

MEETING NOTES

PASADENA CITIZENS' ADVISORY COUNCIL

www.pasadenacac.org

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Revive Church- The Center

The 291st meeting of the Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council (PCAC) was held on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at the Revive Church, 1062 Fairmont Parkway.

The meeting notes from April 26, 2022, were approved as amended with the following change on page 2. [Gulf Coast Authority: The **perimeter of the facility is ~~site-sits~~** higher than the surrounding area and **all ~~tanks~~ treatment units and equipment sits** above the 100-year flood plain. **All stormwater falling on the site is collected and routed through the treatment process where it discharges through the permitted outfall to the Houston Ship Channel.** However, **the North Richey Bridge ~~a bridge~~** that is part of the public road leading into their facility floods easily since it is in a low spot.]

Facilitator Diane Sheridan reviewed the ground rules and agenda, which were accepted as proposed.

ATTENDEES *italicized*

PCAC Members

Andrew Aleman, City of Pasadena OEM
Jed Aplaca, City of Pasadena Parks and Rec.
Ruth Askine
Diane Barnes, CTHS
Raul Camarillo, Harris Co. Pct. 2
Emilio Carmona
Azell Carter, City of Pasadena OEM
Monica De La Portilla
Tammy De Los Santos, City of Pasadena Parks and Rec.
Albert Gonzales
Rick Guerrero, City of Pasadena Neighborhood Network
Mike Jackson
Chad Carson, Economic Alliance Houston Port Region
Luz Locke
Loretta McCarthy
Lupita Monreal, City of Pasadena

Neighborhood Network
Ellis Orozco
Ernesto Paredes
Margie Pena
Brenda Pritchard, City of Pasadena Neighborhood Network
Dominick Rezza
Giovanna Searcy
Richard Sims
Sue Sims
Joe Valdivia
Christian Rocha for Christina Womack, Chamber of Commerce
Jack Womack

Support

Diane Sheridan, Facilitator
Tiffany Miller, Secretary, *rep by Glenda Saqyres*

Observers or Resources

George Alger

Sarah Brady
John Collins
Ninfa Herrera
David Lopez, Pasadena Health Center
Rick Masters, City of Pasadena
Darlene Prescott
Jeremy Ratcliff, Harris Co. Flood Control District
Pat Van Houte
David Wade, HCOHSEM
Blake White, HCOHSEM
Steve Zach, Pasadena Public Library

CAC Plant Members

Afton Chemical, Hari Sundaram
Air Products, _____
Albemarle, Paul Hernandez for Lisa Fruge
BASF, Wendel Langley. Alice Johnson

Chevron Pasadena Refinery, _____
Chevron Phillips, _____
Enterprise Products, _____
Ethyl, Hari Sundaram for Antonio Salinas
Evonik, Nathan Locklar
Gulf Coast Authority, Denise Ehrlich
INEOS Phenol, Pedro Hernandez for Amy Narvaez
Intercontinental Terminals, _____
KM Export Terminal, Mike Dugger
KM Liquids Terminal, Robert Hammons
LyondellBasell Refinery, Clint Titzman
Next Wave Energy, David Muscat for Shane Presley, Ken Livengood
OxyChem, Scott Halbrooks
Sekisui, Scott Stephens for Jeff Thompson

Flood Control Efforts in Pasadena: What's Underway? What's Planned?

Slides posted at www.pasadenacac.org

Continuing the series of meetings on flooding with a focus on flood prevention and control projects underway or planned in the City of Pasadena, presentations were made by Rick Masters, City of Pasadena Storm Water Consultant, Public Works – Engineering, and by Jeremy Ratcliff, Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) Precinct Coordinator, Precinct Two.

Masters discussed ongoing and future flood control projects in the City of Pasadena focusing on project funding sources and the City's drainage process. The City of Pasadena Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) may be found at www.pasadenatx.gov. More than \$307 million in the 2022-2026 plan are slated for drainage and flood mitigation projects. Masters shared maps showing streets and areas slated for drainage upgrades over the next 4 years, as well as areas being developed and utilized as detention ponds and flood plains. Floodplain permitting requirements in the Harris County region have grown stricter for new construction. Pasadena is a FEMA Community Rating System community, meaning it regulates and reduces flood risks beyond the minimum required by the National Flood Insurance Program. As a result, residents receive reductions in flood insurance premiums.

Ratcliff described the work of the Harris County Flood Control District, formed in response to major Houston area floods in 1929 and 1935. The district aims to "provide flood damage reduction projects that work, with appropriate regard for community and natural values." HCFCD operates open channels that would extend from Los Angeles to New York City. The district devises and implements plans, and it maintains HCFCD infrastructure. The district currently has 5 active projects in Pasadena, some in conjunction with the City of Pasadena. Ratcliff recommended www.hcfcd.org, including the interactive maps. Concerns may be directed to 346-286-4197 or CitizensService@hcfcd.hctx.net.

Q&A

- *Where is Bliss Meadows?* South of Spencer Highway, east of Beltway 8, west of the Chiropractic College
- *Where is Partnership Park?* Spencer Highway at Red Bluff Road
- *What will prevent trash from the Ship Channel from coming into Pasadena during a flooding event?* There are numerous floatable capture gates in Pasadena and the detention ponds throughout the area are designed to catch debris.
- *Will the FEMA/ISO rating points be automatically provided to insurance companies?* Yes
- *The last slide showed the road emptying before Willow Springs Gully. Is that correct and why?* It does empty there. The detention area will reduce flow into Willow Springs Gully, not by reducing volume, but by slowing the flow. The desired effect will be reduced flooding.
- *How and where do roads drain to?* Starting at the crown of the road (the highest spot in the middle of streets), water flows to the curb. It is directed into inlets or open ditches which, in turn, drain to underground pipes. The water then flows to detention ponds. Because Pasadena is flat topographically, drainage is slow. Detention ponds are used as a substitute for slope.
- *Will the greater Houston area/Harris County consider adopting an elaborate drainage system like the one in San Antonio?* Houston is very different than San Antonio and Edward's Aquifer. San Antonio is trying to add water back to the aquifer. Houston/Harris County is on a clay substrate which prevents water seeping deep underground and our rainfall is greater than San Antonio. The Drainage Districts that are found all along the Gulf Coast are not needed in hilly areas.
- *The Army Corps of Engineers was seen doing a great job on Vince Bayou at Crenshaw. What connection does Pasadena have with the Corps?* Pasadena is partners with the Army Corps of Engineers. Harris County pays for projects ahead of the work and the Corps reimburses afterward.

Plant Show and Tell

After a two-year hiatus, the host plant introduction was changed to a “Plant Show and Tell” where one picture would tell the story of what the plant does or where their products end up. The plants will be then spotlighted on the homepage of the CAC’s website. OxyChem Plant Manager Scott Halbrooks presented at the April meeting. The May meeting featured Paul Hernandez presenting information about Albemarle.

UPDATES

Pasadena Chamber of Commerce: Christian Rocha, Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, announced an industry appreciation luncheon that will be held June 2, 2022. Industry partners that won in prior years will be recognized, and the Partner of the Year will be awarded to Port Houston.

The Pasadena LEPC Safety Fair will be held June 4, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. It will be at the Pasadena Convention Center, located at 7902 Fairmont Pkwy, Pasadena, TX 77504. There is no charge to the community. There will be booths, food, and door prizes. The Channel 13 News station will present information on hurricane preparedness.

FACILITY UPDATE SUMMARY

Acronym List on PCAC website

Plant representatives reviewed highlights of the written reports projected on the screen, and they responded to questions. The update summary was mailed to attendees before the meeting and mailed to all members the day afterward. Direct questions to Diane Sheridan facilitator, dbsfacilitator@gmail.com, 281- 326-5253.

The Gulf Coast Authority reported on 5 environmental events, but none were of a reportable quantity or a permit exceedance, so they are not part of the revised chart on page 1.

In a Nutshell:

- Updates were received from 18 of 18 plants
- **2** had reportable environmental incidents (1 each at BASF and LyondellBasell Houston Refining)
- **0** had OSHA recordable injuries
- **16** had neither environmental nor safety incidents

16 plants had no environmental incidents:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Afton Chemicals | 8. Evonik | 13. Kinder Morgan Liquids |
| 2. Air Products | 9. Gulf Coast Authority | Terminal |
| 3. Albemarle | 10. INEOS Phenol | 14. Next Wave Energy Partners |
| 4. Chevron Pasadena Refinery | 11. Intercontinental Terminals | 15. OxyChem |
| 5. Chevron Phillips | 12. Kinder Morgan Export | 16. Sekisui |
| 6. Enterprise Products | Terminal | |
| 7. Ethyl | | |

18 plants had no safety incidents:

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2. Air Products
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5. Chevron Pasadena Refinery
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13. Kinder Morgan Export Terminal
14. Kinder Morgan Liquids Terminal
15. LyondellBasell Houston Refining
16. Next Wave Energy Partners
17. OxyChem
18. Sekisui

FUTURE PCAC MEETINGS

Boxed Dinner available at 5:30 pm. Meetings are from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

NO MEETINGS IN JUNE OR JULY

Thursday, August 25, 2022 – The Gulf Coast Protection District and Its Work to Protect Communities, Environment, and Economic Activities from Storm Surge

- PCAC will invite a speaker from the district formed in 2021 by the Texas Legislature to be the non-federal sponsor of the Coastal Barrier.
- The speaker will be asked to provide a comprehensive overview of the district and its work, including the content of the Coastal Texas Studies and the status of their approval and funding.
- The speaker also will be asked about the new San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group and any other activities that may be related to its work.

DATES FOR 2022

Tues. Jan. 25
Tues. Feb. 22
Thurs. Mar. 24
Tues. Apr. 26

Tues. May 24
No June or July meetings
Thurs. Aug. 25
Tues. Sept. 27

Tues. Oct. 25
Thurs. Dec. 1 (delayed due to Thanksgiving)
No December meeting

Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council Input on Flood Control Efforts in Pasadena: What's Underway? What's Planned?

May 24, 2022

What, if anything, confused you?

- Very good. Locations of the drainage isn't always clear.
- The maps are not always easy to read.
- Nothing. Great job by both presenters.
- Nothing. The speakers and their information were clear.

What, if anything, concerned you?

- Why such a long wait since Harvey (2017) for these projects?
- Why is GLO politically motivated with its grants?
- Does ongoing construction (slabs, pads, etc.) cause concern for future flooding and are there codes in the city that address this issue?
- What is actually dumping into the ship channel?
- No concerns.

What, if anything, comforted you?

- City of Pasadena – actively seeking government grants to improve.
- The way that both entities work together.
- People getting together to discuss.
- Knowing action is ongoing.
- Straight forward – great presentations.
- Good help.

Any input on the return to in-person meetings?

- Much better than FaceTime.
- Yes, I enjoy meeting in person & working on building relationships.
- No issues.
- Great!
- Continue!

Anything about anything else?

- Thank the sponsor for the box lunch.
- Good topics!