



HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WINNERS ANNOUNCED IN OUR GREAT REGION AWARDS PROGRAM

H-GAC to Honor Projects Making Our Region A Better Place to Live, Work, and Succeed

HOUSTON, TX – The Our Great Region Awards recognize outstanding projects in the Houston-Galveston Area Council’s (H-GAC) 13-county region that advance the goals and strategies outlined in the Our Great Region 2040 plan. This plan, published by H-GAC in 2014, identifies goals and strategies to improve and enhance the region’s resilience, economy, and environment by the year 2040.

“Since the awards program began in 2016, H-GAC has honored projects that serve as models for our region,” H-GAC Director of Community and Environmental Planning Jeff Taebel said. “The Our Great Region Awards highlight the best of what makes our region one of the best places to live, work, and succeed. At the Houston-Galveston Area Council, we applaud the work of the organizations who applied in 2019 and look forward to celebrating similar accomplishments in the years to come,” he added.

H-GAC will recognize winning projects during a reception and awards ceremony at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, at H-GAC, 3555 Timmons Lane, Houston, in the second floor conference rooms.

The 2019 Our Great Region Award recipients are making progress across our region and are honored in five categories:

The Connection Award honors a project that demonstrates innovative partnerships and exemplifies the interdisciplinary and partnership-building work that is critical to making our region a more vibrant place to live, work, and succeed. The 2019 recipient is Career4U Academy, Houston Community College.

The Diligence Award honors a project that executed a creative and persistent approach to overcome challenges to implementation and demonstrates the importance of innovation and follow-through in the pursuit of inspiring projects throughout our region. The 2019 recipient is Pearland’s Natural Resources Efforts, City of Pearland.

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 h-gac.com.



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The Reach Award honors a project that demonstrates exemplary public participation and prioritizes community outreach and engagement as a core tenet of a success. The 2019 recipients are Gulfton Skate Park at Burnett Bayland Park, Clark Condon, and TAAF Winter Games Hosted by the City of Pearland, City of Pearland.

The Opportunity Award honors a project that helps overcome disparities in access to opportunity, breaks down barriers of entry into the regional economy, and improves quality of life for all residents in our region. The 2019 recipient is Southeast Houston Affordable Housing Initiative, Center for Civic and Public Policy Improvement.

The Excellence Award honors a project addressing timely issues within our region, while helping to further the principles of the Our Great Region 2040 plan. The project demonstrates the ingenuity and strategic focus that is required for a brighter future for our region. The 2019 recipient is Exploration Green, Exploration Green Conservancy.

More information about the Our Great Region Awards and the Our Great Region 2040 plan can be found at www.ourregion.org.

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