

reasonably be segregated into separate discussions without disclosing classified material.

**Written Statements:** In accordance with Section 10(a)(3) of the FACA and 41 CFR 102–3.105(j) and 102–3.140(c), the public or interested organizations may submit written statements to the membership of the DPB at any time regarding its mission or in response to the stated agenda of a planned meeting. Written statements should be submitted to the DPB's Designated Federal Officer (DFO), which is listed in this notice or can be obtained from the GSA's FACA Database—<http://www.facadatabase.gov/>. Written statements that do not pertain to a scheduled meeting of the DPB may be submitted at any time. However, if individual comments pertain to a specific topic being discussed at a planned meeting, then these statements must be submitted no later than five business days prior to the meeting in question. The DFO will review all submitted written statements and provide copies to all members.

Dated: September 25, 2020.

**Aaron T. Siegel,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register, Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### Inland Waterways Users Board Meeting Notice

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of open Federal advisory committee virtual meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Army is publishing this notice to announce the Federal advisory committee online virtual meeting of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Inland Waterways Users Board (Board). This meeting is open to the public. For additional information about the Board, please visit the committee's website at <http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/InlandWaterwaysUsersBoard.aspx>.

**DATES:** The Army Corps of Engineers, Inland Waterways Users Board will conduct an online virtual meet from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EDT on October 30, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Online Virtual Meeting. The Inland Waterways Users Board will be an online virtual meeting. The online

virtual meeting can be accessed at <https://usace.webex.com/meet/ndc.nav>, Public Call-in: USA Toll-Free 866–434–5269, USA Caller Paid/International Toll: 216–706–7005 Access Code: 4935871, Security Code 1234.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Mark R. Pointon, the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the committee, in writing at the Institute for Water Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CEIWR–GM, 7701 Telegraph Road, Casey Building, Alexandria, VA 22315–3868; by telephone at 703–428–6438; and by email at [Mark.Pointon@usace.army.mil](mailto:Mark.Pointon@usace.army.mil). Alternatively, contact Mr. Steven D. Riley, an Alternate Designated Federal Officer (ADFO), in writing at the Institute for Water Resources, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CEIWR–NDC, 7701 Telegraph Road, Casey Building, Alexandria, VA 22315–3868; by telephone at 703–659–3097; and by email at [Steven.D.Riley@usace.army.mil](mailto:Steven.D.Riley@usace.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The committee meeting is being held under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102–3.150.

**Purpose of the Meeting:** The Board is chartered to provide independent advice and recommendations to the Secretary of the Army on construction and rehabilitation project investments on the commercial navigation features of the inland waterways system of the United States. At this meeting, the Board will receive briefings and presentations regarding the investments, projects and status of the inland waterways system of the United States and conduct discussions and deliberations on those matters. The Board is interested in written and verbal comments from the public relevant to these purposes.

**Agenda:** At this meeting the agenda will include the status of FY 2021 funding for inland and coastal Navigation; status of the Inland Waterways Trust Fund (IWTF); status of the inland waterways Capital Investment Strategy activities; status of the ongoing construction activities for Olmsted Locks and Dam Project, the Monongahela River Locks and Dams 2, 3, and 4 Project, the Chickamauga Lock Project and the Kentucky Lock Project; Update for Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (IHNC) Lock; Outcome of the 2020 Illinois Waterway Closure; and Discussion of the Merits of different Acquisition Methods for Construction.

**Availability of Materials for the Meeting.** A copy of the agenda or any updates to the agenda for the October 30, 2020 virtual meeting will be available. The final version will be available at the virtual meeting. All materials will be posted to the website after the meeting.

**Public Accessibility to the Meeting:** Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended, and 41 CFR 102–3.140 through 102–3.165, and subject to the availability of space, this virtual meeting is open to the public. Registration of members of the public who wish to participate in the virtual meeting will begin at 8:15 a.m. on the day of the meeting. Participation is on a first-to-arrive basis. Any interested person may participate in the meeting, file written comments or statements with the committee, or make verbal comments during the virtual public meeting, at the times, and in the manner, permitted by the committee, as set forth below.

**Special Accommodations:** Individuals requiring any special accommodations related to the virtual public meeting or seeking additional information about the procedures, should contact Mr. Pointon, the committee DFO, or Mr. Riley, an ADFO, at the email addresses or telephone numbers listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section, at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

**Written Comments or Statements:** Pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.105(j) and 102–3.140 and section 10(a)(3) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the public or interested organizations may submit written comments or statements to the Board about its mission and/or the topics to be addressed in this virtual public meeting. Written comments or statements should be submitted to Mr. Pointon, the committee DFO, or Mr. Riley, a committee ADFO, via electronic mail, the preferred mode of submission, at the addresses listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section in the following formats: Adobe Acrobat or Microsoft Word. The comment or statement must include the author's name, title, affiliation, address, and daytime telephone number. Written comments or statements being submitted in response to the agenda set forth in this notice must be received by the committee DFO or ADFO at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting so that they may be made available to the Board for its consideration prior to the meeting. Written comments or statements received after this date may not be provided to the Board until its next meeting. Please note that because the

Board operates under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, all written comments will be treated as public documents and will be made available for public inspection.

**Verbal Comments:** Members of the public will be permitted to make verbal comments during the virtual public meeting only at the time and in the manner allowed herein. If a member of the public is interested in making a verbal comment at the open virtual meeting, that individual must submit a request, with a brief statement of the subject matter to be addressed by the comment, at least three business (3) days in advance to the committee DFO or ADFO, via electronic mail, the preferred mode of submission, at the addresses listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. The committee DFO and ADFO will log each request to make a comment, in the order received, and determine whether the subject matter of each comment is relevant to the Board's mission and/or the topics to be addressed in this public meeting. A 15-minute period near the end of the meeting will be available for verbal public comments. Members of the public who have requested to make a verbal comment and whose comments have been deemed relevant under the process described above, will be allotted no more than three (3) minutes during this period, and will be invited to speak in the order in which their requests were received by the DFO and ADFO.

**Thomas P. Smith,**

*Chief, Operations and Regulatory Division,  
Directorate of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corp  
of Engineers.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### Notice of Availability of and Request for Comment on an Interim Report for the Buffalo Bayou and Tributaries, Texas Resiliency Study

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) requests comments on the alternatives considered to date by the Buffalo Bayou and Tributaries, Texas Resiliency Study (BBTRS) to help inform the Study Team's recommendation to the Chief of Engineers on reducing the flood risk

along Buffalo Bayou and its tributaries in Harris and Fort Bend counties, Texas. An Interim Report has been prepared to document alternatives considered to date. The Interim Report, which does not include recommendations or decisions, is being published to solicit input from the public. Seeking this public input prior to identifying a preferred alternative will help ensure the analysis of a complex problem—and ultimately decisions—are effective, responsive, sustainable and understood by the region's communities.

**DATES:** Written comments on the Interim Report must be received by email or post-marked by November 2, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** The Interim Report and additional pertinent information about the study can be found at: <https://www.swg.usace.army.mil/Missions/Projects/Buffero-Bayou-and-Tributaries-Resiliency-Study/>.

Interested persons may submit written comments by email to [BBTRS@usace.army.mil](mailto:BBTRS@usace.army.mil) or by mail to: USACE, Galveston District, Attn: BBTRS, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Melinda Fisher, USACE, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, at 918-669-7423 or [BBTRS@usace.army.mil](mailto:BBTRS@usace.army.mil).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**1. Introduction and Background.** USACE, in partnership with the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD), as the non-Federal sponsor, began a feasibility study in 2018 to identify, evaluate, and recommend actions to reduce flood risks along Buffalo Bayou and its tributaries, both upstream and downstream of Addicks and Barker dams. The study will also complete a Dam Safety Modification Evaluation on Addicks and Barker dams. The BBTRS is authorized under Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 (Pub. L. 91-611) and existing project authority. Section 216 authorizes USACE to review a completed navigation, flood risk reduction, water supply, or related project due to significantly changed physical or economic conditions, and to report to Congress with recommendations regarding modification of the project's structures or operation, and for improving the quality of the environment in the overall public interest.

Existing flood risk management (FRM) projects in the watersheds include the Buffalo Bayou and Tributaries, Texas Project (Project), which was authorized by Congress in the 1930s for the purpose of providing flood control for the City of Houston and Port of Houston. In the 1940s, Addicks and Barker Dams were

constructed and a portion of Buffalo Bayou was straightened as part of the completed Project. Since Project completion, a number of physical improvements and operational changes have been made to attempt to mitigate changing conditions within Addicks, Barker, Buffalo Bayou and surrounding watersheds. However, the watersheds continue to experience major flood events, most recently and most significantly Hurricane Harvey in 2017. These flood events, combined with documented increases in precipitation frequencies, continued urbanization of the watersheds, and the potential for flooding events in the future, indicate the Project may need to be modified to further mitigate flood risks.

The study will evaluate ways to reduce flooding in three watersheds—Addicks Reservoir, Barker Reservoir, and Buffalo Bayou—focusing on areas upstream and downstream of Addicks and Barker dams and along Buffalo Bayou. A portion of Cypress Creek Watershed is being considered because overflow from this watershed contributes to flooding in the Addicks Reservoir Watershed. Brays Bayou and White Oak Bayou could be affected by actions benefiting Buffalo Bayou, so impacts to these watersheds will be evaluated. The scope of the study does not include identifying ways to lower flood risk in the lower Cypress Creek, Brays Bayou or White Oak Bayou watersheds.

Since the public scoping meetings held in May 2019 and a newsletter sent in January 2020, the alternatives (potential ways to address the problems) have evolved based on the preliminary results of modeling the physical and economic performance of these actions. The study team used this information to advance the evaluation of several alternatives, remove some from further consideration and add some additional measures for more detailed consideration. To explain this updated information and present the focused array of alternatives, the Study Team is adding a step to the process: release of an Interim Report for public review and comment.

**Note:** This is not a Notice of Availability associated with the release of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. This is an interim step intended to gather public feedback before a Draft EIS is released.

**2. Interim Report.** The Study Team prepared this Report to present preliminary findings and a focused array of alternatives considered to date that manage risk and reduce damages under existing and future conditions.