

## Stakeholder Contact Documentation

### *Cypress Creek Watershed Protection Plan*

#### Narrative

During Q1 FY20, H-GAC held two Partnership meetings and a set of Work Group meetings. Throughout this time H-GAC discussed the project individually with several key stakeholders and organizational partners. Additionally, H-GAC represented the project at various internal, watershed, and regional meetings and worked with partners to plan additional outreach activities. Modeling work was completed, and results reviewed with the stakeholders. Stakeholders were actively engaged and provided appreciable guidance in source identification and characterization efforts.

#### Stakeholder Contact

**Formal Mailings** – No formal mailings were made during this time frame. A survey was active for stakeholders during this time frame to assess best meeting times and contact preferences.

**Stakeholder discussions** – During this quarter, H-GAC discussed the project with the following stakeholders. Formal presentations and presence at external meetings are summarized later in this document. Not included in this list are incidental discussions with internal and external colleagues that were not specific stakeholders or partners, or conversations solely about attendance or non-attendance at meetings. “Various” indicates instances where there were ongoing or frequent conversations with a given stakeholder too numerous to list.

| Stakeholder                       | Date         | Topics   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--|
| All stakeholders (Media coverage) | Various      | The meetings and project were discussed in multiple media outlets, including partner social media outlets (Bayou Land Conservancy, et al.) and H-GAC newsletters. H-GAC staff was interviewed for a Community Impact paper pieces and two Houston Chronicle piece on this project <sup>1</sup> . Additionally, we received promotion from partners includes Texas Master Naturalists, Bayou Land Conservancy, Houston CEC, and others in website and social media announcements. |
| (H-GAC) Texas Stream Team         | 9/9, various | Discussed TST presence and expansion in watershed; discussed potential site needs.   |

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.chron.com/neighborhood/cyfair/news/article/Cypress-Creek-Watershed-Partnership-working-to-14849369.php> and <https://www.chron.com/neighborhood/champions-klein/news/article/Community-led-committee-to-work-on-fixing-Cypress-14474188.php>

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| <b>Stakeholder</b>  | <b>Date</b>    | <b>Topics</b>   |
|---|----------------|---|
| Steering Committee members (Various)                                | Various        | Discussed Steering Committee membership with various candidates.  |
| Grace Handley, Representative Oliverson's Office                    | 9/11, various  | Discussed the project; helped with information for a constituent having flooding issues; set up a meeting with the Representative.  |
| Robert Ziehr, USDA NRCS   | 9/13, various  | Discussed project; potential implementation effort on Katy Prairie in conjunction with TFS, KPC, et al.   |
| Lisa Foley, Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition                   |                | Discussed joint concerns with the CCFCC, a mapping assistance project, and future participation.  |
| Mickey Merrit, Texas A&M Forest Service                             |                | Discussed TFS interest in the watershed and other local projects, and coordination with outreach efforts.   |
| Maryanne Piacentini, Katy Prairie Conservancy                       | 9/11, various  | Discussed project in general, and NRCS Katy Prairie project specifically.   |
| Caroline McCabe, USACE  | 9/4/19         | Following up on the H-GAC role in water quality and watershed planning as part of USACE study of Houston area including WFSJR watershed. Also discussed USACE participation in project. |
| Mark Gehringer, Hughes Development Corporation                      | 9/4/19         | Discussed their participation in the project, potential site visit.   |
| Eva Vigh, Community Impact (media)                                  | 9/4/19         | Discussed project for article; provided data.   |
| Claudette McCamley, resident  | 9/17, various  | Discussed Steering Committee nomination, horse data, and general project questions.   |
| Marlene Lobberecht, League of Women Voters                          | 9/17, various  | Discussed general project information, Flood Control implications of recommendations, potential best practices and information sources.   |
| Paul Wierzbicki, Houston Area Urban Forestry Council                | 9/18, various  | Discussed a presentation on the project/water quality and urban forests at the Houston Urban Tree Conference in November.   |
| Glenn Laird, HCFCFCD  | 9/24, various  | Discussed HCFCFCD participation; planned projects in the watershed area; potential KPC/NRCS/TFS project.  |
| Matthew Berg, SImfero Consultants                                   | 9/25, various  | Discussed project in general; specific recommendations about process.   |
| Richard Murphy, Westador MUD  | 9/25, various  | Discussed MUD interest, answered project questions.   |
| Jim Robertson and Lisa Foley, Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition | 9/26, various  | Discussed coordination of message with their Board, project participation.  |
| Alice Best, TPWD  | 9/26, various  | Discussed TPWD role in project, ecology of watershed; potential use of general assumption for background wildlife.  |
| Tom Douglas, Recreation paddler                                     | 9/29, various  | Discussed various aspects of the project; recreation on the waterway; feedback on meetings.   |
| Joel Clark, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board           | 10/4, various  | Discussed bringing the project and information to SWCDs in the watershed; set up meetings.  |
| April Henshaw, Representative Rosenthal's Office                    | 10/25, various | Discussed information about the project; ways for them to support/be involved.  |
| Ernest Cook, Houston Endowment                                      | 11/2, various  | Discussed Waller County conservation plans that may impact the watershed. Set up meeting with consultant team.  |
| Brian Koch, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board           | 11/4, various  | Discussed SWCD meetings, agriculture sources, meeting feedback.   |

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| <b>Stakeholder</b>                          | <b>Date</b>       | <b>Topics</b>   |
|---|-------------------|---|
| Milton Rahman, Harris County Precinct 2     | 11/7              | Discussed HCPct 2 interest in the watershed; changing Steering Committee membership position with HCPct4.   |
| Clif Edwards, Harris County Precinct 4      | 11/6              | Discussed HCPct 4 operations in the watershed; changing Steering Committee membership position with HCPct2.   |
| Catherine Elliot and Jonathon Holley, HCFCD | 11/8, various     | Discussed HCFCD participation; projects in watershed; KPC/NRCS/TFS project.   |
| John Graziano, Agricultural Producer        | 11/23, various    | Discussed use of eminent domain in Cypress Creek Greenway, general concerns over development.   |
| Terri MacArthur (Woodlands Township)        | 10/5, various     | Discussed presentations on water quality in the watershed; Texas Stream Team trainings; a proposed Water Ambassador training program.   |
| Deborah January-Beavers, Houston Wilderness | 9/11, various     | Talked with Deborah about the project as part of a broader Regional Conservation Plan effort and related project with the Houston Endowment.  |
| Shane Simpson, SJRA                         | (various)         | Talked about expanding Stream Team efforts in the greater Lake Houston watershed.   |
| Bill Papp, WCID 132                         | 10/12, various    | Discussed WWTP sources, ideas for best practices, Ponderosa MUD messaging.  |
| Becky Martinez, Bayou Land Conservancy      | 12/5, various     | Discussed BLC priorities in area, participation in the project.   |
| Daniele Cioce, Harris County                | 9/20, various     | Discussed County participation, watershed coordination with stormwater efforts. Discussed OSSF failure rates and general loading considerations.  |
| Mac Martin, TFS                             | 9/4, 9/6, various | Discussed TFS participation, other urban forestry/stormwater efforts in area. Discussed a specific opportunity for conservation/riparian restoration in the Katy Prairie with NRCS, et al.  |
| John Warner, Texas Forest Service           | 9/23, various     | Discussed outreach efforts in the greater Lake Houston watershed.   |
| Patrick Rightmyer                           | 9/26, various     | Discussed Houston's new interest in source water protection; potential partnership opportunities, plan elements, OSSF SEP, etc.   |
| Jaime Gonzalez, The Nature Conservancy      | 10/23             | Discussed land cover change in the project area, potential participation by the Conservancy, conservation program element from other cities, mapping assistance. Discussed specific project opportunity to look at urban farmland issues in project watersheds. |

**Formal Meetings with Stakeholders**– During this reporting period, H-GAC held two formal Partnership meetings. H-GAC staff also had one formal meeting with a state representative. Not included in this list are informal conversations (see above) or discussions at meetings not specifically about the project.

| <b>Meeting</b>                        | <b>Date</b>    | <b>Meeting Topics</b>   |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---|
| Partnership Meeting                   | 9/26           | Formation of Steering Committee; discussion of water quality issues; bacteria sources.  |
| Work Groups                           | November, 2019 | Topical work groups for Agriculture and Wildlife; Human sources discussed sources and loads for those areas.  |
| Partnership Meeting                   | 11/21          | Discussion of modeling results  |
| Meeting with Representative Oliverson | 10/28          | H-GAC staff met with the Representative to discuss his interest in the watershed. He was concerned about human sources. H-GAC provided follow up information about sources and programs (H-GAC's SEP, etc.) |

(additional content on following page)

**Representation at Public Meetings**– During this quarter, H-GAC made presentations, gave updates, or otherwise represented the project at various public meetings. This does not include informal discussions at meetings, or meetings held specifically with stakeholders.

| <b>Meeting</b>   | <b>Date</b>  | <b>Meeting Topics</b>  |
|--|--------------|--|
| H-GAC Natural Resources Advisory Committee                             | 11/7         | Gave brief project update  |
| GBEP WSQ   | 9/11         | Gave brief project update  |
| Houston Area Urban Forestry Council                                    | 9/9, various | H-GAC is currently serving as a director for this 501c3, representing water quality projects. H-GAC promoted forestry and water coordination at a variety of meetings in the quarter.  |
| Houston Urban Tree Conference  | 11/15        | Gave presentation regarding water quality/watershed planning and forestry practices at Weekley Community Center (adjacent to watershed); discussed the project as case study.  |
| AccellerateH2O Regional Workshop on Alternative Detention/Retention    | 9/4, 9/12    | Discussed potential flood mitigation/water quality project with regional partner working on joint project in West Houston are including the watershed; meeting and conference call.  |
| USACE Houston Watershed Studies Partner Meeting                        | 9/18         | Represented this and other projects in discussion with USACE about water quality efforts in their study area.  |
| Woodlands Smarter about Water Seminar                                  | 10/5         | Gave presentation on water quality, representing the Cypress and Spring Creek projects, and general water quality issues of the Woodlands area and watersheds.   |
| Regional Flood Management Committee (H-GAC)                            | 10/16        | Represented this and other projects in discussion of flood management efforts and adjacent projects.   |
| Urban Natural Areas national convening (NYC Natural Areas Conservancy) | 10/28-10-31  | H-GAC represented this and other projects as part of a Houston-area team at this forestry conference. Our presentations focused on riparian restoration and assessing benefits of forestry practices in watersheds and urban areas.  |
| Harris County SWCD   | 11/1         | Discussed project and modeling results with SWCD directors and NRCS, received feedback.  |
| Navasota (Waller) SWCD   | 11/6         | Discussed project and modeling results with SWCD directors and NRCS, received feedback.  |
| InvestH2O 2019   | 12/4         | Represented this and other watershed projects at a conference with regional partners addressing water quality and flood mitigation issues, with a focus on West Houston (including the Cypress watershed). Discussed innovative means to spur resilience/water quality projects. |