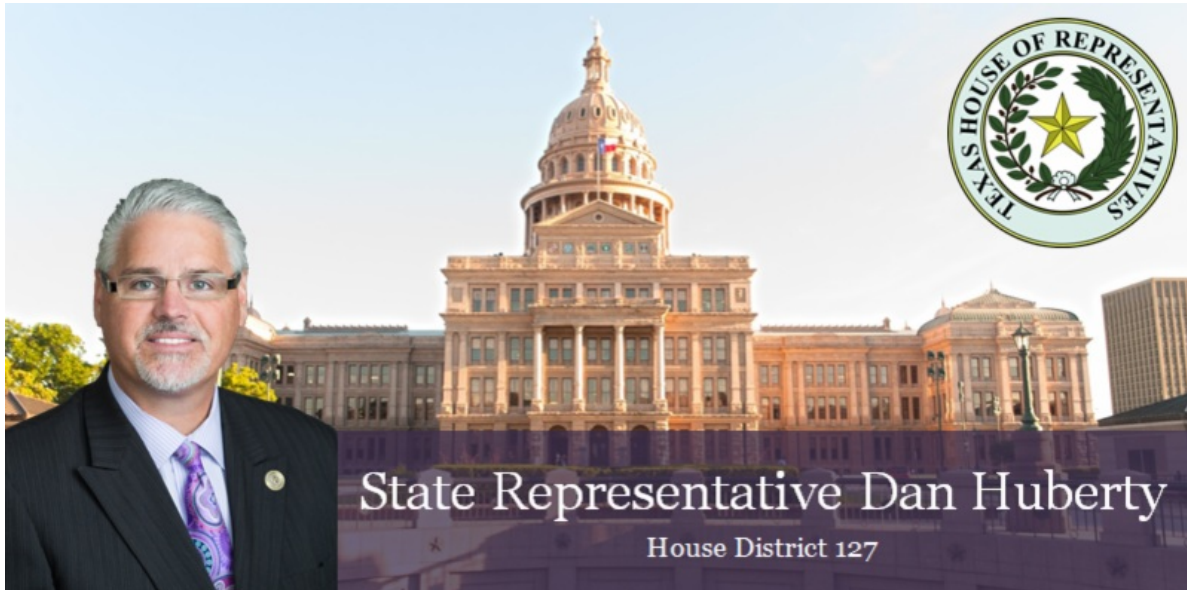


Thank you for your subscription to Rep. Dan Huberty's Newsletter. If you wish to unsubscribe, please use the SafeUnsubscribe option at the bottom of this email.



February 16, 2018

Thank you for subscribing to my e-newsletter.

In the following newsletter you'll see various updates from around the state.

I do want to take the time to highlight that my office has yet to receive updated plans about US-59's planned construction. As soon as we get that information, we will disseminate it on our social media profiles. Be sure to use the buttons below to follow me on Facebook and Twitter so that you can get quick updates.

This week, I'll be in Austin for the next Commission on Public School Finance meeting. It is my hope that this meeting will prove productive as we move toward meaningful change to our broken system. If you have any thoughts you'd like to share with the commission members, please email schoolfinancecommission@tea.texas.gov. Each email is delivered straight to the members before each commission meeting. If you prefer, you can always contact me or my staff directly with your ideas as well. You can find our contact information below.

Please note that my offices will be closed Monday, February 19 in observance of President's Day.

Have a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Dan Huberty



District 127 Updates

Early Voting: February 20 - March 2

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

EARLY VOTING BEGINS: FEBRUARY 20

ELECTION DAY: MARCH 6

VISIT HARRISVOTES.COM FOR MORE INFO

US 59 Bridge Construction - Expect Delays!



Beginning the end of February expect some major delays on US 59 going to Houston. During the construction period, southbound traffic will be diverted onto the northbound lanes.

The reason for the emergency construction is that during Hurricane Harvey, the flow of the San Jacinto River was drastically increased. The heavy flow undermined the bridge columns. Currently loads over 80,000 are restricted from using the bridge and are being routed to the feeders.

Our office will be releasing more information about this project as TxDOT finalizes the plans. Stay tuned!

As Kings Harbor Rebuilds, Local Businesses Rebound

Only months after devastating flood damage, Kingwood's waterfront village revives with renewed and expanded office, retail and restaurant offerings. Kings Harbor, a 20-acre mixed-use development on the Lake Houston waterfront greeted the new year with a new office tenant, exciting news on rebuilding efforts, and a refreshed brand and website.

[View pictures and read more about the rebuilding and renovation here.](#)

Hurricane Harvey Recovery Resources

Transitional Shelter Assistance - Set to End Feb. 21

Transitional Shelter Assistance (TSA) eligibility review is on Feb. 20: Some Harvey survivors may have already received an auto-dial call notifying them they are no longer eligible for the temporary program.

Survivors who are ineligible will need to prepare for a Feb. 21 checkout date. Guests unsure of their continued TSA eligibility and check-out date can:

- Call the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362 (voice, 711 or VRS) or 800-462-7585

(TTY).

- Log into their account on <https://www.disasterassistance.gov/>.
- Visit a Disaster Recover Center (DRC). For DRC locations and hours go to www.fema.gov/DRC.
- Ask the hotel to look in the CLC Lodging web portal to see whether they have eligibility beyond Feb. 20.

TSA is a temporary sheltering program. Under TSA, FEMA pays directly for short-term lodging for eligible survivors while they repair their homes or look for alternative housing.

How Sand Mining Helped Flood Houston

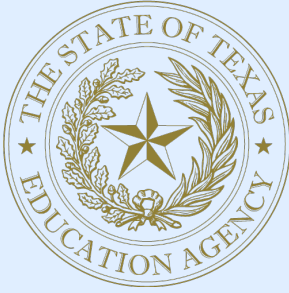


As Houston struggles to recover from the floods wrought by last August's Hurricane Harvey-and to prepare for the inevitable next one-city officials are warning that one little-known cause of the damage has got to be dealt with: sand mining.

Much of the concrete and asphalt that make up the city is manufactured with sand from the nearby San Jacinto River. Environmentalists and state legislators have complained for years that the enormous quantities of sand being extracted are not only damaging the river's ecosystem, but also boosting the risks of flooding. It works like this: Sand miners strip away vegetation along the river and adjacent wetlands. As a result, huge amounts of exposed silt gets washed into the river when it rains. That silt then piles up in riparian bottlenecks, which overflow when the water gets too high, and also at the bottom of Lake Houston, the city's principal source of drinking water, reducing the volume of water it can store.

To make matters worse, many of the mines along the San Jacinto are illegal, operating without following even the minimal regulations Texas imposes on sand and gravel operations. In 2011, State Rep. Dan Huberty (R-Houston), helped pass a bill to fine such outlaw sand miners. It didn't go far enough, he recently told the Houston Chronicle: "Hindsight being 20-20, the fines should have been triple, or quadruple, because all that sand that was up there on the San Jacinto River ended up...all the way down the San Jacinto River." Now, he's pushing for tougher enforcement. He and others are also calling for the river and lake to be dredged to minimize the risk of future floods. But that might damage the river bottom and the fish and other creatures that live there. While the argument continues, the next flood season looms just a few months away.

[Thank you to the Pulitzer Center for the write up.](#)



For those LEAs located in counties identified in the Presidential Disaster Declaration that are eligible to receive funding under the 2017-2018 Project SERV Hurricane Recovery Grant, the grant application deadline has been **extended to April 9, 2018, 5:00 p.m. Central Time**. All funds not applied for by this extended deadline will be reallocated to other Project SERV grant participants.

[You can read more from TEA here.](#)

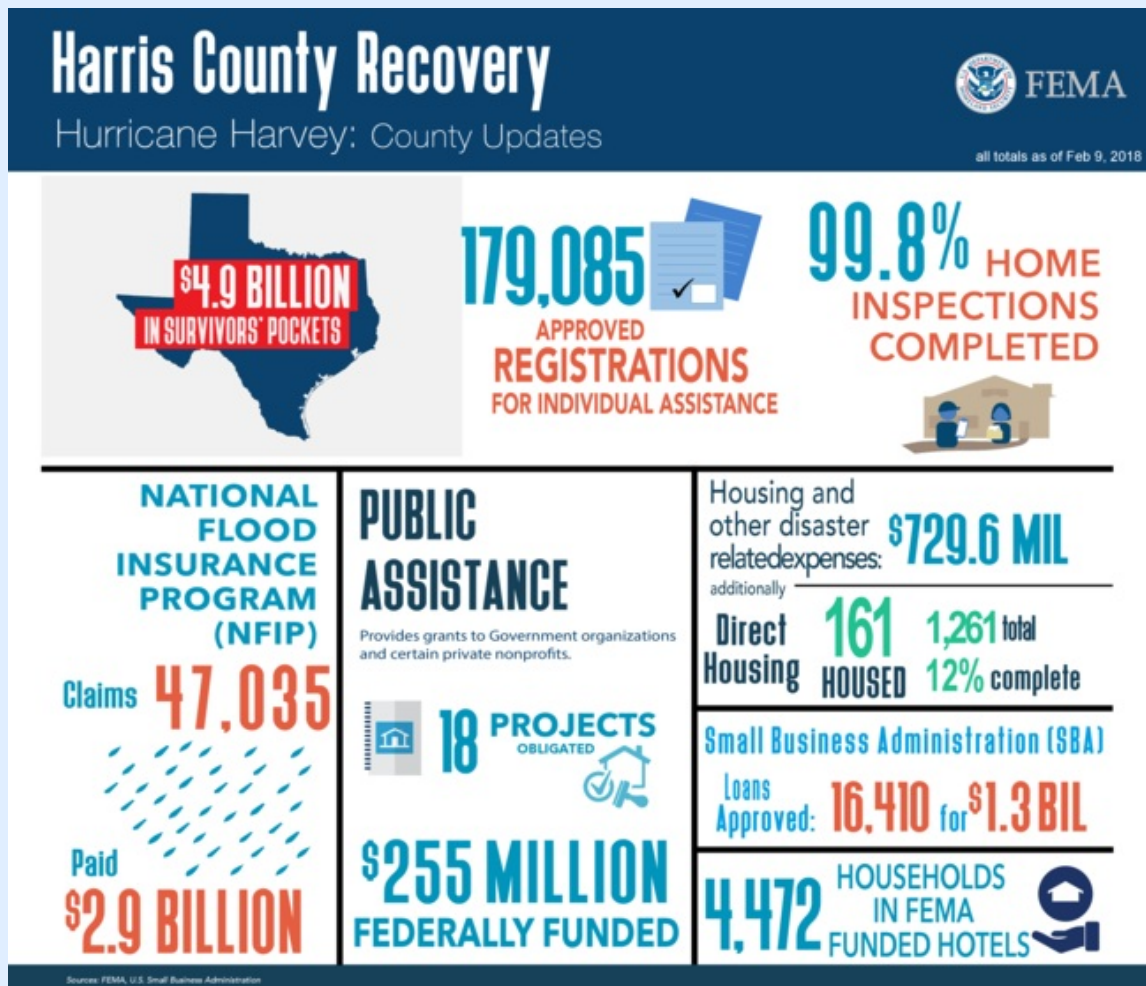
Fiscal Notes: A Storm to Remember Hurricane Harvey and the Texas Economy

In this special edition of Fiscal Notes, the Comptroller's office examines the effect of Hurricane Harvey on the Texas economy through data modeling. This analysis takes a wide-ranging view of the net consequences of the storm, using a dynamic input-output model to measure the storm's economic impacts.

Harvey's total costs have been estimated at about **\$125 billion**, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. As of Nov. 30, 2017, the Texas Division of Emergency Management estimated Harvey had damaged or destroyed more than 178,000 Texas homes and inflicted about \$670 million in damage to public property such as government buildings, roads, bridges, water facilities and electric utilities. The storm also caused more than \$200 million in Texas crop and livestock losses, and flooding may have ruined more than 250,000 vehicles.

[You can read this edition of Fiscal Notes here.](#)

FEMA Update - Harris County



[You can view updates about the other areas affected by Hurricane Harvey here.](#)

Austin Updates

SBOE Long Range Plan Seeking Input

The State Board of Education and its appointed steering committee are preparing a new Long-Range Plan for Public Education that will set goals through the year 2030. Please take a few moments to provide your input to help set these goals by taking a brief survey.

The survey is available in English at <http://sgiz.mobi/s3/Long-Range-Planning-Survey> and in Spanish at <http://sgiz.mobi/s3/Encuesta-de-opini-n-p-blica-para-Texas>.

Constituent Resources

Need Assistance?

Our office is always ready to assist you. Call or email us and we will do our best to help. Many State Agencies also have hotlines or citizen assistance offices to assist you. That contact information is available at this link, in alphabetical order:

<http://www.lrl.texas.gov/genInfo/stateAgencies.cfm>

Live Updates

All of the relevant information our office has gathered in regard to response and recovery of Hurricane Harvey is posted immediately to our Facebook page. Be sure to "like" us so that you can have the most up-to-date information.



Upcoming Events

February 2018

See an event you're interested in? Click the links on each date to learn more about the event's details. Under each link, you can find R.S.V.P. information, exact times, locations, and much more.

This color box indicates an event in Austin, Texas.

This color box indicates an event in the House District 127 area.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 KARW Mardi Gras Ball Humble ISD BBQ Cook-Off	3 Humble ISD BBQ Cook-Off
					Humble ISD BBQ Cook-Off	
4	5 Last Day to Register to Vote	6	7	8 Commission on Public School Finance Hearing	9 Humble ISD Livestock Auction	10 Humble ISD Rodeo

					Humble ISD Rodeo	
11	12 Lincoln's Birthday HARTA Meeting Lake Houston Pachyderm Meeting	13	14 Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day	15	16	17 Lake Houston YMCA BridgeFest
18	19 President's Day Iwo Jima Day State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day	20 Early Voting Begins	21 Early Voting	22 Washington's Birthday Commission on Public School Finance Hearing Early Voting	23 Early Voting	24 Early Voting
25 Early Voting	26 Early Voting	27 Early Voting	28 Early Voting			

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