

VOTE

2018 Harris County Flood Control Bond Program

Prop A

August 25th



What: Authorizes the Harris County Flood Control District to issue bonds up to \$2.5 billion for flood reduction for all of Harris County.

Provides for new detention basins, repairs to creeks and tributaries, voluntary home buyouts and local match for federal grants, and more.

When: August 8th — Early Voting Begins

August 25th — Election Day

Bond Information:

www.hcfcd.org

Voting locations at:

www.HarrisVotes.com

See back for Bond FAQs



Voter information a service of the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce

Harris County Flood Control Bond Election - Proposition A

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is Prop A?

- Prop A is a Harris County wide election held on August 25th, advanced by the Harris County Commissioners, to raise through the issuance of bonds, paid by Harris County property taxes, \$2.5 billion dollars, strictly to be used for flood resiliency and mitigation projects.

Q: Where would the bond money be spent?

- Projects would be distributed throughout Harris County's 23 watersheds. Broad categories of projects include:
 - Channel modification projects
 - Right-of-way acquisitions
 - Voluntary home buyouts
 - Regional stormwater detention basins
 - Voluntary home buy-outs in areas with greatest risk of flooding
 - Engineering studies of specific watersheds
 - Local match for federal grant dollars for active projects with the Corps
 - Local match for other grants to repair damaged infrastructure and new flood reduction projects
- Proposed projects for the Cypress Creek, Little Cypress Creek, and Spring Creek watersheds identify \$479 million in bond funds and \$294 million in grant funds spending for buyouts, right-of-way acquisition, detention basins, tributary and creek drainage improvements and conveyance capacity.

Q: How will projects in the bond proposal be selected and prioritized?

- Flood Control District staff developed a list of projects that could be built and would meet the goal of the bond election, which is to assist with recovery after previous flooding events and to make our county more resilient for the future.
- Construction-ready projects with federal funding partners (such as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Federal Emergency Management Agency) that give the County "the most bang for its flood control buck."
- Projects in economically disadvantaged communities that may not meet the federal grant requirements.
- Areas that have a lower level of current protection as compared to other areas in the county.
- Projects added from citizen input from the 23 watershed meetings and online submissions.

Q: How much would the bonds cost property taxpayers?

- Taxpayers will see no more than a 1.4% increase in their property taxes, or no more than 2-3 cents per \$100 of home valuation. Harris County would sell the \$2.5 billion in Prop A Bonds over a 10-15 year period, so the overall tax increase would occur slowly over time.
- Seniors and disabled homeowners in homes valued less than \$200,000 will see NO TAX INCREASE.

Q: Does the list of proposed bond projects include the "Third Reservoir?"

- The Bond does not include improvements to Barker & Addicks reservoirs because those are strictly Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) facilities. A third reservoir would likely fall into the Barker/Addicks system, making the third reservoir a Corps project in partnership with HFCDC. Furthermore, additional feasibility studies need to occur to evaluate the feasibility of this project.

Q: Does this bond election only address to the Hurricane Harvey disaster?

- No. The Flood Control District includes projects that address historically documented flooding issues in each watershed – issues that come into play anytime there is excessive rainfall in those watersheds. The list is not aimed only at the specific flooding that occurred during Harvey, but is aimed at making our entire community more resilient in the future.

Q: Why did Harris County Commissioners Court choose August 25, 2018?

- During multiple open meetings, Commissioners Court members discussed the urgency to secure funding for the "local match" dollars that are required to receive Federal funding participation. Federal partnership opportunities are available now. It also allows the Flood Control District to move ahead with flood resiliency projects beyond the Harvey-related funds. August 25, 2018, also marks the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Harvey's landfall on the Texas coast.

For more information visit: www.hcfcd.org