illegible) be maintained on a regular basis? Dredge of all the debris from the road - North Park Drive that gets dumped into the drainage ditch and causes water to rise and flow over and into the North Woodland Hills Village and flood homes.</i></p>	Harris County Flood Control District	<p>This is referring to the upper portion of Bens Branch (G103-33-00). HCFCD performs desilting on an as-needed/scheduled basis. Desilting is different from dredging, as it aims to clean out silted up channels to allow for better conveyance within open channels. For concerns regarding debris being dumped into HCFCD channels, please complete the online Service Request Form: https://www.hcfcd.org/Community/Contact-Us/Service-Request.</p>
Kingwood Lakes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. What will be the Maximum release rate from Lake Houston be after the modifications?</i> <i>2. What is the max rate from the Lake Conroe?</i> <i>3. Will we be able to stop the flow from Trinity River when Lake Houston is at flood stage? Before it gets to flood stage?</i> 	Black & Veatch	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. At the 100-year water surface elevation in Lake Houston (49.6 feet), the additional gates will increase the capacity of the spillway by 45,000 cfs.</i> <i>2. This is dependent upon SJRA's operational protocol and beyond the pervue of the LHDSIP. Please contact the SJRA Lake Conroe Division.</i> <i>3. Question requires response from CWA on their operations.</i>
Kingwood Lakes	<p><i>Is Lake Houston releasing water according to the schedule? Conroe residents are reporting that lake levels have not changed.</i></p>	Houston Public Works	<p>Yes, Lake Conroe is complying with seasonal releases. Currently, we are on schedule for our Lake Conroe summer release of 2 ft, which should be complete by August 31st. Lake Conroe will be lowered from 201 feet to 199 feet.</p>

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Blank	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Current release capacity (foot/day)</i> <i>Future release Capacity (foot/day)</i></p>	Black & Veatch	No change to normal operations. Answered through previous question responses.
GreenTree	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Thank you!</i></p> <p>1. <i>Will the new Lake Houston gates increase discharge flows by 25% increase?</i></p> <p>2. <i>What is the ratio of discharge rate between Lake Conroe dam & Lake Houston dam in the future??</i></p>	Black & Veatch	<p>1. At the 100-year water surface elevation in Lake Houston (49.6 feet), the additional gates will increase the capacity of the spillway by 45,000 cfs which is approximately 25% higher than the existing capacity. The total flow passing through the spillway will be the same as current conditions. However, this flow will occur at a lower water surface elevation in the lake.</p> <p>2. After the gates are installed, the gates will allow the same amount of discharge at a lower elevation (remove this sentence). The 2020 San Jacinto River Master Drainage Plan showed that during a basin wide 100-year storm event, the Lake Conroe watershed contributes approximately 12% of the total volume into Lake Houston.</p>
Atascocita Shores	<p><i>My home at in Atascocita Shores saw dramatically different water levels during two flood events. On 10/19/94 the water was 2" below my slab but on 8/29/17 it was 38" above the slab. The news website of NOAA shows the lake level at the dam was 52.45' on 8/29/17 versus 52.79' on 10/19/94. So at the dam the water level was about the same. The water flow into the lake was almost double and was being held back by the narrow openings in the FM 1960 "Dam": The two openings under FM 1960 are only 23% of the width of the crossing and the openings are only about 50% of the river width at Atascocita Point on the West Fork and 20% of the Width at Scott's Point on the East Fork. We need to open up more flow width under 1960!</i></p>	Houston Public Works	<p>From Black & Veatch: The USGS lake elevation information shows a peak gage height of 52.73' for Lake Houston for the October 1994 event. However, there was a survey datum adjustment of approximately 2.7 feet since that event. Accounting for this datum adjustment, the peak elevation in the lake for October 1994 was approximately 50.03 feet using today's datum reference. This elevation is about 3 feet lower than the Harvey elevation 52.73'.</p> <p>The hydrologic and hydraulic models have been calibrated to high water marks observed by the USGS and the HCFCD. These marks and gage data did not indicate a significant headloss at the 1960 bridge. While the flow width does contract, the bridge opening has enough capacity to convey flow downstream.</p>

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Northshore	<p><i>What are you going to do about the sandbars that are forming in the river between Lake Houston Pky and 59 bridge?</i></p> <p><i>Why doesn't SJRA clean up the debris from the water drainage - through the 59 bridge to East of the bridge to Lake Houston Parkway?</i></p>	Houston Public Works	<p>The sandbars near the US 59 bridge will be addressed after the completion of the dredging in the East Fork of the San Jacinto River. It is not the responsibility of the SJRA to remove debris from the San Jacinto River. There currently is not a mechanism in place to remove floatable debris from the river or lake. Mayor Pro Tem worked with State Representative Huberty last year on HB 2525 which would have provided a mechanism to do that, which passed out of the house and got stuck in the Senate. The same legislation will be submitted next legislative session in 2023.</p>
Atascocita	<p><i>1. Does the cost for the dam gates addition include escalation costs thru completion?</i></p> <p><i>2. If Infrastructure funds are available can the full current scope be revised? (i.e. Less gates)</i></p> <p><i>3. Will the dam gates be purchased from only USA manufacturers?</i></p> <p><i>4. What is the delivery time for the gates after award to the manufacturer?</i></p> <p><i>5. What is the amount of money expected from Harris Co. bond fund?</i></p>	Houston Public Works	<p style="text-align: center;">Black & Veatch Input:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">3. Yes.</p> <p>4. Based on on-going communications with the supplier, the gate delivery time is anticipated to be less than the time required to structurally modify the spillway crest for their incorporation. Thus supply of gates is not anticipated to impact schedule.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5.</p>
Kings Crossings	<p><i>Is there a labeled detailed map of all the drainage waterways in Kingwood? If so, where would it be found?</i></p> <p><i>What is the name of the waterway between The Enclave & Deerwood Golf Course?</i></p> <p><i>Who is responsible for monitoring & maintaining? There is a city water pumpstation of Houston on this property.</i></p>	Harris County Flood Control District	<p>Please refer to the interactive map available on HCFCDD site (www.hcfcdd.org) for channel name/number and ownership that performs monitoring maintenance for the channel of interest:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.hcfcdd.org/About/Harris-Countys-Flooding-History/Hurricane-Harvey/Kingwood-Information. Ownership of channels in the area is generally HCFCDD or City of Houston.</p> <p>For maintenance concerns regarding HCFCDD channels, please complete the online Service Request Form:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.hcfcdd.org/Community/Contact-Us/Service-Request.</p>
Kings Point	<p><i>Maybe I missed it but has all of the funding been approved for construction of these new dam gates?</i></p>	Houston Public Works	Yes

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The Enclave	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Re. Sand Mines</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the discussion with them? 2. Do they keep getting more permits? 3. What is the action on open pits along SJ River? 	State/TCEQ Issue	It is recommended that for questions related to sand mines that contact is made with your State Representative and/or the TCEQ. (www.tceq.texas.gov)
Barrington	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Has there been any discussion about purchasing the area around River Grove Park and Barrington? I understand in the past there was discussion of developing the area. Our concern is that this could cause more flooding.</i></p>	District E Office	<p>Mr. & Mrs. Schleigh, our office fully understands the concerns and issues with this area. This is why when Romerica was trying to develop the land into a marina a public hearing was held to gather public input (https://www.chron.com/neighborhood/kingwood/news/article/Kingwood-residents-voice-concerns-about-high-rise-13535136.php#photo-16774065). At this time, there have not been discussions to purchase this land.</p>
Sand Creek	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who will make the decisions on what criteria in another Harvey like event (there will be one) regarding up stream and VS downstream impacts? 2. Anticipated life and reliability of the Obermeyer gate bladders? 	Black & Veatch	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Response needed from CWA. 2. Bladders have a design lifespan of 30 years based on known performance, redundancy of bladders ensures that failure of one or more bladders along a 200-ft long gate (with each gate supported by ten 20-ft long individual bladders and operated on independent valves) will not induce failure of the gate. Reliability is within industry standards.
Pinpoint	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Statement unclear/writing is difficult to read</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Was modifications to make the spillway adjustable considered?</i></p> <p><i>Has the Huffman 1960 bridge "Choke Point" been analyzed?</i></p> <p><i>Will Lake Conroe hold its reservoir at flood stage +5ft and not draw it down in the future?</i></p> <p><i>What benefit does dredging have on flooding?</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Lakes floods from the top up.</i></p>	Houston Public Works	<p>Yes, over 9 variations were considered for this project. The FM 1960 Bridge is a state asset and the state has been reached out to regarding modifications to the design of the existing bridge to allow for increased flow in future instances. Lake Conroe will continue to operate in accordance with National Standards related to their dam which do require them to hold water until they reach a level of 207 ft. Dredging allows for the existing paths to continue to be followed, if sediment is allowed to continue to build up new paths are cut and become a threat to flooding infrastructure. It's not so much the Lake flooding that is the main concern here, it is riverine flooding that has a major impact in the Lake Houston Area as there are just shy of 20 tributaries that flow in to and contribute to Lake Houston.</p>

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Barrington	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Thank you for fighting for us. Could we receive any of Biden's infrastructure plan dollars if passed?</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>It's great we have been dredging. How does the sand mining practice figure into the dredging? Doesn't seem like we have the political will to pass any bills.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please inform. Thanks</i></p>	<p>Houston Public Works</p>	<p>Yes, there is potential for additional projects and improvements to be funding through Federal Infrastructure dollars. It is recommended that for questions related to sand mines that contact is made with your State Representative and/or the TCEQ. (www.tceq.texas.gov) However, local sandminers are business and post Harvey many "good" actors have taken measures to secure their mines and reduce the impact of their sandmines to our region.</p>