

# Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council

www.pasadenacac.org

## Summary of Tuesday, April 25, 2017 Meeting

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS MEETING REVIEW

In the last year and a half, PCAC had had a series of meetings that addressed questions and concerns about the emergency planning, response, and communications associated with a significant industrial event. Facilitator Diane Sheridan reviewed the 7 meetings at which these topics were addressed by plants or government bodies or by tours.

**September 2015** -- Met at US Coast Guard Station at Ellington Field for overview of USCG mission and how it relates to industry. Toured Vessel Traffic Service and the Command Center.

**March 2016** – Met at Oxy Vinyls to learn how plants use the computerized e-Notify system to carry out protocols for notifying responsible agencies of a significant event. Toured the central Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the 5 Houston area Oxy Vinyls plants to see its capabilities. Looked at some of Oxy Vinyls' emergency equipment.

**April 2016** – Met at City of Pasadena Office of Emergency Management to see what happens when the city receives an e-Notify message, how the city uses National Weather Service information to track plumes, and to learn about the community warning systems Pasadena uses.

**May 2016** – Heard about CHEMTREC, a 24/7 resource for obtaining immediate critical response information for incidents involving hazardous materials and dangerous goods. Learned to use the US Department of Transportation (DOT) Emergency Response Guidebook.

**September 2016** – Reviewed 3 of the 4 programs that are part of the 1986 Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA): Local Emergency Planning Committees, Tier II Chemical Inventories, and reporting of Reportable Quantity (RQ) releases.

**October 2016** – Were reminded during the fall report on emissions that the Toxics Release Inventory is the 4<sup>th</sup> EPCRA program.

**March 2017** – Visited Houston TranStar for an overview of the Houston Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and a tour of the Emergency Operations Center staff by numerous agencies in a significant emergency.

## Are You Prepared?

1. Have you registered your cell and VOIP phones at [www.911.org](http://www.911.org)?
2. Have you downloaded the **ReadyHarris** app from your smart phone app store?
3. Have you looked at the websites of cities from which you want community warnings and signed up for whatever community warning systems they have—cell, text, email—starting with [www.ci.pasadena.tx.us](http://www.ci.pasadena.tx.us) . See attached list.
4. Have you programmed the CAER Line (281-476-2237) into your cell phone contacts and put [www.ehcma.org/caerline](http://www.ehcma.org/caerline) into your website Favorites?

Attached is a list of links to the emergency notification links of area cities and counties as well as their social media links. An attendee said the Pasadena link was not working. Sheridan will check.

## PETROCHEMWORKS.COM

PCAC has periodically heard from speakers and talked with member plants about workforce development—the efforts made by industry, schools, colleges, and various groups to promote jobs in industry. Jobs in plants are available not just because of some expansions but also because of the large wave of retirements occurring at this time. East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCMA), the local association of 90 companies/130 plants in the petrochemical and related business, has an active workforce development program. One new feature of their efforts in the last year is a website called PetrochemWorks.com. The interactive site, designed for students and others, asks you to indicate your interest, skills, and current education level and then matches you to a career. In addition to learning more about that kind of job, you may link to the education needed, schools offer those programs, and scholarship information. You may then look at job openings in that or related fields and how to apply. All can be found by going to [www.petrochemworks.com](http://www.petrochemworks.com)

At the meeting, the site was reviewed on the screen and attendees used their own devices to pretend they were looking for a job.