

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON  
WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 9, 2019 - 1:30 P.M.  
ROOM 204 - CITY HALL  
823 ROSENBERG, GALVESTON, TEXAS  
TELEPHONE: (409) 797-3510**

**SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

1. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM AND CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. WORKSHOP ITEMS
  1. Collection of delinquent water accounts
  2. Proposed Water Rate Adjustments
  3. Water Conservation Plan/Drought Contingency Plan
  4. Port of Galveston - Royal Caribbean International Cruise Terminal and Update on Walkway
  5. Seawall Parking Ballot Language
  6. Discuss an Ordinance that would allow overnight parking and/or camping on Seawall Blvd. during the first weekend of the annual Mardi Gras event and in addition, increase the parking violation fine from \$50 to \$250 per incident (night) for overnight parking and/or camping during the preceding Monday through Thursday of the first weekend of the annual Mardi Gras event
  7. Move various Board Appointments to October 1st
  8. Extension of the 4-B Industrial Development Corporation - November 2019 Special Election

Documents:

[ITEM 3-3 DRAFT\\_GALVESTON\\_DCP\\_V2\\_01072019.DOC](#)  
[ITEM 3-6 - AMEND CHAP 20-5, MARDI GRAS - PARKING OVERNIGHT.DOCX](#)

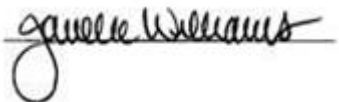
4. ACTION ITEMS
  - 4.A. Discuss And Consider For Action Approval Of The City Of Galveston's Recommendations To The U. S. Army Corps Of Engineers Regarding The Coastal Texas Protection & Restoration Feasibility Study And The Tentatively Selected Plan. (Brown/Yarbrough)

Documents:

[1-9-2019 CITY OF GALVESTON\\_TSP WRITTEN COMMENTS\\_USACE.PDF](#)

5. ADJOURNMENT

I certify that the above Notice of Meeting was posted in a place convenient to the public in compliance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code on January 3, 2019 at 4:30 P.M.



Janelle Williams, City Secretary

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA), PERSONS IN NEED OF A SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING SHALL, WITHIN THREE (3) DAYS PRIOR TO ANY PROCEEDING, CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE, SUITE 201, 823 ROSENBERG, GALVESTON, TEXAS 77550 (409-797-3510).

# **Drought Contingency Plan for the City of Galveston**

## **Section I: Declaration of Policy, Purpose, and Intent**

In order to conserve the available water supply and to protect the integrity of water supply facilities, with particular regard for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire protection, and to protect and preserve public health, welfare, and safety and minimize the adverse impacts of water supply shortage or other water supply emergency conditions, the City of Galveston (the “City”) hereby adopts the following Drought Contingency Plan (the “Plan”). The Plan includes regulations and restrictions on the delivery and consumption of water within the jurisdiction of the City of Galveston.

Water uses regulated or prohibited under this Plan are considered to constitute a waste of water which subjects the offender(s) to penalties as defined in **Section X** of this Plan.

## **Section II: Public Involvement**

Opportunity for the public and wholesale water customers to provide input into the preparation of the Plan was provided by the City of Galveston by means of scheduling and providing public notice of a public meeting, scheduled by the City Secretary, to accept input on the Plan. A public meeting regarding this Plan was held on **December XX, 2018** at **823 Rosenberg Dr, Room CH204**, and the City of Galveston made the draft plan available for review (**via the City website**) **two weeks prior** to the public meeting.

## **Section III: Public Education**

Successful implementation of the Plan depends on effective communication with the public. The City must exchange ideas with the public to understand its needs and determine what water uses are most essential. The public must believe that the measures adopted are credible. A public awareness and education campaign will be successful if it conveys that:

1. The water management condition is real
2. Reductions in water demand are necessary
3. The adopted measures realistically correspond to the severity of the situation.
4. All customers share the inconvenience during water shortages
5. The City is effectively managing this existing water supply.

To accomplish these objectives, the City will take the following steps during drought or water emergency conditions:

- Alert the public and keep the public regularly informed through local media.
- Initiate public discussions when appropriate
- Promote public understanding of the Plan and convey restrictions required should situations worsen.
- Educate the public about ways to use water more efficiently

- Gather public support for the Plan's actions
- Highlight the leadership role of the city government to save water
- Work to gather support from various forms of news media to successfully keep the public informed. Once initiated, and especially during stages 3, 4, and 5, the City and the news media will provide regular alerts to successfully implement public awareness and education through the following options:

**News Media:**

- Radio, television, internet, and public service announcements
- Newspaper and other local publication announcements
- Interviews on radio and television programs, when appropriate
- Other radio and television pieces
- Newspaper and local magazine articles
- Press releases
- Paid or donated advertising

**Communications:**

- Citizen hotline (number to be included in all communications)
- Communication to media web sites of the current stage and applicable restrictions in water use.
- Telephone and written notifications to large water use customers when applicable.
- Water bill inserts or messages
- Distribution of fact sheets, brochures, and pamphlets
- Mail distinctive-looking post cards to customers beginning in Stage 2, conveying internal water restrictions that apply during this stage as well as a reminder to stay tuned to the media for mandatory restrictions during subsequent possible stages.
- Posting of signs and notices (e.g. city and county buildings, post offices)
- Billboards (if time and availability allow)
- Training of City customer service representatives
- Post current Plan stage and applicable restrictions to the City's website and social media pages.

At all times, including during periods when water usage restrictions are not in place per this Plan, the City will instigate community involvement activities designed to educate the public regarding water usage and conservation needs. Such community involvement measures may include, but are not limited to:

- Public meetings and hearings
- Public education seminars
- City employee training
- School programs
- Organized contests (e.g. poster or T-shirt design, showing new ideas related to water savings)
- Community outreach programs
- Education and outreach from community volunteers
- Formation of citizen's committees or other public forms

**Wholesale Customer Education**

The City will periodically provide wholesale water customers with information about the Plan, including conditions that initiate each stage and the drought response measures to be implemented. Upon Plan adoption, the City will schedule meetings with each wholesale customer to describe the plan and

communication arrangements between the customer and the City to be implemented should the City initiate water usage restrictions under the Plan.

#### **Section IV: Coordination with Regional Water Planning Groups**

The City’s water service area is located within the Region H water planning area, and the City’s Director of Municipal Utilities has provided a copy of the Plan to the Region H water planning group and to the City’s water supplier, the Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA). Copies of the Plan transmittal letters to the Region H water planning group and the GCWA are provided in **Appendix A**.

#### **Section V: Authorization**

The Director of Municipal Utilities (“Director”) or his/her designee, is hereby authorized and directed to implement and administer, at the direction of the City Manager, the applicable provisions of this Plan upon determination that such implementation is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

#### **Section VI: Plan Application & Notice Procedures**

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all customers purchasing water from the City of Galveston. The terms “person” and “customer” as used in the Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities. When the Director of Municipal Utilities or a designee initiates or terminates response stages under this Plan, he/she shall immediately notify the public by means of announcements in local media. Update releases will be on at least a daily basis during implementation of this Plan, unless otherwise specified for specific responses listed below.

#### **Section VII: Definitions**

For the purposes of this Plan, the following definitions shall apply. Defined terms are shown in **BOLD** fonts throughout the Plan.

- **Aesthetic Water Use:** water use for ornamental or decorative purposes such as in fountains, reflecting pools, and water gardens.
- **Commercial and Institutional Water Use:** water use which is integral to the operations of commercial entities, non-profit establishments, and governmental entities. These entities include but are not limited to retail establishments, large housing complexes, hotels/ motels and entertainment complexes, Port of Galveston entities, restaurants, and office buildings.
- **Conservation:** those practices, techniques, and technologies that reduce the consumption of water, reduce the loss or waste of water, improve the efficiency in the use of water or increase the recycling and reuse of water so that a supply is conserved and made available for future or alternative uses.
- **Retail Customer:** any person or entity purchasing drinking water from the City of Galveston for use or consumption.
- **Wholesale Customer:** any entity purchasing potable water from the City of Galveston for resale or redistribution.
- **Domestic Water Use:** commonly known as “drinking water,” used for personal needs or sanitary purposes such as drinking, bathing, heating, cooking, sanitation, or cleaning.
- **Property in East Galveston:** property located east of an extended line running north and south along the center of 45th street.

- **Property in West Galveston:** property located west of an extended line running north and south along the center of 45th street.
- **Industrial Water Use:** the use of water in processes designed to convert materials of lower value into forms having greater usability and value.
- **Landscape Irrigation Use:** water used for the irrigation and maintenance of landscaped areas, whether publicly or privately owned, including but not limited to residential and commercial lawns, gardens, golf courses, parks, right-of-ways, and medians. Both potable and non-potable water may be used for this purpose.
- **Non-Essential Water Use:** The use of potable water for activities deemed beneficial yet non-essential for the maintenance of public health, safety and welfare for the City of Galveston. Non-essential water use will be regulated or prohibited, depending on implementation stages of this Plan. The Director of Municipal Utilities may designate whether a water usage activity results in Non-Essential Water Use, and may modify such designations from time to time. The following water use activities are considered as Non-Essential Water Use activities for the purposes of this Plan: :
  - irrigation of landscape areas, including parks, schools, athletic fields, and golf courses, except otherwise provided under this Plan;
  - washing any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle, other than in a commercial car wash, if not necessary for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare;
  - washing any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
  - washing buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection;
  - flushing gutters or allowing water to run or accumulate in any gutter or street;
  - filling, refilling, or adding to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools or jacuzzi-type pools;
  - filling, refilling, or adding to any fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes except where necessary to support aquatic life;
  - using water hydrants for construction purposes or any other purposes other than fire fighting, hydrant flushing and street cleaning;
  - water loss because a responsible party has not repaired controllable leak(s) within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leak(s).

### **Section VIII: Drought Response Stage Criteria and Response Actions**

The Director of Municipal Utilities, or his/her designee, under the direction of the City Manager, shall monitor water supply and demand conditions on a daily basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of the Plan.

The triggering criteria and response measures described below are based on City staff experience obtained through managing water supplies through recent drought periods, including the most recent 2011 extreme single-year drought for the Brazos River basin. Triggering criteria and response measures are also based on similar criteria and measures utilized by the Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA), which provides 100% of the City's water supply.

### **Section VIII.1 - Stage 1 Response (Mild Water Shortage; TCEQ “Watch” Level)**

A Stage 1 Response may be triggered when the Director of Municipal Utilities finds that the Response Conditions warrant the declaration of a Stage 1 Response. The Director of Municipal Utilities will consider declaring a Stage 1 Response when at least one of the following Response Conditions is satisfied:

#### **Response Conditions:**

1. The Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA) has initiated a Stage 1 Response under its Drought Contingency Plan.
2. Total water demand exceeds 80% of deliverable capacity for four consecutive days
3. Storage in City water reservoirs falls below 80% of capacity for four consecutive days
4. Single day demand exceeds 85% of deliverable capacity
5. Storage in City water reservoirs falls below 70% of capacity for a single day

A Stage 1 Response may be terminated by the Director of Municipal Utilities when the Response Conditions that triggered the initiation of a Stage 1 Response no longer prevail.

#### **Response Measures:**

The goal for water use under Stage 1 is a reduction of 5% of water use compared to the City’s historical water usage over the past three years as calculated by GCWA and approved by the City. The Director of Municipal Utilities may implement any of the following actions deemed necessary, and may implement other appropriate actions not listed below:

##### **General Measures:**

- Notify all **Retail** and **Wholesale Customers** that a Stage 1 Response condition exists;
- Request voluntary reductions in water use by all **Retail Customers** and **Wholesale Customers**;
- Increase public awareness of drought or system conditions and measures to reduce demand

##### **Supply Management Measures:**

- Monitor water supply and demand on a constant basis and notify users by press releases of conditions as appropriate
- Call and mail notification to water consumers regarding the need to reduce their usage on a voluntary basis by at least 5%.
- Distribute water to City reservoirs based on demand in specific service areas
- Defer or delay City maintenance services (e.g. flushing of water mains, watering of City property)
- Utilize reclaimed, non-potable water for irrigation purposes, where feasible
- Explore alternative sources of potable water
- Notify **Wholesale Customers** of reductions in available water and advise implementation of the **Wholesale Customer’s** drought contingency plan.

##### **Voluntary Demand Reduction Measures:**

- Issue press releases and/or published notices in all media, requesting practice of water conservation activities, and minimization or discontinuation of **Non-Essential Water Use**.
- Request, via press releases and/or published notices, that **Retail Customers** voluntarily limit **Landscape Irrigation Use** to Tuesdays and Thursdays for customers with **Property in East Galveston**, and Wednesdays and Fridays for customers with **Property in West Galveston**, and to

irrigate landscapes before 10:00am **OR** 8:00pm on designated watering days.

### **Section VIII.2 - Stage 2 Response (Moderate Water Shortage; TCEQ “Concern” Level)**

A Stage 2 Response may be triggered when the Director of Municipal Utilities finds that the Response Conditions warrant the declaration of a Stage 2 Response. The Director of Municipal Utilities will consider declaring a Stage 2 Response when at least one of the following Response Conditions is satisfied:

#### **Response Conditions:**

1. The Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA) has initiated a Stage 2 Response under its Drought Contingency Plan.
2. Total water demand exceeds 85% of deliverable capacity for four consecutive days
3. Storage in City water reservoirs falls below 70% of capacity for four consecutive days
4. Single day demand exceeds 90% of deliverable capacity
5. Storage in City water reservoirs falls below 65% of capacity for a single day

A Stage 2 Response may be terminated by the Director of Municipal Utilities when the Response Conditions that triggered the initiation of a Stage 2 Response no longer prevail.

#### **Response Measures:**

The goal for water use under Stage 2 is a reduction of 10% of water use compared to the City’s historical water usage over the past three years as calculated by GCWA and approved by the City. The Director of Municipal Utilities may implement any of the following actions deemed necessary, and may implement other appropriate actions not listed below. Within five (5) days of implementing (or terminating) mandatory water use restrictions, the Director of Municipal Utilities will notify the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Notifications will be submitted to the TCEQ Public Drinking Water Section Drought Team, and will be submitted via the TCEQ-required online form, currently available at: [https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/homeland\\_security/security\\_pws/pws-drought-contingency-plan-reporting-form](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/homeland_security/security_pws/pws-drought-contingency-plan-reporting-form). Assistance in making notifications may be obtained via e-mail to [wcp@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:wcp@tceq.texas.gov) or via phone at 512-239-4691.

#### **General Measures:**

- Notify all **Retail** and **Wholesale Customers** that a Stage 2 Response condition exists;
- Require reductions in water use by all **Retail Customers** and **Wholesale Customers**;
- Increase public awareness of drought or system conditions and measures to reduce demand

#### **Supply Management Measures:**

- Monitor water supply and demand on a constant basis and notify users by press releases of conditions as appropriate
- Reduce distribution pressure in 10% increments as possible and appropriate to attempt to stabilize reservoir storage levels.
- Meet with customers and develop water usage reduction plans
- Distribute water to City reservoirs based on demand in specific service areas
- Defer or delay City maintenance services (e.g. flushing of water mains, watering of City property)
- Initiate usage of reclaimed, non-potable water for **Landscape Irrigation Use**, wherever feasible.
- Explore alternative sources of potable water



- Notify **Wholesale Customers** of reductions in available water and advise implementation of the **Wholesale Customer's** drought contingency plan.

**Mandatory Demand Reduction Measures:**

- Limit **Landscape Irrigation Use** to Tuesdays and Thursdays for customers with **Property in East Galveston**, and Wednesdays and Fridays for customers with **Property in West Galveston**, and to irrigate landscapes before 10:00am **OR** after 8:00pm on designated watering days. However **Landscape Irrigation Use** is permitted at any time on the designated days if it is by means of a hand-held hose, a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or via a drip irrigation system.
- Limit private use of water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane, or other vehicle to Tuesdays and Thursdays for customers with **Property in East Galveston**, and Wednesdays and Fridays for customers with **Property in West Galveston**, and to irrigate landscapes before 10:00am **OR** after 8:00pm on designated watering days. Such washing, when allowed, shall be done with a hand-held bucket or a hand-held pose equipped with a positive shutoff nozzle for quick rinses. Vehicle washing may be done at any time on the premises of a commercial car wash or commercial service station. Further, such washing may be exempted from the Plan if, as determined by the Director of Municipal Utilities, the health, safety, and welfare of the public is contingent upon frequent vehicle cleansing, such as garbage trucks, fishing vessels, and vehicles used to transport food and perishables.
- Limit use of water to fill, refill, or add to any indoor or outdoor swimming pools, wading pools, or Jacuzzi-type pools to Tuesdays and Thursdays for customers with **Property in East Galveston**, and Wednesdays and Fridays for customers with **Property in West Galveston**, with water usage allowed for these purposes only before 10:00am **OR** after 8:00pm on designated watering days.
- Prohibit usage of potable water to fill, refill, or add water to any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes, except where necessary to support aquatic life.
- Limit water usage from fire hydrants for only fire fighting, related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare. Use of water from designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed under special permit from the Director of Municipal Utilities or his/her designee.
- Prohibit the use of potable water for irrigation of golf course greens, tees, and fairways except on Tuesdays and Thursdays for **Property in East Galveston**, and Wednesdays and Fridays for customers with **Property in West Galveston**. Irrigation on these designated days is limited to before 10:00am **OR** after 8:00pm on designated watering days. Properties utilizing a water source other than potable water provided by the City of Galveston (e.g. reclaimed, non-potable water) are not subject to this regulation.
- Prohibit all restaurants from serving water to patrons except on patron request.
- Prohibit the following uses of potable water, as they are considered **Non Essential Water Uses** under a Stage 2 Condition:
  - Wash down of any sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, or other hard-surfaced areas;
  - Wash down of buildings or structures for purposes other than immediate fire protection
  - Use of water for dust control, except as permitted by the Director of Municipal Utilities.
  - Hydrant flushing, flushing gutters, or allowing water to run or accumulate in any street
  - Failure to repair controllable leaks within a reasonable period after having been given notice directing the repair of such leaks.

### **Section VIII.3 - Stage 3 Response (Severe Water Shortage; TCEQ “Priority” Level)**

A Stage 3 Response may be triggered when the Director of Municipal Utilities finds that the Response Conditions warrant the declaration of a Stage 3 Response. The Director of Municipal Utilities will consider declaring a Stage 3 Response when at least one of the following Response Conditions is satisfied:

#### **Response Conditions:**

1. The Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA) has initiated a Stage 3 Response under its Drought Contingency Plan.
2. Total water demand exceeds 90% of deliverable capacity for three consecutive days
3. Storage in City water reservoirs falls below 65% of capacity for three consecutive days

A Stage 3 Response may be terminated by the Director of Municipal Utilities when the Response Conditions that triggered the initiation of a Stage 3 Response no longer prevail.

#### **Response Measures:**

The goal for water use under Stage 3 is a reduction of 15% of water use compared to the City’s historical water usage over the past three years as calculated by GCWA and approved by the City. The Director of Municipal Utilities may implement any of the following actions deemed necessary, and may implement other appropriate actions not listed below. Within five (5) days of implementing (or terminating) mandatory water use restrictions, the Director of Municipal Utilities will notify the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Notifications will be submitted to the TCEQ Public Drinking Water Section Drought Team, and will be submitted via the TCEQ-required online form, currently available at: [https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/homeland\\_security/security\\_pws/pws-drought-contingency-plan-reporting-form](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/homeland_security/security_pws/pws-drought-contingency-plan-reporting-form). Assistance in making notifications may be obtained via e-mail to [wcp@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:wcp@tceq.texas.gov) or via phone at 512-239-4691.

#### **General Measures:**

- Notify all **Retail** and **Wholesale Customers** that a Stage 3 Response condition exists;
- Require reductions in water use by all **Retail Customers** and **Wholesale Customers**;
- Increase public awareness of drought or system conditions and measures to reduce demand

#### **Supply Management Measures:**

- Monitor water supply and demand on a constant basis and notify users by press releases of conditions as appropriate
- Reduce distribution pressure in 10% increments as possible and appropriate to attempt to stabilize reservoir storage levels.
- Meet with customers and develop water usage reduction plans
- Distribute water to City reservoirs based on demand in specific service areas
- Defer or delay City maintenance services (e.g. flushing of water mains, watering of City property)
- Initiate usage of reclaimed, non-potable water for **Landscape Irrigation Use**, wherever feasible.
- Explore alternative sources of potable water
- Notify **Wholesale Customers** of reductions in available water and advise implementation of the **Wholesale Customer’s** drought contingency plan.

#### **Mandatory Demand Reduction Measures:**

- Implement all demand reduction measures for Stage 2 Response Conditions
- Prohibit usage of hose-end sprinklers and automatic sprinkler systems at all times. Limit **Landscape Irrigation Usage** to use of hand-held hoses, hand-held buckets, or drip irrigation only.
- Prohibit watering of golf course tees unless the golf course utilizes a water source other than that provided by the City (e.g. reclaimed, non-potable water)
- Prohibit water use for construction purposes from designated fire hydrants, unless written permission is obtained from the Director of Municipal Utilities.

If Stage 3 Response Conditions are in effect for 14 consecutive days, the City Manager may announce and implement a 10% surcharge over regular rates for City potable water during the next 30-day billing cycle. The surcharge will be in effect for at least one full billing cycle, and may be extended for subsequent 30-day billing cycles or terminated at the end of a billing cycle.

#### **Section VIII.4: Stage 4 Response (Extreme Water Shortage; TCEQ “Emergency” Level)**

A Stage 4 Response may be triggered when the Director of Municipal Utilities finds that the Response Conditions warrant the declaration of a Stage 4 Response. The Director of Municipal Utilities will consider declaring a Stage 4 Response when at least one of the following Response Conditions is satisfied:

##### **Response Conditions:**

1. The Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA) has initiated a Stage 4 Response under its Drought Contingency Plan.
2. Total water demand exceeds 95% of deliverable capacity for one day
3. Storage in City water reservoirs falls below 60% of capacity for one day

A Stage 4 Response may be terminated by the Director of Municipal Utilities when the Response Conditions that triggered the initiation of a Stage 4 Response no longer prevail.

##### **Response Measures:**

The goal for water use under Stage 4 is a reduction of 20% of water use compared to the City’s historical water usage over the past three years as calculated by GCWA and approved by the City. The Director of Municipal Utilities may implement any of the following actions deemed necessary, and may implement other appropriate actions not listed below. Within five (5) days of implementing (or terminating) mandatory water use restrictions, the Director of Municipal Utilities will notify the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Notifications will be submitted to the TCEQ Public Drinking Water Section Drought Team, and will be submitted via the TCEQ-required online form, currently available at: [https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/homeland\\_security/security\\_pws/pws-drought-contingency-plan-reporting-form](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/homeland_security/security_pws/pws-drought-contingency-plan-reporting-form). Assistance in making notifications may be obtained via e-mail to [wcp@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:wcp@tceq.texas.gov) or via phone at 512-239-4691.

##### **General Measures:**

- Notify all **Retail** and **Wholesale Customers** that a Stage 4 Response condition exists;
- Require reductions in water use by all **Retail Customers** and **Wholesale Customers**;
- Increase public awareness of drought or system conditions and measures to reduce demand

##### **Supply Management Measures:**

- Monitor water supply and demand on a constant basis and notify users by press releases of conditions as appropriate
- Reduce distribution pressure in 10% increments as possible and appropriate to attempt to stabilize reservoir storage levels.
- Meet with customers and develop water usage reduction plans
- Distribute water to City reservoirs based on demand in specific service areas
- Defer or delay City maintenance services (e.g. flushing of water mains, watering of City property)
- Initiate usage of reclaimed, non-potable water for **Landscape Irrigation Use**, wherever feasible.
- Aggressively explore alternative sources of potable water
- Notify **Wholesale Customers** of reductions in available water and advise implementation of the **Wholesale Customer's** drought contingency plan.

**Mandatory Demand Reduction Measures:**

- Implement all demand reduction measures for Stage 3 Response Conditions
- Prohibit usage of hose-end sprinklers and automatic sprinkler systems at all times. Limit **Landscape Irrigation Usage** to use of hand-held hoses, hand-held buckets, or drip irrigation only, on designated watering days between the hours of 8:00am and 10:00am OR between the hours of 8:00pm and 10:00pm.
- Prohibit use of potable water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle unless the wash is occurring at a commercial car wash or commercial service station and cleaning the vehicle is necessary to maintain public health, safety and welfare. Any such vehicle washes may only occur between 6:00am and 10:00am, or between 6:00pm and 10:00pm.
- Prohibit the filling, refilling, or adding of water to swimming pools, wading pools, and Jacuzzi-type pools.
- Prohibit the operation of any ornamental fountain or pond for aesthetic or scenic purposes, except where necessary to support aquatic life of where such fountains or ponds are equipped with a recirculation system.

Under Stage 4 response conditions, the Director of Municipal Utilities may suspend pending applications for new, additional, expanded, or increased-in-size water service connections, meters, service lines, pipeline extensions, mains, or water service facilities of any kind.

If Stage 4 Response Conditions are in effect for 14 consecutive days OR a 10% water surcharge is carried over from Stage 3, the City Manager may announce and implement a 15% surcharge over regular rates for City potable water during the next 30-day billing cycle. The surcharge will be in effect for at least one full billing cycle, and may be extended for subsequent 30-day billing cycles or terminated at the end of a billing cycle.

**Section VIII.5: Stage 5 - Water Emergency Response (Emergency Water Shortage; TCEQ “Emergency” Level)**

A Stage 5 Response may be triggered when the Director of Municipal Utilities finds that the Response Conditions warrant the declaration of a Stage 5 Response. The Director of Municipal Utilities will consider declaring a Stage 5 Response when at least one of the following Response Conditions is satisfied:

**Response Conditions:**

1. The Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA) has initiated a Stage 5 Response under its Drought Contingency Plan.
2. Major water line breaks, pump failures, or system failures occur which cause significant loss of capability to provide water service
3. Natural or man-made contamination of the water supply sources limits or prohibits the delivery of potable water
4. Stage 4 Response measures have not reduced the water usage to goal levels, and the Director of Municipal Utilities determines the City may not be able to meet the water demands of customers.

A Stage 5 Response may be terminated by the Director of Municipal Utilities when the Response Conditions that triggered the initiation of a Stage 5 Response no longer prevail.

**Response Measures:**

The goal for water use under Stage 5 is subject to the scope of the emergency. The Director of Municipal Utilities may implement any of the following actions deemed necessary, and may implement other appropriate actions not listed below. Within five (5) days of implementing (or terminating) mandatory water use restrictions, the Director of Municipal Utilities will notify the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). Notifications will be submitted to the TCEQ Public Drinking Water Section Drought Team, and will be submitted via the TCEQ-required online form, currently available at: [https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/homeland\\_security/security\\_pws/pws-drought-contingency-plan-reporting-form](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/homeland_security/security_pws/pws-drought-contingency-plan-reporting-form). Assistance in making notifications may be obtained via e-mail to [wcp@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:wcp@tceq.texas.gov) or via phone at 512-239-4691.

**General Measures:**

- Notify all **Retail** and **Wholesale Customers** that a Stage 5 Response condition exists;
- Require reductions in water use by all **Retail Customers** and **Wholesale Customers**;
- Increase public awareness of drought or system conditions and measures to reduce demand

**Supply Management Measures:**

- Discontinue all water system operations and correct the emergency situation to insure a safe supply of water
- Monitor water supply and demand on a constant basis and notify users by press releases of conditions as appropriate, with notices provided at least every 4 hours.
- Reduce distribution pressure in 10% increments as possible and appropriate to attempt to stabilize reservoir storage levels.
- Issue Boil Water notices via press releases, and if necessary, published notices
- Place Fire Department on Alert
- Distribute water to City reservoirs based on demand in specific service areas

- Defer or delay City maintenance services (e.g. flushing of water mains, watering of City property)
- Initiate usage of reclaimed, non-potable water for **Landscape Irrigation Use**, wherever feasible.
- Aggressively explore alternative sources of potable water
- Notify **Wholesale Customers** of reductions in available water and advise implementation of the **Wholesale Customer's** drought contingency plan.

**Mandatory Demand Reduction Measures:**

- Implement all demand reduction measures for Stage 4 Response Conditions
- Prohibit **Landscape Irrigation Water Use** at all times.
- Prohibit use of potable water to wash any motor vehicle, motorbike, boat, trailer, airplane or other vehicle, unless written permission is provided by the Director of Municipal Utilities.

Water deliveries to wholesale water providers will be allocated on a pro-rata basis as provided under the Texas Water Code §11.039, following the water allocation plan developed between the City and the wholesale water provider.

**Section IX: Emergency Water Allocation**

**If the supply of available potable water reaches such a low level that anticipated demand cannot be met and the health and safety of the community may be at risk, the Director of Municipal Utilities, at the direction of the City Manager, shall be responsible for administering an allocation program under which the City may limit the times and/or days water will be pumped into the water distribution system.** If necessary, this allocation may vary for areas of the City served by different reservoirs and water will be distributed accordingly to these reservoirs. Schedules of water availability in different areas of the City will be announced by press releases to all media, and may be supplemented by the distribution of circulars at businesses and public buildings throughout the City, as determined by the Directory of Municipal Utilities.

Water distribution will be administered by the Director of Municipal Utilities, at the direction of the City Manager, based on priorities established at a meeting with the Mayor, City Manager, the City Emergency Operation Officer, and any other official(s) the aforementioned individuals deem necessary, including wholesale customer representatives. The agreement should include, but not be limited to, considering the following facilities in setting area priorities:

- Fire and Public Safety facilities
- Hospitals and Medical-related (including veterinary) facilities
- Facilities housing distribution points for food and bottled water
- Geriatric and Assisted Living facilities
- Educational and Day Care facilities (while in session)
- Food service facilities (e.g. restaurants, food kitchens)
- Government, Commercial and Industrial facilities (e.g. courts, Public Works water system stations, power complexes, manufacturers, distributors, retail stores, auto service stations, hotels, mortuaries, entertainment complexes)
- Port of Galveston facilities.
- Residential users and housing complexes

**Water distribution to wholesale accounts:** There will be a provision in every wholesale water contract entered into or renewed by the City after adoption of this plan, including contract extensions, that in case of a shortage of water resulting from drought, the water to be distributed shall be allocated in accordance with Texas Water Code, §11.039.

**Section X: Enforcement**

- (a) No person shall knowingly or intentionally allow the use of water from the City of Galveston for any use contrary to any provision of this Plan, as specified by the drought response stage in effect at the time as a result of action taken by Director of Municipal Utilities, or a designee, in accordance with provisions of this Plan. Any violation shall be considered an infraction against the public health and sanitation of the City.
- (b) Any person who violates this Plan is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$2,000.00 dollars and a surcharge of 20% applied to the violator's current water bill. Each day that one or more of the provisions in this Plan is violated shall constitute a separate offense. If a person is convicted of three or more distinct violations of this Plan, the Director of Municipal Utilities shall, upon 48-hour advance notice to the customer, be authorized to discontinue water service to the premises where such violations occur. Services discontinued under such circumstances shall be restored only upon advance payment of a re-connection charge, hereby established at \$40.00 same day or \$25.00 next day, and any other cost incurred by the City of Galveston in disconnecting and restoring service. In addition, suitable assurance must be given to the Director of Municipal Utilities that the same action shall not be repeated while the Plan is in effect. Compliance with this plan may also be sought through injunctive relief in the district court.
- (c) The Director of Municipal Utilities shall assume that the billing name for a water customer account is the person responsible for any violations to this Plan, and shall be presumed to be the violator, unless that person can submit tangible proof to the Director that another person or entity bears responsibility for the property.
- (d) Any employee of the City of Galveston designated by the Director of Municipal Utilities, or a police officer, may issue a citation to a person or entity in violation of this Ordinance. The citation shall be prepared in duplicate and shall contain the name and address of the violator, if known, and the offense charged. The citation shall direct him/her to appear in the city municipal court on the date shown on the citation, for which the date shall not be less than 3 days nor more than 5 days from the date the citation was issued. The alleged violator shall be served a copy of the citation. Service of the citation shall be complete upon delivery of the citation to the alleged violator, to an agent or employee of a violator, or to a person over 14 years of age who is a member of the violator's immediate family or is a resident of the violator's residence. The alleged violator shall appear in city municipal court to enter a plea of guilty or not guilty for the violation of this Plan. If the alleged violator fails to appear in city municipal court, a warrant for arrest may be issued. A summons to appear may be issued in lieu of an arrest warrant. These cases shall be expedited and given preferential setting in city municipal court before all other cases.
- (e) In the event of water allocation, appropriate security measures should be implemented by the affected City departments

### **Section XI: Variances**

The Director of Municipal Utilities, or a designee, may, in writing, grant temporary variance for existing water uses otherwise prohibited under this Plan if it is determined that failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the health, sanitation, or fire protection for the public or the person requesting such variance and if one or more of the following conditions are met:

(a) Compliance with this Plan cannot be technically feasible during the duration of the water supply shortage or other condition for which the Plan is in effect.

(b) Alternative methods can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.

Persons requesting an exemption from the provisions of this Ordinance shall file a petition for variance, obtained from the Director of Municipal Utilities or a designee, with the City of Galveston within 5 days after the Plan or a particular drought response stage has been invoked. All petitions for variances shall be reviewed by the Director of Municipal Utilities, or a designee, and shall include the following:

- (a) Name and address of the petitioner(s).
- (b) Purpose of water use.
- (c) Specific provision(s) of the Plan from which the petitioner is requesting relief.
- (d) Detailed statement as to how the specific provision of the Plan adversely affects the petitioner or what damage or harm will occur to the petitioner or others if petitioner complies with this Ordinance.
- (e) Description of the relief requested.
- (f) Period of time for which the variance is sought.
- (g) Alternative water use restrictions or other measures the petitioner is taking or proposes to take to meet the intent of this of this Plan and the compliance date.
- (h) Other pertinent information.

Variances granted by the City of Galveston shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the Director of Municipal Utilities or a designee:

- (a) Variances granted shall be valid only for the granted limited time period during the current situation where Stages of conservation are declared, and shall expire on the designated date or the termination of Stage 1 in the current sequence, whichever occurs first.
- (b) All variances granted shall be valid for a maximum of 90 days, at which time, if the City is still under a declared conservation period, the customer will have to re-apply for a new variance.

No variance shall be retroactive or otherwise justify any violation of this Plan occurring prior to the issuance of the variance.

### **Section XIII: Severability**

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City of Galveston that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Plan are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Plan shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Plan, since the same would not have been enacted by the City of Galveston without the incorporation into this Plan of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section.



**ORDINANCE NO. 19-\_\_\_**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON, TEXAS, AMENDING “THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON 1982, AS AMENDED,” CHAPTER 20.5 “MARDI GRAS” BY ALLOWING OVERNIGHT PARKING AND/OR OVERNIGHT CAMPING ON SEAWALL BLVD DURING THE FIRST WEEKEND OF MARDI GRAS; INCREASING THE PARKING FINE PROVISION FROM FIFTY (\$50.00) DOLLARS TO TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY (\$250.00) DOLLARS (PER NIGHT), FOR OVERNIGHT PARKING VIOLATIONS DURING THE PRECEDING MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY OF THE FIRST WEEKEND OF MARDI GRAS; REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; MAKING VARIOUS FINDINGS AND PROVISIONS RELATED TO THE SUBJECT; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

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**WHEREAS**, on December 18, 1986, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 86-70 creating a new chapter of the City Code setting forth rules and regulations for the annual Mardi Gras events; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Galveston Mardi Gras events period is defined as the twenty (20) day period immediately preceding Ash Wednesday of each year. The Mardi Gras celebration traditionally attracts more than 250,000 visitors each year to Galveston and there is a need to afford for accommodation of those many visitors during the Mardi Gras events; and,

**WHEREAS**, in the past islanders and some out of town guests would park on Seawall Blvd. prior to the onset of the first weekend parades which would involve overnight parking and/or overnight camping; and,

**WHEREAS**, allowing overnight parking and/or overnight camping on Seawall Boulevard during the first weekend of the Mardi Gras events would encourage and assist visitors in participating in this spectacular event which increases tourism in Galveston; and,

**WHEREAS**, Staff recommends an amendment to allow overnight parking and/or overnight camping on Seawall Boulevard during the first weekend of the Mardi Gras event; and,

**WHEREAS**, during the Monday to Thursday of the preceding week of the first weekend of Mardi Gras there is a noticeable increase in overnight parking violations. Overnight parking violators hinder the ability of the City to properly maintain the Seawall Blvd area of trash, debris and abandoned materials. In addition, overnight parking violators fail to move their vehicles in order to keep and/or “reserve” a spot for the Mardi Gras weekend events; and,

**WHEREAS**, Staff recommends an increase in the overnight parking violation fine from Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars to Two Hundred and Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars during the Monday to Thursday of the preceding week of the first weekend of Mardi Gras in order to properly maintain the Seawall Blvd., to decrease trash, debris and abandoned materials and to deter and discourage “reservation” of spots for the Mardi Gras festivities; and,

**WHEREAS**, this amendment will not affect parking regulations other than the allowance of overnight parking and/or overnight camping on Seawall Blvd, and the increased fine as provided in section 2 below; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Galveston, Texas, deems it in the public interest to amend Chapter 20.5, “**MARDI GRAS**” of “The Code of The City of Galveston 1982, as amended, to provide for overnight parking and/or overnight camping on Seawall Boulevard as provided in Section 2 of this Ordinance below.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GALVESTON, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** The findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this Ordinance are found to be true and correct and they are hereby adopted by the City Council and made a part hereof for all purposes.

**SECTION 2.** Section 20.5 “Mardi Gras” of “The Code of the City of Galveston 1982, as amended” is hereby amended to read and provide as follows:

**Secs. 20.5-19 - ~~20.5-29.~~ – Reserved.**

**Sec. 20.5 – 19. Overnight Parking / Overnight Camping.**

The overnight parking and overnight camping regulations of the City Code shall not apply to the first weekend of the Galveston Mardi Gras events period as provided below:

- (a) Overnight parking and/or overnight camping shall be allowed on the Seawall Boulevard from 6th Street to 59th Street, from 63<sup>rd</sup> Street to 89<sup>th</sup> Street, and from the 9300 block of Seawall Boulevard to the western terminus of the Seawall, from midnight to 5:00 a.m. including Saturday and Sunday during the first weekend of the Galveston Mardi Gras event.
- (b) Only current registered vehicles, as defined by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, may utilize this overnight parking and/or overnight camping provision during the applicable Mardi Gras time period.
- (c) Notwithstanding subsection (a) hereof, all other regulations pertaining to parking or camping on the Seawall Blvd shall apply and remain in effect.

**Secs. 20.5-20 – Penalty - Overnight Parking Violation**

(a) During the Monday to Thursday of the preceding week of the first weekend of Mardi Gras, any person who violates the overnight parking provisions on the Seawall Blvd., shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of Two Hundred and Fifty (\$250.00) Dollars. Each night in violation is a separate offense.

**20.5-21 – 20.5 -29. – Reserved.**

**SECTION 3.** It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance should be declared invalid by the final judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 4.** All Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of such conflict only.

**SECTION 5.** In accordance with the provisions of Sections 12 and 13 of Article II of the City Charter this Ordinance has been publicly available in the office of the City Secretary for not less than 72 hours prior to its adoption; that this Ordinance may be read and published by descriptive caption only.

**SECTION 6.** This Ordinance shall be and become effective from and after its adoption and publication in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Galveston.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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DONNA M. FAIRWEATHER  
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY

I, Janelle Williams, Secretary of the City Council of the City of Galveston, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Galveston at its Regular Meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2019, as the same appears in records of this office.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I subscribe my name hereto officially under the corporate seal of the City of Galveston this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

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Secretary for the City Council  
of the City of Galveston



January 9, 2019

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District  
Attn: Ms. Jennifer Morgan, Environmental Compliance Branch, Regional Planning and  
Environmental Center  
P.O. Box 1229  
Galveston, TX 77553-1229

RE: Coastal Texas Protection & Restoration Feasibility Study and the Tentatively Selected Plan

Dear Ms. Morgan,

On behalf of the City of Galveston (City), I want to thank you for the opportunity to share our comments regarding the Coastal Texas Protection and Restoration Feasibility Study and the Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP).

The City has long-supported the coastal barrier protection concept known as the coastal spine “Ike Dike” as proposed by Dr. William Merrell at Texas A&M University at Galveston (TAMUG). In 2012, the Galveston City Council adopted a resolution setting forth support for the coastal spine system of barriers and gates extending along Galveston Island and the Bolivar Peninsula. The land barrier coastal spine, as envisioned by Dr. Merrell, included flood gates at Bolivar roads, Houston and Galveston ship channel entrances, and San Luis Pass.

A land barrier coastal spine system along the upper Texas coastline is a critical national security and economic protection priority the City views as vital to the nation’s interstate commerce and economy. The City applauds the extensive work by the U.S. Corps of Engineers (Corps of Engineers) on a TSP strategy that involves a coastal barrier system as the preferred option for protecting the upper Texas coastline from devastation caused by hurricane storm surge.

The TSP generated tremendous interest and discussion as evidenced by hundreds of Galveston residents attending the Corps of Engineers public meeting held on December 12, 2018. In preparing comments on the TSP, the City has also drawn upon additional public input received during a Special Meeting held by the Galveston City Council on January 3, 2019, regarding the proposed TSP. Further, the City’s comments reference proposed TSP modifications submitted by Dr. Merrell to the Corps of Engineers during this public comment period.

The City takes this opportunity to share the following concerns:

1. ***Galveston Ring Levee.*** The TSP includes a ring levee located around the eastern part of the City with a design calling for the seawall to be raised and the ring levee structure built to a height of 18-feet on the backside of the City. The proposed placement of the ring levee divides neighborhoods and leaves the Port of Galveston unprotected. Fearing the City is left vulnerable to a similar bowl scenario in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina, many Galveston residents strongly oppose a ring levee reliant upon a complex system of pumping stations and other structures. The presence of a properly designed and maintained coastal spine protection system would reduce surge and eliminate or significantly minimize the need for this secondary barrier.
  - ***Recommendation:*** The City agrees with Dr. Merrell's assessment that a more cost-efficient protection can be achieved by less intrusive means than an expensive ring levee requiring considerable maintenance. For example, TAMUG modeling of eight storms demonstrates a gate at San Luis Pass can help manage water levels and reduce storm surge in Galveston Bay (the Bay). The City urges the Corps of Engineers to rethink the Galveston ring levee and consider the TSP modifications proposed by Dr. Merrell that effectively manage water levels in the Bay and reduce the need for a secondary barrier.
2. ***Placement of the proposed levee and floodwall land barriers.*** Galveston residents have voiced strong opposition to the TSP proposed placement of the levee and land barrier system adjacent to and north of FM 3005 on Galveston's West End. The current alignment of the barriers unnecessarily leaves some residents protected while others are left exposed to substantial surge damage. Many residents fear public takings to build the barrier structures or lower property values and increased insurance rates for those properties on the seaward side that are subject to increased surge.
  - ***Recommendation:*** The Corps of Engineers should re-examine the design and construction of sand-based fortified dunes as natural appearing floodwall barriers along the beach to maximize protection for all residents and businesses. Moreover, barriers located on the public beach eliminates the displacement of property owners and provides a natural and visually-appealing environment that supports dune ecosystems.
3. ***Environmental concerns.*** The Upper Texas Coast is an important resource for commercial and recreational fishing and the harvest of shrimp, crabs, finfish and oysters that are vital to the local and state economy. Without design modifications, concerns are the proposed Bolivar Roads floodgate fails to mitigate the ecological impacts of restricting water flow effecting water salinity and the movement of fish and shellfish. The ecosystem modeling used by the Corps of Engineers must thoroughly assess the impacts to water quality, circulation, and the sea life so critical to this region.
  - ***Recommendation:*** The Corps of Engineers should utilize the best technology available when designing gate structures to minimize the adverse impacts of water flow restriction. The City urges the Corps of Engineers to closely examine TSP modifications proposed

by Dr. Merrell that would reduce the size of navigation gates to Bolivar Roads, allow larger flow openings for some gates in the present design, and utilize accordion or inflatable gates near Bolivar. According to Dr. Merrell, such alternatives would permit sufficient water conditions in the Bay to sustain ecosystems while continuing sea life exchange between the Gulf and the Bay.

4. ***Construction and Maintenance Costs.***

Corps of Engineers cost estimates for the upper coastal barrier system as proposed in the TSP are \$14.2 billion to \$19.9 billion, a wide variance from cost estimates for a similar system proposed by the Gulf Coast Community Protection and Recovery District Construction (\$9.5 billion) or the independent Dutch cost analysis for the coastal spine configuration proposed by Dr. Merrell (\$9.2 billion). TSP modifications proposed by Dr. Merrell can produce significant cost savings while creating a coastal barrier system that provides the best protection for the upper Texas coastline and meshes well with the environmental, economic, and social fabric of Galveston and our region.

The City supports the Corps of Engineers efforts to address beach and dune nourishment for Galveston Island in the TSP. While an engineered sand dune barrier approach is the preferred alternative to the TSP proposal, the City is concerned a significant re-nourishment commitment will be needed to maintain the beaches, a maintenance obligation well beyond financial means of the City.

***Recommendation:*** The Corps of Engineers should work to reduce costs by eliminating the ring levee, re-designing the navigation gates at Bolivar Roads and evaluating the addition of a gate at San Luis Pass. Downsized navigation gates at Bolivar Roads along with a gate at San Luis Pass may provide for proper water flow while reducing the need for dredging and a ring levee. When developing the final plan, the City strongly urges the Corps of Engineers to commit to the beach and dune maintenance needs that will be critical for supporting the use of natural appearing dune barrier systems near or on the beach.

Finally, the City recognizes the Texas General Land Office Commissioner George P. Bush for his leadership as the non-federal partner working with the Corps of Engineers to advance the best coastal barrier protection option. The City echoes Commissioner Bush's support for additional studies of the TSP to minimize the impact to the surrounding community, an extension of the current public comment period, and a second round of public meetings that allows the public to review how the Corps of Engineers has incorporated feedback to date.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

James D. Yarbrough  
Mayor of Galveston

cc: The Honorable John Cornyn  
United States Senate  
517 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
United States Senate  
185 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Randy Weber  
United States House of Representatives  
510 Cannon House Office Building  
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The Honorable Larry Taylor  
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174 Calder Road  
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The Honorable Brandon Creighton  
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The Honorable Mayes Middleton  
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