



The Waller County Express

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The journey of a thousand miles begins with just one step.

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Concerned Citizens of Waller County - Update on Texas HB 5685 and Proposed Theme Park

Texas House Bill 5685 was introduced to the Texas State Legislature on April 22, 2025.

The Bill would allow the creation of the Waller County Improvement District No.3; providing authority to issue bonds; providing authority to impose assessments, fees, and taxes.

A notice to this effect was published in the Houston Chronicle on March 20, 2025.

Please note that the notice was NOT published locally in Waller County. The notice was paid for by TexasLand USA, LLC who, according to their website, wish to create a large Texas-themed amusement park. The creation of the special district gives the developer full autonomy, the ability to expand the district, and the ability to divert public tax dollars to the benefit of the theme park.

As a result of Waller County citizens calls regarding lack of transparency and notice, on Thursday, May 13, 2025, Texas State Representative Stan Kitzman's office, issued the following statement:

"The landowners associated with the proposed Waller County Improvement District No. 3 have asked me to withdraw House Bill 5685. They believe additional time is needed to share accurate information about the project and how a proposed district would function"

This withdrawal effectively tables the bill, per House of Representative Chamber History Notes - Recommendations filed with the Speaker.

However, the bill cannot

officially be considered dead until the end of the legislative session which ends June 22nd. If Governor Abbot calls for a special session, HB5685 in its current form can be reintroduced and considered anew. So, it is not over.

The developer, city and county officials have not given Waller County citizens any further notice or information regarding HB 5685, nor the proposed theme park. There has been no transparency on either issue.

Community Action and Engagement

Citizens who are concerned about the lack of transparency and concerned that the amusement park will negatively affect our property values, drive traffic increases, increase crime and encourage other development that tends to follow these theme parks, and believe all of which would be detrimental to our area should call and, or e-mail their city and county officials.

• Ask questions who, what, why, where, how, such as:

• Do you support or not support this project?

• Why or why not?

• What did the city do to win this project to this area?

• What did they do to vet this project?

• When did the developer first approach the city?

• Who met with the developer and how many meetings were there?

• What did they do to let citizens know about the project so that all could be aware to support or object to the project?

City of Hempstead Officials' phone numbers and e-mails www.hempsteadcitytx.gov

Waller County County Judge and all County Commissioners, phone number and e-mail addresses are available at co.waller.tx.us

Attend Waller County Commissioner Court meeting **Wednesday, May 28, 9:00AM**

Waller County Joe Kuciemba Annex, 425 FM 1488, Hempstead, TX 77445

In response to the proposed development, a grass-roots movement has organized community rallies to raise awareness and strengthen opposition. Two events were recently held:

•Friday, May 23, 3:00-6:00 PM at Hempstead City Hall

•Saturday, May 24, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM at Hempstead Gazebo Park

Both events were well attended, drawing concerned residents and generating significant support for the cause. Many new signatures were also added to the ongoing petition.

Get Involved:

If you share concerns about the theme park in its proposed location, you are encouraged to sign the petition here:

• Sign the Petition

Additional Resources:

For more information on resident concerns, visit:

• www.texasland-usa.com

• Contact: Amanda Averitt at (832) 940-4342

Thoughtful, transparent, supported, sustainable growth is possible in Waller County.



Diemer Road Realignment Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

FROM: TREY DUHON, WALLER COUNTY JUDGE

Today, Judge Duhon, Commissioner Amsler, and Commissioner Jones were joined by representatives from the Texas General Land Office and Senator Kolkhorst's office to celebrate the official opening of the new Diemer Road realignment.

"It's been a long time coming, but today's official

ribbon cutting for the Diemer Road re-alignment marks a significant accomplishment that makes Waller County and the Sunnyside community not only more resilient in weather events, but safer as well with lower EMS and Fire response times!!

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Waller High School Class of 2025 Valedictorian and Salutatorian



Waller High School Class of 2025 Valedictorian
Braeden McKnight



Waller High School Class of 2025 Salutatorian
Sean Hokanson