



CYPRESS CREEK FLOOD CONTROL COALITION  
 MEETING NOTES  
 September 28, 2022

	Directors in Attendance	Joe Myers, Dick Smith, Jim Robertson, John Porea, Jack Sakolosky Virtual Mtg
	Committee Members in Attendance	Lisa Foley, Bill St. Clair
	Guests in Attendance	Cathy Dunn, Dave Baldwin, Andre Berdugo (Malcolmson Rd U.D.)
	Guest Speaker	None
1	Monthly Transmittals/ Handouts	<p>Meeting called to order - 6:35 pm.</p> <p>a. <u>San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group (SJRFP) - Region 6</u></p> <p>b. Myers stated the San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group has submitted the draft plan to TWDB. The Draft Regional Flood Plan is available on the San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group website under the tab Technical Documents - website <a href="https://sanjacintofloodplanning.org/technical-documents/">https://sanjacintofloodplanning.org/technical-documents/</a></p> <p>Robertson reported he attended the Sept 29 virtual meeting and provided the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• His interest was to see what projects have been included in the plan for the Cypress Creek watershed.</li> <li>• Projects are classified as FMP (Flood Mitigation Project) or FME (Flood Management Evaluation)</li> <li>• The Cypress Creek Implementation Plan prepared by HCFCO is categorized as FME. This indicates the benefit cost ratio (BCR) analysis has not yet been completed. HCFCO has allocated the funding (\$30,000) to conduct the BCR. The Texas Water Development Board requires that a BCR be completed for a project to be classified as FMP.</li> <li>• The consultant for the SJRFP is Freese Nichols.</li> </ul> <p>c. <u>Bayou Preservation Symposium (Virtual)</u></p>

		The symposium was held on Sept 28 – 29. Robertson attended and indicated the primary focus of the symposium was resiliency. He will his comments to report at the October board meeting.
2	Membership	No new applications. Myers stated a need to build CCFCC’s membership will require participation of all board members. Smith stated he has contacted 10 law firms serving utility district and is preparing a list of MUD’s with contact information. He and Myers emphasized personal communication with each MUD rather than sending a letter describing CCFCC’s activities.
3	Meeting Minutes	The board approved the August meeting minutes as revised to reflect comments presented by Robertson. Sakolosky will update the minutes accordingly.
4	Financial - Treasurer’s Report	Porea presented the treasurer’s report for the period ending August 17, 2022. There were no questions and the report was approved unanimously. Porea requested Sakolosky check into the monthly contributions from LFUD. Contributions from LFUD for July, August, and September have not been received.
5	Business	<p>a. <u>Creation of the Cypress Creek Special Purpose District; aka Cypress Creek Drainage Improvement District</u> Myers reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The September 6, 2022 scheduled meeting with utility districts did not go as planned. Technical difficulties precluded the capability to present powerpoint slides. The meeting will be reconvened in November. Commissioner Ramsey supports the proposed improvement district and will set the date for the meeting. Myers will serve as program manager for the November meeting.</li> <li>• The creation of the Special Purpose District is to develop funding sources to construct flood mitigation projects that have been identified by HCFCF. There is no available funding in the bond program to construct additional projects in the Cypress Creek watershed.</li> <li>• The creation of a Special Purpose District is spearheaded by the Cypress Creek Flooding Task Force which includes three members from CCFCC – Myers, Adam, and Robertson.</li> <li>• The Task Force is preparing draft legislation for creation of the Special Purpose District. The draft legislation will be submitted to the State legislature for approval. The draft legislation will be similar to the regulations and authority of a Water Control &amp; Improvement District (WCID).</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Task Force is meeting with local representatives and officials to request their support for the Special Purpose District. Myers is scheduling a meeting with representative Tom Oliverson.</li> <li>• Robertson stated he recently obtained a tabular summary which provides detention storage that has been constructed in Harris County by watershed. A total storage of 62,000 ac-ft has been constructed. Of that total, the Cypress Creek watershed (the largest watershed in Harris County) has received approximately 5,000 ac-ft of storage (<math>\pm 3,000</math> ac-ft in Cypress Creek and <math>\pm 2,000</math> ac-ft in Little Cypress Creek). In comparison, Green’s Bayou with a smaller watershed has received approximately 17,000 ac-ft. This important data needs to be presented to local officials to support the need for a Special Purpose District for the watershed.</li> <li>• Tina Petersen, Executive Director of HCFCD, was a speaker at Bayou Preservation Association’s annual symposium. Petersen made positive comments regarding the Task Force and the goals of the proposed Special Purpose District.</li> <li>• Smith suggested Myers request the Cypress Creek Flooding Task Force join CCFCC as a new member. The joint effort of the two organizations working together will improve opportunities to achieve funding for flood mitigation in the watershed.</li> <li>• Myers stated the population of the Cypress Creek watershed is approximately 450,000. This is 25% of the total Harris County population. This is a significant portion of the population that will be represented by the Special Purpose District.</li> </ul> <p>b. Membership – Multiple Fronts</p> <p>i. Tunnel Advocacy – Outreach Smith is leading the outreach to inform MUD’s and gather support for a long-term tunnel conveyance system.</p> <p>ii. Membership – Strategic Plan, Mission, and Goals Adam is working with Myers to update the strategic plan, mission, and goals to present to MUD’s and other potential members.</p>
6	New Business	<p>a. Houston Stronger – 2022 Proposed \$1.2B HC Bond Bill St. Clair, CCFCC’s member on the Houston Stronger board, informed directors that Harris County has requested Houston Stronger’s support for the proposed \$1.2B bond issue in November. The Houston Stronger board will vote on this issue at their next</p>

		<p>board meeting. Bill will carry CCFCC’s vote on the bond issue, “for” or “against” the proposed bonds, to the board meeting. Bill summarized objections to the bond issue presented by Pct. #3 Commissioner Ramsey as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bond issue language is vague, does not identify specific projects;</li> <li>• Bond issue is 100% partisan. Input provided by Commissioners Cagle and Ramsey was not considered.</li> <li>• Houston Stronger urged Commissioners to reach a compromise proposal. A compromise proposal was ignored by Commissioner’s Court.</li> <li>• With current high inflation impacting the community, the timing for a new bond issue is not good.</li> <li>• The lack of transparency in project identification and distrust of Commissioner’s Court will negatively affect voter approval.</li> <li>• St. Clair recommended a vote by the CCFCC board “against” the proposed bond issue.</li> </ul> <p>A vote of the board was called by Myers. A unanimous vote “against” the proposed bond issue will be carried forward by St. Clair to the Houston Stronger board meeting. St. Clair will communicate the reasons for CCFCC’s non-support vote to the Houston Stronger board.</p> <p>b. HC Public Meetings Myers stated HCFCD is holding a series of virtual/public meetings regarding projects in the Cypress Creek watershed. He encourages board members to attend as many as possible. Rrefer to HCFCD’s website for additional information. He plans on attending the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.</p> <p>c. USACE Stakeholders Meeting The meeting will be held in Galveston with in-person attendance. He was uncertain if the presentation will be available for remote attendance. Myers and St. Clair plan to attend.</p> <p>d. Citizens Environmental Coalition (CEC) Membership CCFCC’s membership dues of \$150 have been paid.</p> <p>e. Technical Assignment Updates</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Request for Cypress Creek Comprehensive Study Smith described his recent discussions with Myers and Dunbar regarding a proposed work authorization. The authorization will provide for Dunbar/Bedient to review and summarize previous</li> </ol>
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7	Committee Reports	<p>Nominations Committee - Sakolosky Sakolosky reported he, Adam, and Foley are scheduled to meet with Ms. Catherine Dunn on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, to discuss her interest in becoming a director of the CCFCC board. Ms. Dunn currently serves as a director on the Cypress Creek Utility District (Norchester Subd), and president of the Norchester Maintenance Fund.</p> <p>Technical Committee – Smullen No additional report.</p> <p>Membership Committee – Adam In Adams absence, Myers and Smith summarized the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smith is preparing a list of 128 utility districts and their contact information. He has communicated with attorneys for many of the districts and received positive feedback.</li> <li>• A bullet point presentation will be used to communicate CCFCC’s activities and goals to each of the District’s board members, and to request the district become a member of CCFCC. Myers/Smith will work on preparation of the presentation (limit to 15 minutes).</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will need each board member to visit and present to as many MUD's as possible.</li> <li>• Smith's goal is to complete presentations to as many of the 128 districts as possible by December 31, 2022.</li> </ul> <p>Cypress Creek Greenway Committee – Robertson Robertson reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He is working with the Precinct #3 Parks department for their preparation of a trails master plan for Precinct #3.</li> <li>• Construction of the crossing under SH 249 at the K-M Preserve and of the proposed boardwalk behind the Kroger Store located at SH 249 and Cypresswood has been resumed.</li> <li>• Robertson will reach out to Malcolmson board member Andre Berdugo regarding Malcolmson's trails plan.</li> </ul> <p>Tunnel Advocacy Committee – Smith Smith described the significant effort performed by Baldwin to review and prepare draft comments for HCFCD's Phase 3, Preliminary Tunnel Conveyance System report. Cypress Creek is one of eight watersheds proposed to be included in the tunnel conveyance system. A letter has been prepared for submittal to HCFCD with CCFCC's list of comments and questions. The letter will be submitted to Ms. Karen Hastings, Project Communications Manager, and she will pass the letter on to the appropriate HCFCD staff members.</p> <p>Communications Committee – Smith Refer to Membership Committee and Tunnel Advocacy Committee.</p>
9	Adjourn	8:30 PM