

CEDAR BAYOU INITIATIVE

Project List Strategy

This Document is an Accompaniment to the Cedar Bayou Initiative Strategy Timeline

Purpose

The Cedar Bayou Initiative (CBI) is a partnership of public and private sector stakeholders in the Cedar Bayou Watershed. Its purpose is to identify and pursue priority projects to improve flood management and resiliency throughout the watershed and its communities. This document summarizes the priority projects identified by the CBI and lays out action steps to be taken by the partners towards project implementation.

Included

<i>Procedures & Accountability</i>	1
<i>Current Funding Deadlines & Associated Tasks.....</i>	2
<i>Detention</i>	2
<i>Conveyance Improvement</i>	2
<i>Channel Maintenance.....</i>	3
<i>NRG Channel Cut</i>	3
<i>Transportation.....</i>	3
<i>Water Quality</i>	4
<i>Acronym Key.....</i>	4

Procedures & Accountability

January 2019: H-GAC will develop an online location for Cedar Bayou Initiative partners to share information.

March 2019: Electronic reporting of progress submitted to point of contact 7 days before March 2019 meeting.

June 2019: Cedar Bayou Initiative partners meet to review and update 6-month task list.

September 2019: Electronic reporting of progress uploaded to the Cedar Bayou Initiative's online shared location.

December 2019: Convene a Cedar Bayou Initiative Partner meeting. Participants to review and update 6-month task list and develop goals for Year 2.

Funding Deadlines & Associated Tasks

January 31 & April 30, 2019

Project: Plan and Coordinate for upcoming CDBG-DR funds

- Task 1 Convene the appropriate entities to determine the most effective use of designated funds.
- Task 2 Eligible projects include home buy-outs and/or acquisitions and a variety of local infrastructure categories determined by the State of Texas Plan for Disaster Recovery: Hurricane Harvey.

January 31 & April 30, 2019

Project: Apply for PDM and FMA mitigation grants through FEMA

- Task 1 Define project details and submit grant applications for the following HMAP mitigation actions:
 - Chambers County Mitigation Actions: A7, B7, B9, and D1
 - Liberty County Mitigation Actions: J1, J2, J3, J4, J5, J6, and J10.
- Task 2 Contact the governing jurisdiction's Emergency Management Coordinator to add new projects to HMAPs if they are not currently included in approved plans.
- Task 3 Develop and submit grant applications for supplementary projects by January 31st.
- Task 4 Participate in the Harris County HMAP update and submit new projects to be included in their hazard mitigation plan.

Project: Ongoing Funding Search & Project Coordination

- Task 1 All partners will explore Public-Private Partnerships to fund and/or promote projects.
- Task 2 All partners will continue to seek funding opportunities, share opportunities, and coordinate proposed projects.
- Task 3 County and City partners will seek funding opportunities to fund large projects.
- Task 4 Partners will share project proposal via online location.

Detention

Project: Regional Detention

- Task 1 HCFCD Cedar Bayou Flood Risk Reduction Study will identify detention needs designated by zone within the Cedar Bayou watershed.
- Task 2 HCFCD Staff will coordinate with local jurisdictions to identify and evaluate potential detention sites.
- Task 3 H-GAC will provide growth forecast projections to counties and local jurisdictions. Using this information, project partners will determine detention needs associated with future development.
- Task 4 Project partners will develop and propose new policies to address future detention needs

Conveyance Improvements

Project: Harris County Bond Issue Projects

- Task 1 HCFCD to continue implementing conveyance improvements based on the Flood Risk Reduction Study and projects identified in its package(s).
- Task 2 Jurisdictions will identify internal projects (e.g. street drainage) that may impact HCFCD conveyances and coordinate with HCFCD on shared opportunities.

- Task 3 Chambers County and Liberty County will identify any projects in the watershed outside of HCFCD jurisdiction that may offer shared benefits for the watershed as a whole.
- Task 4 The counties will coordinate with HCFCD on potential partnership projects outside Harris County as appropriate.
- Task 5 All partners will explore Public-Private Partnerships to fund and/or promote initiatives.

Channel Maintenance

Project: Navigation Channel Improvements

- Task 1 The Navigation District staff will coordinate with USACE to seek full funding for the navigation channel improvements project.
- Task 2 Navigation District will inform the other local partners when and if additional support would be appropriate.
- Task 3 USACE and the Navigation District will coordinate implementation of the project with other local partners to seek shared opportunities.

NRG Channel Cut

Project: NRG Channel Evaluation

- Task 1 H-GAC and local partners will investigate the current status of ownership and easement rights for the NRG “cut channel”.
- Task 2 Local partners will identify the potential impact of the cut channel on flood management.
- Task 3 HCFCD will, as appropriate, work with local partners to identify the entity responsible for long term management of the cut channel.
- Task 4 All the local partners will coordinate on an implementation strategy for addressing the cut channel (if deemed necessary).

Transportation

Project: Transportation Project Prioritization, with focus on I-10 Flooding

- Task 1 Partners will collect information and share documentation of flooding that occurs along I-10 and will share that information with TXDOT.
- Task 2 Partners will determine potential interventions to reduce flooding.
- Task 3 Partners will advocate for mitigation projects that reduce flooding along I-10, and when appropriate TXDOT will facilitate the prioritization of these projects when TXDOT puts out call for maintenance projects.
- Task 4 HCFCD and Chambers County will conduct a hydrology study on potential downstream flooding if I-10 culverts are widened. Findings will be shared with TXDOT.
- Task 5 All findings will be shared with appropriate governing bodies, and an action plan will be developed.
- Task 6 H-GAC and TXDOT to discuss methods for prioritizing flood control elements of transportation projects in upcoming Call for Projects.

Project: Drainage, Debris, and Rail Infrastructure

- Task 1 County staff will collect photos and documentation of debris build-up at railroad trestles and railroad crossings within the Cedar Bayou Watershed.
- Task 2 County staff will share their findings with Union Pacific Railroad, who will evaluate the needs of specific locations as part of their routine maintenance and assessment program.
- Task 3 County staff will coordinate with Union Pacific to review an engineering study to determine the impact of rail infrastructure or maintenance needs on flooding events.
- Task 4 HCFCD will be notified prior to any interventions likely to impact hydrology. If necessary and appropriate, HCFCD will conduct a hydrology study on potential downstream flooding that may occur from debris removal or alterations to rail infrastructure.
- Task 5 All findings will be shared with appropriate governing bodies and an action plan will be developed.

Project: Integrate Resiliency in Transportation Asset Management

- Task 1 H-GAC to host Asset Management Workshop focused on integrating NOAA Atlas 14 precipitation & frequency data into transportation asset management plans.

Water Quality

Project: Water Quality Improvement

- Task 1 H-GAC staff will facilitate the Cedar Bayou Watershed Partnership to implement voluntary efforts to improve water quality.
- Task 2 MS4 permittees will implement their Stormwater Management Plans to address pollution and other impacts of urban runoff.
- Task 3 The City of Baytown will implement its Watershed Protection Ordinance.
- Task 4 All local partners will coordinate with HCFCD and county projects to seek opportunities to enhance resilience, transportation, and flood management projects with mutually beneficial water quality features (e.g., riparian buffers).

Acronym Key

CBI	Cedar Bayou Initiative
CBND	Cedar Bayou Navigation District
CDBG-DR	Community Development Block Grants-Disaster Response
CLCDD	Chambers-Liberty County Drainage District
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FMA	Flood Mitigation Assistance
HCFCD	Harris County Flood Control District
HGAC	Houston-Galveston Area Council
HMAP	Hazard Mitigation Action Plan
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
PDM	Pre-Disaster Mitigation
PPP	Public Private Partnership
TxDOT	Texas Department of Transportation
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers