

PUBLIC NOTICE

To All Interested Parties:

Notice is hereby given that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Region H Water Planning Group (RHWPG) is cancelling its previously posted public hearings on April 16, 2020 and April 21, 2020. The in-person portion of the April 23, 2020 public hearing is also canceled, with the hearing to be held via a publicly accessible webinar / telephone conference call. Information on how to participate in the hearing is provided below.

The RHWPG is requesting public review and comment on an Initially Prepared 2021 Region H Water Plan (the IPP). The RHWPG area includes all or part of the following counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity, Walker, and Waller.

A summary of the content of the Draft Initially Prepared Plan: The *Initially Prepared Plan (IPP)* updates the 2016 Region H Water Plan that was included in the 2017 State Water Plan prepared by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). The 2021 IPP addresses the following topics:

- Projected population and water demands
- Existing water supply sources
- Analysis of needs
- Recommended water management strategies for meeting any identified water shortages
- Water conservation recommendations
- Impacts of the Regional Water Plan
- Drought response
- Regulatory, Administrative and Legislative Recommendations
- Comparison to previous regional planning

Public Comment: A public hearing to receive public comment on the IPP will be held on April 23, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via a publicly accessible webinar / telephone conference call. The webinar will begin at 6:00 p.m. and is anticipated to conclude at 8 p.m. Comments will be recorded and will be documented in the summary of public comments in the 2021 Region H Water Plan.

Information on how to participate in the hearing is provided below. If you anticipate providing verbal comment at the public hearing and have email access, please contact info@regionhwater.org prior to the hearing to facilitate an accurate estimate of the number of speakers.

The agenda for the public hearing will consist of (1) brief introductions on behalf of the RHWPG, (2) a summary of the planning effort and the IPP given by the consulting team, and (3) individual comments of members of the public.

The RHWPG will accept **written comments** until 5:00 p.m. June 28, 2020. Written comments should be provided to:

Hon. Mark Evans, Chair, RHWPG
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, Texas 77305-0329

Written comments without attachments also may be emailed to info@regionhwater.org. Comments received at the hearing or in writing will be documented in the summary of public comments in the 2021 Region H Water Plan.

Questions or requests for additional information may be submitted to: Jace Houston, General Manager, San Jacinto River Authority, P.O. Box 329, Conroe, TX 77305-0329, telephone 936-588-3111. The San Jacinto River Authority is the Administrator for the RHWPG.

A copy of the Initially Prepared Plan for 2021 is available at the County Clerk's office and at a depository library in each county in Region H. A list of depositories and a copy of the IPP are available on the RHWPG website at www.regionhwater.org. A copy of the IPP also is at <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/plans/2021/index.asp>.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given to all interested members of the public that the Region H Water Planning Group will hold a public hearing **via webinar / telephone conference call** pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.125, as amended, and as modified by the temporary suspension of various provisions thereof effective March 16, 2020, by the Governor of Texas in accordance with the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, all as related to the Governor's proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying that the COVID-19 pandemic poses an imminent threat of disaster and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas. The webinar will begin **at 6:00 p.m. on April 23, 2020** and is anticipated to conclude at 8 p.m. Comments will be recorded and will be documented in the summary of public comments in the 2021 Region H Water Plan.

If you choose to participate via the webinar link below, you **WILL** have the opportunity to provide comments during the designated portion of the meeting.

Webinar Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5389169788033358860>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

If you choose to participate via the **GoToWebinar App**, you **WILL** have the opportunity to provide comments during the designated portion of the meeting.

Please use Webinar ID: [192-171-611](#).

If you choose to participate in the hearing using the conference call number below, you will **NOT** have the opportunity to provide comments during the designated portion of the meeting. The conference call phone number is provided for **LISTENING PURPOSES ONLY**.

Telephone conference call phone number: [\(415\) 930-5321](#) and the audio access code is [612-139-300](#).

All members of the public may participate in the meeting via webinar, Webinar App, or telephone conference call.