

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**February 5, 2026**

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The February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Natural Resources Advisory Committee was held as a hybrid event both in-person at 3555 Timmons Lane in Houston, Texas and virtually via Zoom. The meeting began at approximately 1:30 PM.

**NRAC members present (14 voting, 4 advisory\*):**

|                   |                       |                      |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Bob Stokes        | Hien Pham             | Alicia Fontenot (for |
| Brian Koch        | Joe Garcia (for Cathy | Scott Jeansonne)     |
| Brian Shmaefsky   | Rogers-McCoy)         | Richard Zahn         |
| Brittani Flowers* | Jonathan Holley       | Robert Pechukas      |
| Claudia Sandoval  | Katie Wilson          | Tom Douglas          |
| Deborah January-  | Kelli Ondracek*       |                      |
| Bevers            | Latrice Babin         |                      |
| Gabriela Sosa*    | Lisa Marshall*        |                      |

*Phone numbers not connected to a Committee Member weren't counted as present. Apologies for any inconvenience. If you were present via call-in and it isn't marked here, [please let Rachel Windham know](#).*

**NRAC members not present (22 voting, 2 advisory\*):**

|                        |                 |                |
|------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Andrew Isbell          | Denae King      | Mel Vargas     |
| Adeel Malik            | Dennis Cote     | Mac Martin*    |
| Ayanna Jolivet Mccloud | Ellis Pickett   | Phyllis Frank  |
| Bill Balboa            | Glenda Callaway | Scott Saenger  |
| Carol Guess            | Jin Ye*         | Shane Porter   |
| Charles "Chuck" Rogers | Kelli Gallagher | Troy Harrison  |
| Christina Moore        | Ken Barnadyn    | Upendra Sahu   |
| Christopher Hunniford  | Leroy Cerny     | William Hajdik |

**Current Vacancies:**

Current vacancies include:

- Power Generation or Transmission Utility

**H-GAC Staff Present (10):**

H-GAC staff present included Amanda Ashcroft, Andrea Tantillo, Bill Ervin, Cornell Evans, Jr., Erica Underwood, Erin Livingston, Jessica Casillas, Steven Johnston, Todd Running, and Rachel Windham.

### **Call to Order/Welcome**

Chair Tom Douglas welcomed those present for the official start of the meeting.

### **Warm-Up**

Mr. Douglas shared slides on the history of the 1854 cholera outbreak in London which resulted from the equivalent of a failing on-site sewage facility.

### **Introductions and Certify Quorum**

Roll was called for both in-person and online participants. Quorum was confirmed.

### **Approve Meeting Report**

Mr. Douglas called for review and comment on the November 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes. Brian Koch moved to approve the minutes, and Jonathan Holley seconded the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

### **Membership**

Because Mr. Douglas assumed the roll of Chair at this meeting, a new Vice Chair needed to be selected. Mr. Douglas nominated Brian Koch and his nomination was approved unanimously.

The majority of both county and NRAC appointed member terms have lapsed. Ms. Windham is coordinating with the governmental affairs department at H-GAC to coordinate county appointed positions. Two county appointed positions are currently vacant and will also require coordination with the governmental affairs department to be filled. Ms. Windham will reach out to current NRAC appointed members to assess interest in term renewal. One NRAC appointed position (Power Generation or Transmission Utility) also remains to be filled. H-GAC will reach out to internal contacts for leads. Other suggestions to fill vacancies or recommend replacements for current positions can be brought forward by members of the NRAC to Ms. Windham at [rachel.windham@h-gac.com](mailto:rachel.windham@h-gac.com).

### **Environmental Committee Highlights**

- **Regional Flood Management Committee**  
Amanda Ashcroft provided information on activities and updates from the past quarter. Meetings of the Regional Flood Management Committee are scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM in the months of January, April, July, and October. Meetings are held at the H-GAC offices. Learn more by visiting the committee's [website](#).
- **Solid Waste Management Committee**  
Erin Livingston provided information on activities and updates from the past quarter. Solid Waste Management Committee meetings are

scheduled on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the months of January, April, July, and October. Meetings are held at the H-GAC offices. Learn more by visiting the committee's [website](#).

### **Environmental Program Highlights**

- **Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) Section Review**  
At the suggestion of the NRAC during a previous meeting discussion centered around ways to improve the committee's efficacy, Ms. Windham provided an overview of the sections of the WQMP and sought recommendations from the committee about sections to review in more detail prior to the review of the WQMP draft at the August meeting.
- **OSSF Repairs & Replacements in Vulnerable Communities**  
Mr. Ervin provided an update on progress with a project identifying and assisting communities in the Lower Galveston Bay watershed with on-site sewage facility remediation and education. See Attachment A for study area map.
- **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Projects**  
Steven Johnston gave an update on TMDL and EPA projects in the Houston-Galveston Area region and invited members to attend upcoming public meetings. More information can be found on the H-GAC [website](#). See Attachment B for study area map.
- **Watershed Protection Plans (WPPs)**  
Ms. Windham provided updates on ongoing WPP projects (see Attachment C for study area map) and shared information on upcoming public meetings. Information on WPP projects can be found on H-GAC's watershed-based plan [project website](#), and more information can be provided by Ms. Windham ([rachel.windham@h-gac.com](mailto:rachel.windham@h-gac.com)).
- **Trash Bash 2026 Reminder**  
Ms. Windham shared details about the upcoming annual Trash Bash event and how to get involved. See Attachment D for project graphic.
- **Parks & Natural Areas (PNA) Roundtable**  
Andrea Tantillo shared information on the upcoming Parks and Natural Areas award ceremony as well as information about the next roundtable meeting date. See Attachment E for flyer. For additional information, visit the [PNA website](#).

### **Subcommittees**

- **Water Innovation Strategies of Excellence (WISE) Awards**

Ms. Windham shared the timeline for the 2026 WISE awards application process. See Attachment F for flyer. For additional information on this subcommittee and awards program, visit the [WISE award website](#).

### **Topic of the Day**

Colleen Gilbert with the Greens Bayou Coalition shared some background about the organization and highlighted recent projects working toward making the Greens Bayou corridor a wonderful, healthy place to live, work and play.

### **Roundtable Discussion**

Members shared updates about upcoming events.

### **Public Comment**

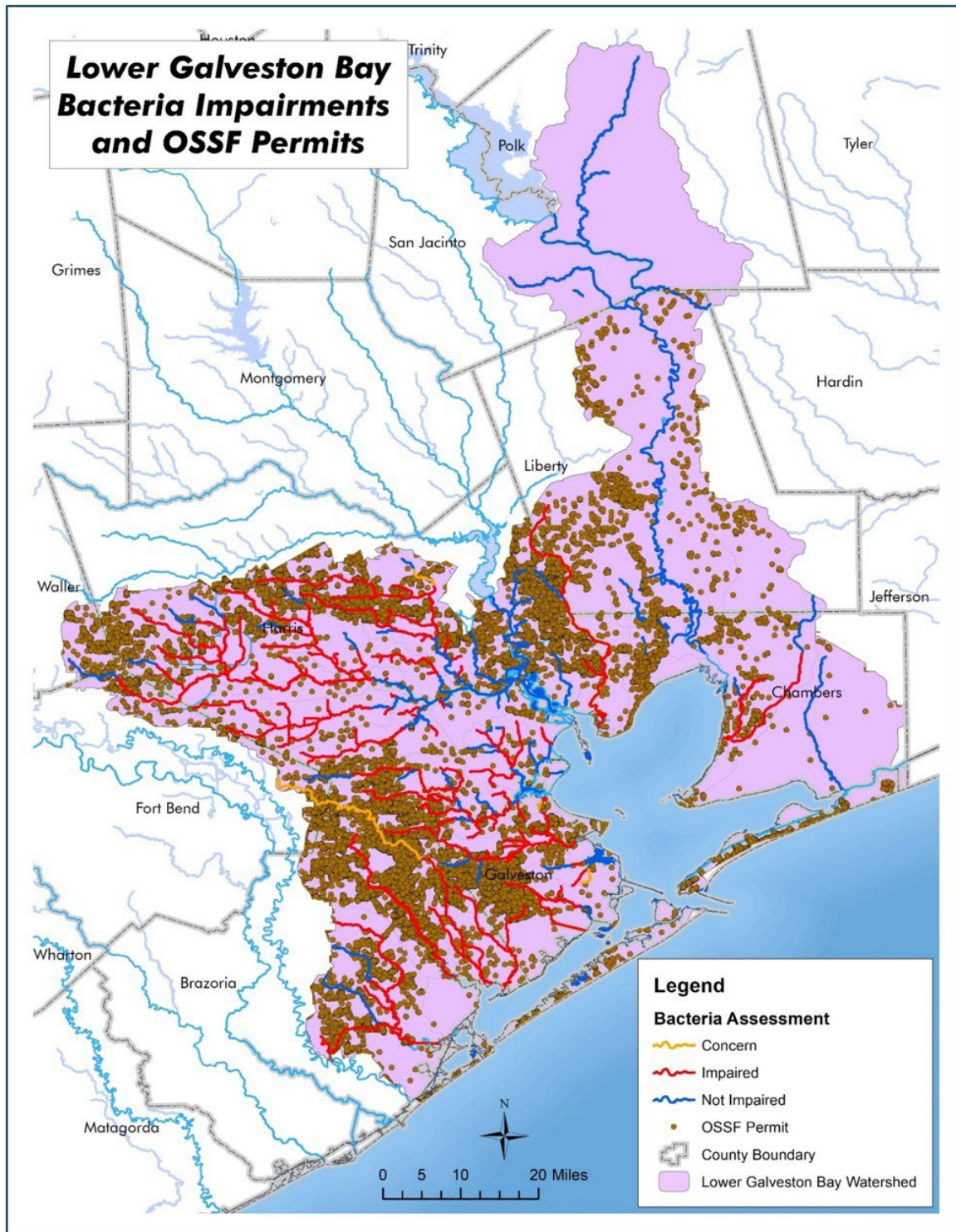
No public comment was made.

### **Next Meeting Date**

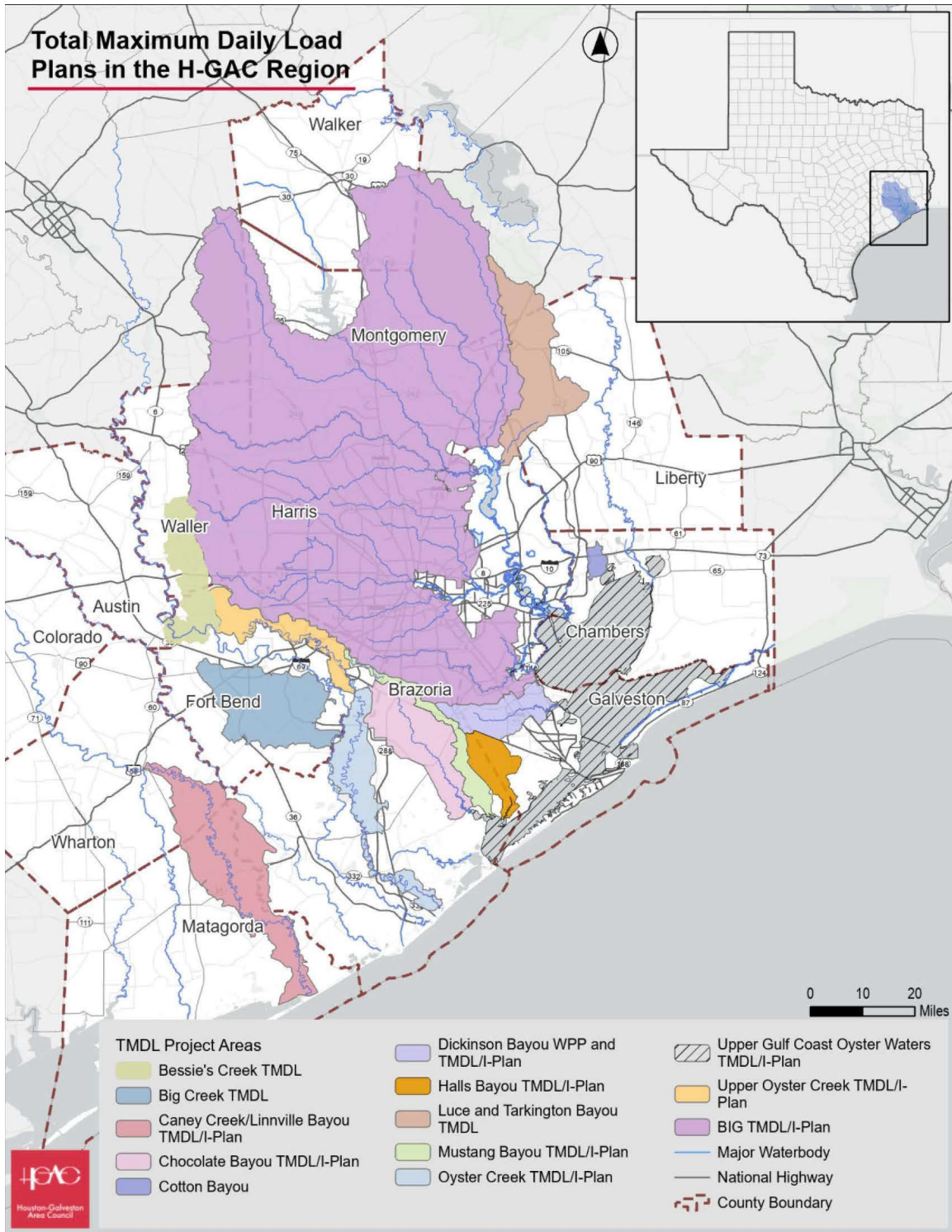
Unless otherwise notified, the next scheduled meeting is **Thursday, May 7, 2026** from **1:30–3:30 p.m.** This will be an **in-person only** meeting.

### **Adjourn**

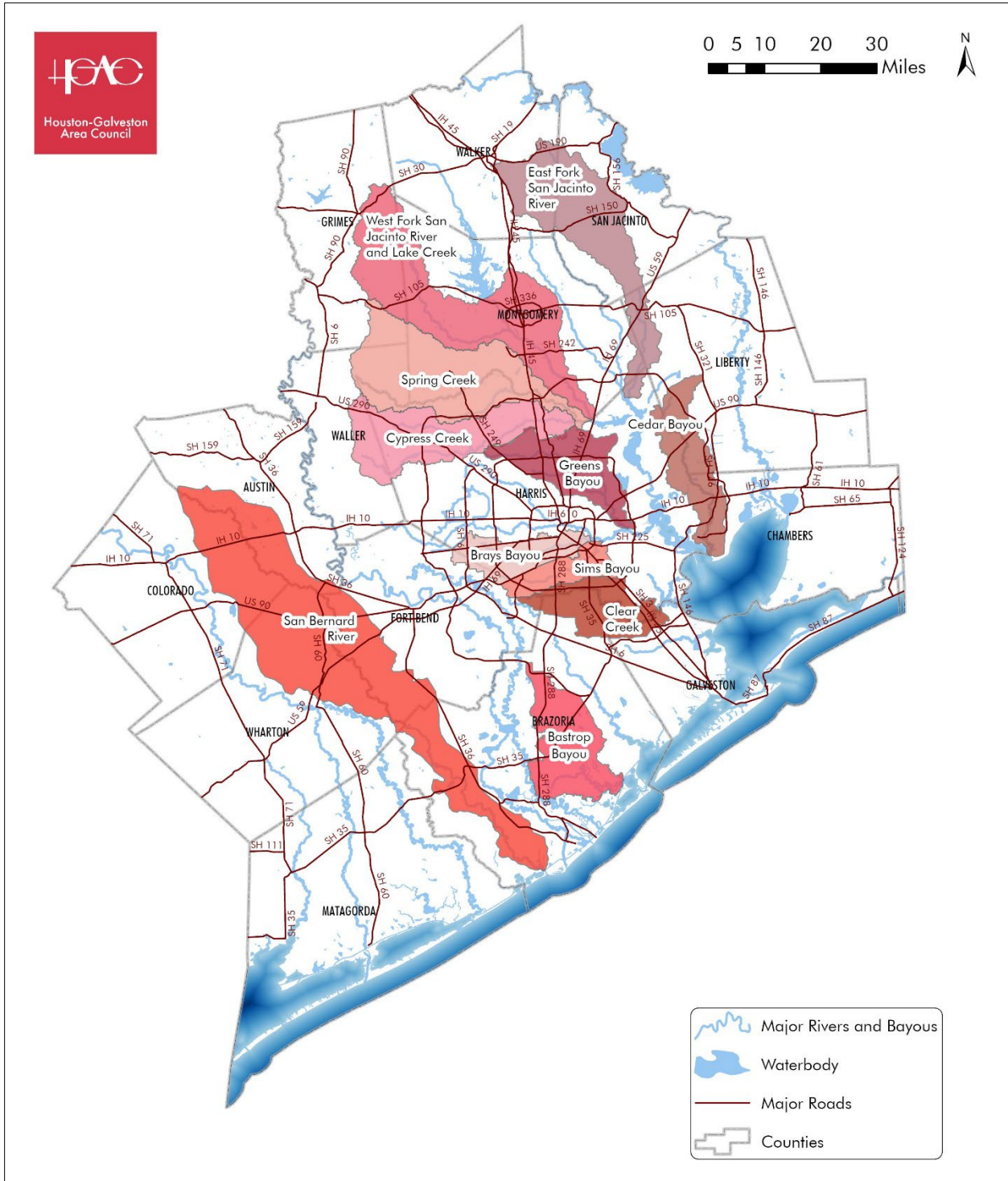
Mr. Douglas adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.



**Attachment A: OSSF Repairs & Replacements in Vulnerable Communities Study Area**



**Attachment B: TMDL and EPA Projects Study Area**



Attachment C: WPP Projects Study Area



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**Attachment D:** Trash Bash Results Graphic



# PARKS & NATURAL AREAS

The Parks and Natural Areas Roundtable serves as a forum for discussion of parks and natural areas across the region.

For more information or to be added to the mailing list, contact Andrea Tantillo at [andrea.tantillo@h-gac.com](mailto:andrea.tantillo@h-gac.com)

[www.h-gac.com/parks](http://www.h-gac.com/parks)



## SHARE IDEAS

We meet the second Monday of March, July, and September from 2 to 4 p.m. at H-GAC.

## LEARN SOMETHING NEW

We visit parks around the region for guided tours in the spring and fall.

## CELEBRATE SUCCESS

We honor projects that serve as models on how parks and natural areas can improve water quality, habitat, and quality of life.



The Houston-Galveston Area Council is the regional organization through which local governments consider issues and cooperate in solving area-wide problems. The 13 counties in H-GAC's service region are Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton. The Parks and Natural Areas Roundtable meets at 3555 Timmons Lane, Houston.

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### Attachment E: Parks and Natural Areas Flyer