



City of Hunters Creek Village

Community Message Notification

City of Hunters Creek Village Phone: 713-465-2150 www.cityofhunterscreek.com

OK sports fans, it's a great time to be a Houstonian.....Astro's playing great (we have 2 player/residents and a Hall of Famer), Rockets looking great (1 former Rocket star resident), Memorial High won state in Tennis and Girls Soccer and baseball team's in 2nd round of State playoffs....a great year! School's almost out.....it's gonna be a great summer.....

Last month we had a "town hall" type meeting to present our engineers evaluation on the Hurricane Harvey flooding. The meeting was fairly well attended, mostly by people on the south side of Memorial most affected by the flooding. As we all know, the bottom line is the Buffalo bayou flooded us from the South. The combination of 50+ inches of rain in a short time span, the storm path up the bayou tract, and later, after our residents flooded, the reservoir discharge all combined to overwhelm our bayou system.

Hunters Creek City Council spent \$130,000 of our tax dollars to do a complete analysis of the flooding to see potential improvements that could be made during such an event. No other Village spent a dime. City of Houston didn't either. We did. You will see a video of one of our worst hit neighborhoods in the attached link. One shows a time lapse of the event in totality, and the other shows what would have happened without the bayou flooding. Had the bayou not backed up, we would not have had ANY homes flood. <https://youtu.be/ThJrumwH9es> Our existing drainage system worked very well and the engineers report confirms that without question, except for the Bayou. This large amount of money was allocated and spent to answer the question of the Wickline Ravine, River Bend and bayou bordering residents who asked: "could any of the flooding have been avoided?" The answer is not without building a damn down the bayou around Hunters Creek, or a combination of the various huge Corps of Engineers projects being discussed.

We are currently closely scrutinizing our financing options for our potential large expense coming down the pipe (...pipe..drainage...get it?..) for our drainage outfall erosion situation. Our drainage outfalls (underground metal pipes that carry the runoff from our streets into our creeks) are over 50 years old in many places and are failing. There are approximately 70 of these outfalls sprinkled throughout our City. We have already had two catastrophic failures that resulted in sink holes in resident's yards and have repaired them at an average cost of \$250K each....ouch. There are currently three other of these outfalls that have already been funded for rehabilitation with more to come.

This serious issue is in addition to the many other public works items that we take care of including traffic signals, street repairs and sidewalk replacement.

This Council is studying all of its options regarding how to pay for this potentially big ticket item. We are currently using robotic cameras to inspect the network and will know in the next 60 days what the potential damage is.... I will send out the results when received.

Again, please go by City Hall and pick up and pay for your street signs if you bought one.

CPR classes continue, please sign up by calling City Hall and “practical tactical” classes later this month, another notice to follow.

Hate to say it, but Hurricane season begins in 3 weeks. Our Village inspector/generator guru Dennis Adams is getting busy installing Natural gas generators in preparation for the season. Call him for information 713-702-0895 before he gets too busy!

OK, that is the news. I will keep you posted as things progress.

Jim Pappas
Mayor