

## **HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL**

3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120 Houston, TX 77027 www.h-gac.com | @HouGalvAreaCog

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 18, 2022

Contact: Kristina Michel / 713.933.4559 / <u>kristina.michel@h-gac.com</u> Andrea Tantillo / 832.681.2507 / <u>andrea.tantillo@h-gac.com</u>

## CLEAR CREEK WATERSHED PARTNERSHIP TO HOLD INITIAL PUBLIC MEETINGS ON MARCH 3

Local Stakeholders Invited to Discuss Water Quality Issues in the Clear Creek Watershed of Galveston, Harris, Brazoria, and Fort Bend Counties

**HOUSTON** – The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) will hold two informational meetings to introduce the Clear Creek Watershed Partnership, a new project to address water quality issues impacting communities along Clear Creek on Thursday, March 3.

The meetings are open to the public and will be held online from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and again from 6 to 8 p.m. on Zoom. Registration links for the meetings and a map of the watershed area are available on the partnership website at <a href="https://www.clearcreekpartnership.com">www.clearcreekpartnership.com</a>.

The purpose of the meetings is to discuss water quality issues affecting communities in the Clear Creek watershed in Galveston, Harris, Brazoria, and Fort Bend counties. Pollutants in these waterways may impact public health, local economies, and the natural environment. Local residents and organizations will be invited to participate in the partnership, which will develop a voluntary watershed protection plan to address these challenges. The content of both meetings will be the same.

"Waterways are impacted by everything that happens on the land that drains to them," said Justin Bower, principal planner at H-GAC. "This locally led project seeks to empower stakeholders in the watershed to identify and pursue voluntary solutions to the water quality issues confronting their communities and to coordinate with local flood planning, conservation, and other efforts."

For more information about the project, visit <u>www.clearcreekpartnership.com</u>. Funding for this effort is provided by a Clean Water Act grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency, administered by the TCEQ.

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## Houston-Galveston Area Council

H-GAC is a voluntary association of local governments and local elected officials from the 13-county Gulf Coast planning region, which includes an area of 12,500 square miles and more than 7 million people. H-GAC works to promote efficient and accountable use of local, state, and federal tax dollars; serves as a problem-solving and information forum for local governments; and helps analyze trends and conditions affecting the region. For more information, visit www.h-gac.com.