

Armand Bayou I-Plan  
Coordination Committee Meeting Summary  
August 13, 2013

H-GAC: Aubin Phillips, Steven Johnston

TCEQ: Jason Leifester, Lauren Oertel

Meeting Attendees: Linda Broach (TCEQ), Diane Humes (ABWP), C.A. Shields (BAHEP), Rose Sobel (University of Houston), Steve Hupp (BPA), Carol LaBreche (COH), Einar Goerland (Taylor Lake Village), George Guillen (EIH-UHCL), Jason Iken (COH), Jonathan Holley (HCFCD), Charles Webster (NASA/JSC), Danielle Cioce (HCPID), Jared Luchar (COH), Bianca Locke (City of Pasadena), Scott Jones (GBF), William Stefanov (NASA/JSC), Dennis Paul (City of Houston), Tom Beck (TXDOT), Martin Alcala (COH), Mark Kramer (ABNC), Hanadi Rifai (UH)

This meeting was held at The Armand Bayou Nature Center. There were approximately 25 people in attendance. Attendees made self introductions and TCEQ did a quick survey of people about resources for BMPs.

The meeting started with a quick report of what happened at the work group meetings two weeks ago. All four meeting were held at Armand Bayou Nature Center on July 30&31.

1. Wildlife/Habitat/Agriculture/Feral Hogs: This group discussed taking an inventory of the agricultural properties in the area to get an idea of who owns the land where cattle are being kept – TPW has sent some information. The group also discussed feral hog control and the need to get rid of the hogs and not just move them around. The group talked a little more about the idea to “preserve, protect and restore” wetlands and riparian areas. We will be reviewing some other areas plans and ordinances to see what kind of language is already in use.

2. Education/Outreach/Recreation/Domestic Pets/Litter, Residential: BPA thinks they could help expand the Stream Team monitoring in the watershed, and possibly do bacteria monitoring as well. Household hazardous waste was discussed, there used to be pick up events, but there are not as many now, these could be advertised more and be a tie in to do more education about bacteria.

3. Wastewater Infrastructure/OSSF: There was the thought that there may not really be too many OSSFs in the watershed and they not be a very high priority. H-GAC has a count of 20 OSSFs in the watershed.

4. Storm water/Industry/Land Development/MS4s: The group discussed pet waste pick up ordinances. It turns out that most jurisdictions have them, but people are not aware of them. More FOG (Fats Oils and Grease) or even FROG (includes Roots) education is needed.

George Guillen from UHCL gave a presentation about the RUAA (Recreational Use Attainability Analysis) that was done for Armand Bayou. They did a survey of the watershed during the months of March to October in 2009. This included three points along the main stream spaced 5 miles apart. These were at Genoa-Red Bluff, Fairmont, and Space Center Blvd. They did 64 interviews total and found that people were wading, boating, kayaking and canoeing. There were several impediments to recreation in the area, including: steep banks, vegetation, alligators, private property, murky waters, and fencing. The overall conclusion was that the Bayou should be designated for recreational use.

Dr. Guillen also talked about the stormwater treatment wetland that was created at UH Clear Lake in 2009 to look at the filtering out of pollutants and bacteria. This project was actually done on Horsepen Bayou, which is a tributary of Armand. This was a good research opportunity for students and faculty and helped add habitat. The funding for this project was through GBEP. They are continuing to monitor water and animals. They receive grey water from CLCWA and have done a residence time study with dye. The wetland gets many visitors as was a big success.

Hanadi Rifai and Rose Sobel from UH gave a presentation about the TMDL process for Armand Bayou. The process has recently started after completing the QAPP (Quality Assurance Project Plan), UH is working with Dr. Tina Petersen of CDM consultants. They are developing the TMDL and the TSD (Technical Support Document) for the assessment units. They will be doing flow duration curves (FDCs) and load duration curves (LDCs) and a tidal prism model. They have been working with data from 9 water quality monitoring stations. There is a small part of the watershed that is not under an MS4 –in Big Island Slough – this is also where most of the OSSFs are – they are mostly industrial. There are not any flow gauges in Armand Bayou, but they are using USGS ones in Vince and Sims Bayous since they have similar land cover. For the FDCs they have data from 11 years. They considered using data from 20 years to help even out the drought effects, but there has been too much land use change for it to really be reliable. They have a report due at the end of August and are still working on the mass balance spreadsheet – their final report will be due in 2014. Their next steps are to complete the LDCs and FDCs, the TP mass balance spreadsheet, and they will come back and give a report in 2014.

Next the group discussed the process for joining the BIG.

- The group needs to figure out how much autonomy they want to have
- Will there be an Armand rep on the BIG?
- Will people be joining workgroups?
- Steve Johnston is going to be working with the BIG and get their ideas on how they see other watersheds joining in

- There was some discussion about whether or not the Armand group could join the BIG before May 2014 or even before October 2013 via an email vote.

The next Coordination Committee meeting is will be held in late September/ early October.

List of Coordination Committee Members – those in attendance are in bold

Interest	Representative
<b>City of Houston</b>	<b>Dennis Paul, District E</b>
<b>City of Pasadena</b>	<b>Daya Dayananda, Asst. Dir of Public Works</b>
City of La Porte	Tim Tietjens, Director of Planning
City of Deer Park	Vacant
<b>Taylor Lake Village</b>	<b>Einar Goerland, City Council</b>
<b>Harris County</b>	<b>Catherine Elliott, HCFCD</b>
Environmental	Grace Martinez, Sierra Club
	<b>Steve Hupp, Bayou Preservation Assoc</b>
	<b>Mark Kramer, ABNC</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>George Guillen, UH/EIH</b>
<b>Business/Industry</b>	<b>CA Shields, BAHEP/marketing</b>
Recreation/Parks	Roni Skirvin, CLC Green Plan - Hike/Bike
	Claire Mules, Golf Course Committee
	Tyson Vodochodsky, Pinky's Kayak
Water Authority	Bob Savely, CLCWA
State Agency	Brian Koch, TSSWCB
<b>ABWP</b>	<b>Diane Humes</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>Tom Beck, TXDOT</b>