



NEWS Release

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AUGUST 30, 2018

ARANSAS COUNTY LONG TERM RECOVERY PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Aransas County Long Term Recovery Action Plan and Report Ready for Public Comment

(ROCKPORT-FULTON, TX) – Hurricane Harvey has not stopped Rockport-Fulton from being a thriving community. Though the process was difficult, Rockport-Fulton has made unbelievable progress after the destruction of Hurricane Harvey; but we still have more to do. This past year, in collaboration with Texas Sea Grant at Texas A&M University, the Aransas County Long Term Recovery Team (LTRT), the Navigation District and all jurisdictions within the County have drafted an Aransas County Long Term Recovery Action Plan and Report. The Report was written to lay out a plan to document our actions after Hurricane Harvey and to document the challenges we faced along the way in the Long Term Recovery process. The Aransas County Long Term Recovery Action Plan Report's final draft has been posted for public comment on the Aransas County Website and will be sent to all the impacted jurisdictions.

According to William Whitson, Aransas County Long Term Recovery Team and report co-author, "this has been a work in progress over the past year, the plan will not change in basic direction but the way we utilize recovery resources will. Texas Sea Grant was instrumental in supporting the documentation of the Aransas County Long Term Recovery Action Plan and Report with the data and information to develop this comprehensive plan. It is our hope that this document will become a model for building the Long Term Recovery operations in other parts of the country."

Ashley Bennis, Planning Specialist for Texas Sea Grant, said "we are proud to be a part of the process and support Aransas County's Long Term Recovery through the creation of this instrumental document." Kim Foutz, a report co-author and member of the Aransas County Long Term Recovery Team added "it was critical for our team to record the overall impact of our methods, challenges and progress while moving forward." Judge Burt Mills concluded, "Our Team has not slowed down since their arrival last year, and they have worked effectively to balance the day to day implementation of this plan while creating a solid foundation for our community. We are better today because of the work of the collective Long Term Recovery Team and the community."

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Texas Sea Grant is a unique partnership that unites the resources of the federal government, the State of Texas and universities across the state to create knowledge, tools, products and services that benefit the economy, the environment and the citizens of Texas. It is administered through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and is one of 33 university-based Sea Grant Programs around the country. Texas Sea Grant is a non-academic research center in the College of Geosciences at Texas A&M University. The program's mission is to improve the understanding, wise use and stewardship of Texas coastal and marine resources.

The document will be circulated widely for review and comment before being formally adopted by the impacted jurisdictions in Aransas County.

For more information, visit <http://www.aransascounty.org/harvey> or contact the Long Term Recovery Hotline at (361) 790-9496.

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