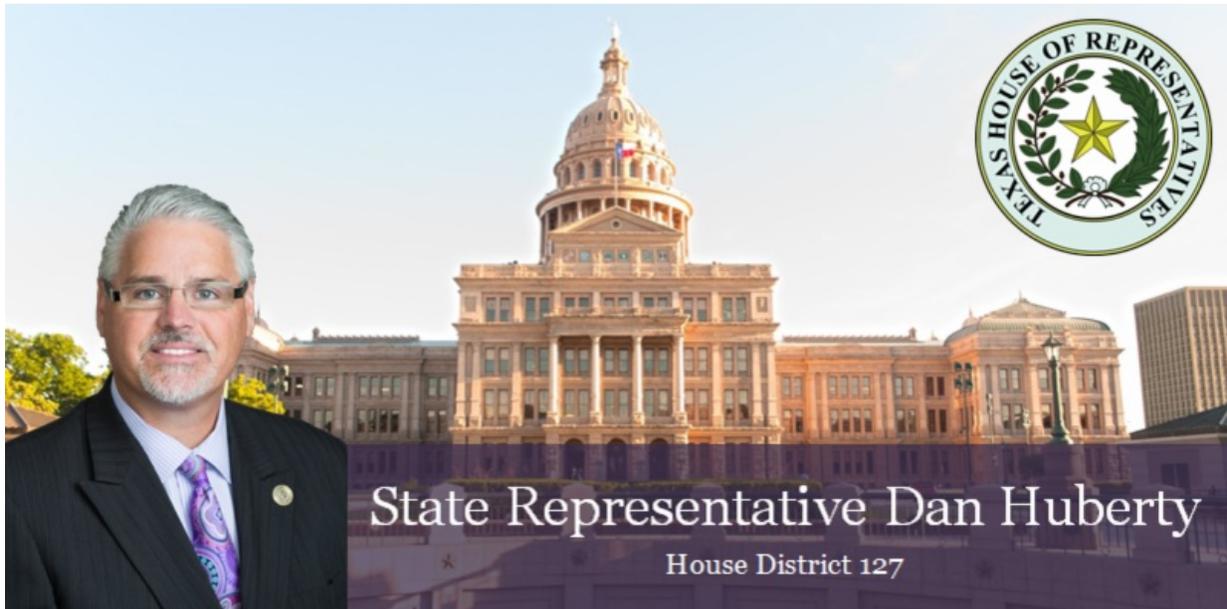


Thank you for your subscription to Rep. Dan Huberty's Newsletter. If you wish to unsubscribe, please use the SafeUnsubscribe option at the bottom of this email.



March 16, 2018

Thank you for subscribing to my e-newsletter. I hope that you and your family are having a wonderful Spring Break. I enjoyed some time in Florida with Janet, Brianna, Ryan, and Dylan at Disney World.

On Thursday, Governor Greg Abbott visited Kingwood for an aerial tour of the Lake Houston area and the San Jacinto River watershed, which was followed by a round table with elected officials and board members of the SJRA. This was an extremely productive meeting where Governor Abbott announced funding opportunities and specific steps to help recover Lake Houston following Hurricane Harvey and prevent future flooding. You can read about the meeting and action items below.

Next Monday, March 19, 2018, I will be back in Austin for the fifth meeting of the Commission on Public School Finance. At this meeting, the commission will hear public testimony from advocates, parents, teachers, and administrators to hear about the state of public school finance. If you would like to attend this meeting, you can find more information on [TEA's Public School Finance Commission website](#). As always, you can email the commissioners directly at schoolfinancecommission@tea.texas.gov.

On Tuesday, the Expenditures Work Group of the commission will be meeting at 8am in E2.036 of the Texas Capitol for a discussion for issues related to school finance formulas and allocation of funding. The public is welcome to attend. You can find more information about that meeting [here](#).

This week, my capitol office has closed temporarily for a remodeling project. The staff there has been re-located to the House Committee on Public Education's office. They should be back in the main office by March 26. If you need any assistance with your visit to the Capitol during this time, please be sure to call 512-463-0520, and you will be redirected to their temporary phone line where they may assist you.

I hope that you and your family have a great rest of your spring break.

Sincerely,



Upcoming Events

March 2018 Calendar

Download my March 2018 calendar by clicking the link below. This month is full of events in and around Texas that could fun or useful to you and your family! This new format allows you to save the document for printing or sending to your family members.



[Click Here to View and Download This Month's Calendar!](#)

Hurricane Harvey Recovery Resources

Governor Abbott Announces New Flood Prevention Efforts While Visiting Lake Houston Area

Governor Greg Abbott today visited Kingwood, Texas where he took an aerial tour to survey damage along the San Jacinto River, and met with community leaders and elected officials to discuss Hurricane Harvey recovery and flood prevention efforts. During the meeting, the Governor announced new actions Texas will be taking to help prevent future flooding in communities like Kingwood.

"It has been a trying time for this community as we work through the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey," said Governor Abbott. "I want to assure all Texans that I am committed to working with the federal government and local officials to protect life and property from uncontrolled flood waters. I thank these local leaders for all they have done in their communities, and I want to assure them that we will continue working to make Texas more resilient to future flood events."

During the meeting the Governor announced a number of important and specific steps Texas will be taking to help prevent future flooding. These actions include:

- Using Hazard Mitigation Funds, the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) has authorized \$3 million to jumpstart the engineering and permitting process to determine where dredging should on the San Jacinto River.
- Using Hazard Mitigation Funds, TDEM has authorized \$2 million for a regional study focused on the San Jacinto River watershed to prevent future flooding.
- Using Hazard Mitigation Funds, FEMA has approved over 900 voluntary buyouts in Harris County.
- Instructing the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to investigate and take action against sand mining operations violating regulations.
- Directing the San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA) to immediately identify what can be done to prevent flood events along the West Fork of the river.
- Directing the SJRA to implement immediate and long-term solutions to protect lives and property of Texans living in the watershed.
- Directing the SJRA to identify funding to implement a long-term plan that better protects areas downstream of Lake Conroe.

[You can view Governor Abbott's Press Release in full at this link.](#)



4th Round of Flood Relief Grants is Largest Ever at \$42.3 Million



The Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund is disbursing \$42.3 million to 27 carefully vetted, local nonprofit organizations to provide additional aid and services to Hurricane Harvey flood victims in the Houston area.

This fourth round of grants brings the total amount distributed by the fund to \$108.8 million, fund co-founders Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner and Harris County Judge Ed Emmett said.

This round of funding is its largest yet and seeks to support those who are still struggling to recover from the storm more than six months after it hit the coast of Texas.

Since August, the fund has supported 123 local nonprofit organizations that are focused on providing a wide-variety of support to those who were affected by Hurricane Harvey.

Grants complement federal and state funds, and the work of volunteers, to provide flood victims with much needed financial, health, legal and other support.

“While many of us are now understandably focused on preventing another disaster like that caused by Hurricane Harvey, we cannot and will not forget that the healing process for so many of our neighbors is still under way,” said Harris County Judge Ed Emmett. “Thanks to the generosity of our donors to the Relief Fund, we are able to help as many people as possible according to their unmet needs.”

“The effects of Hurricane Harvey will be felt for years, not just in the physical destruction, but also in the emotional and psychological suffering that comes with any natural disaster,” said Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner. “We’re thinking about the longer-term effects of Harvey while working to help those who are still picking up the pieces.”

[Read more from the Mayor's Press Release Here.](#)

General Land Office Submits \$57.8 Million in CBDG-DR

The Texas General Land Office submitted the state of Texas Action Plan for the first \$57.8 million in Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) long-term recovery funds for Hurricane Harvey to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for approval.

Per the Federal Register, the Action Plan should be approved by HUD within the next 45 days, authorizing the use of these funds on buyouts within Harris County and the City of Houston, and replacement rental housing in Aransas, Nueces and Refugio Counties. The Action Plan was submitted to HUD on March 8, 2018 and is pending final approval.



Action Plans

GLO-CDR is the responsible entity for developing the State Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Program (CDBG-DR) Action Plan in accordance with HUD guidelines. The Action Plan identifies the proposed activities for long-term...

[Read more](#)

www.glo.texas.gov

\$57.8 MILLION CDBG-DR FUNDING

HUD provided an initial allocation of \$57.8 million in Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds to the state of Texas in response to Hurricane Harvey to begin long-term recovery with the intent of providing additional disaster funds.

- August 28, 2017 the GLO requested \$60 million in HUD unallocated CDBG-DR funds.
- December 27, 2017 HUD published the Federal Register (FR), providing guidelines for a \$57.8 million allocation.
- GLO drafted the State Action Plan containing an in-depth needs assessment and satisfying requirements detailed in the FR.
- January 18 – February 21, 2018 GLO released State Action Plan for public comments.
- Action Plan with public comments submitted to HUD on March 8, 2018 and is pending final approval (up to 45 days).
- This money will be allocated to Harris county for buy outs and acquisitions as well as affordable rental units in Aransas, Refugio and Nueces counties.

\$5.024 BILLION CDBG-DR FUNDING

On September 8th, President Donald J. Trump signed the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018 and the Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act of 2017, which included \$7.4 billion to support response and recovery from disasters across the nation.

- HUD published Federal Register on February 9, 2018 allocating \$5.024 billion to the state
- HUD requires that 80% of the allocation must benefit HUD-identified most-impacted counties and zip codes.
- 70% of the funds must be spend on low to moderate income.
- The GLO is currently drafting an Action Plan that will be posted for public comment and sent to HUD for final approval.

****The GLO anticipates additional allocations from the additional \$89.3 billion recently appropriated by Congress for 2017 disasters****

TCEQ Seeking Input on Water Master Appointment

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is currently evaluating the Trinity River, San Jacinto River, Trinity-San Jacinto Coastal, and Neches-Trinity Coastal Basins to



determine whether a water master should be appointed.

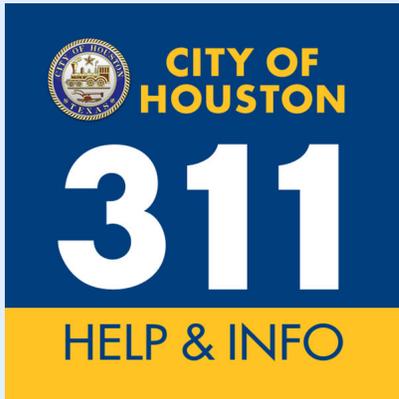
In an effort to include public and develop best recommendations, TCEQ is soliciting input from stakeholders, including water rights holders, domestic and livestock users, river authorities, agricultural, industrial, and environmental organizations, the general public, and other interested parties.

Any written input provided to TCEQ should be sent to the contact information below:

- **By Letter:** Amy Settemeyer, Manager, Watermaster Section (MC-160), P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087
- **By Email:** watermaster@tceq.texas.gov
- **By Phone:** Call the Watermaster Program Liaison: Brooke McGregor at (512) 239-2025
- **Web Site:** www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/watermaster

To read the entire letter from TCEQ, discussing this process, you can click [here](#). Also, you can read the Watermaster FAQ sheet by clicking [here](#).

Remember to Report to 3-1-1



Please continue to report storm debris by calling 311 or (713) 837-0311. Residents can also use 3-1-1 to report traffic signal problems, potholes, missed trash pickups and any other city-related concerns one may have.

Mayor Turner and the City of Houston Solid Waste Department have announced that City Junk Waste/Tree Waste crews will resume the regularly scheduled Tree Waste and Junk Waste collections effective March 1, 2018. Remember odd months are Tree Waste and even months are Junk Waste.

Once reported, individual requests can be tracked through the city's 311 website, accessible [here](#), or through the city's 311 mobile application available on smart phones.

Download them below.



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 fathered 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. Click the image below to find our page.



Contact Information

State Representative

Capitol Physical

District Address:

Dan Huberty
[Email Dan](#)

Casey Christman
Chief of Staff
[Email Casey](#)

Molly Spratt
Legislative Director
[Email Molly](#)

Address:
1100 Congress Avenue
E2.408 Austin, TX 78701

Capitol Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768

Capitol Phone:
(512) 463-0520

Capitol Fax:
(512) 463-1606

4501 Magnolia Cove
Suite 201
Kingwood, TX 77345

District Phone:
(281) 360-9410

*This newsletter was not sent by State expense.
Paid political advertising by Friends of Dan Huberty.*