



Newsletter

August / September 2025

After a busy summer, our coalition took a well-deserved breather. The pace hasn't been as full-throttle as when we first launched, but that's by design - we've shifted into another gear. Steadier, more deliberate, and still pushing forward to defend Waller County's land, legacy, and future.

Government & Agency Outreach

- Submitted a formal letter to TCEQ with 279 citizen signatures gathered in just one week, urging careful review of any permit requests related to TexasLand USA and requesting transparency in the process. We acted quickly because expediency was paramount - citizens deserved to be on record before developers tried to move quietly. The letter was submitted electronically on August 4 and delivered in hard copy via FedEx on August 5 - five identical packages totaling about 200 pages - to TCEQ's headquarters and district offices, Senator Lois Kolkhorst, Senator Joan Huffman, and Representative Stan Kitzman.
- We built a sharp volunteer team to track TCEQ alerts and filings, established direct contacts inside TCEQ's Office of the Public Interest Counsel, and are closely monitoring the developer's new push for district-like powers through state permitting routes.
- Sent additional communications to state agencies and officials - including TxDOT, the Texas Historical Commission, and others - pressing for oversight on roads, water, and environmental impact.
- Legislative Monitoring - Closely tracked all bills and amendments during two special legislative sessions (30 days each: July - August and August - September), ensuring TexasLand USA did not attempt a backdoor revival of powers similar to those in HB 5685.

Public Awareness & On-the-Ground Efforts

- Distributed a fresh round of cards, yard signs, and banners throughout the county.
- Continued signage drives to keep visibility high in every precinct.
- Expanded outreach at community gathering spots and high-traffic areas to keep residents informed.

Media & Website Updates

- Letters and op-eds published in the *Waller County Express* and *Waller Times*, with outreach expanding to regional outlets.
- Added new content to www.texasland-usa.com, including weekly rollouts on the *Promises vs. Reality* page.
- Why this matters: Websites and op-eds don't just inform neighbors - they signal to potential investors that this project faces organized opposition. Visible resistance raises risks, making funding harder to secure.



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Events & Mobilization

- **July 18–19: Hempstead Watermelon Festival** – Thanks to the Patriots Group booth, *Stop TexasLand* cards were distributed to festival-goers.
- **July 20: Katy Flatland Century Bicycle Ride** – Signage added along the route, with outreach to bicycle clubs to highlight the threat TexasLand poses to rural roads we all enjoy.
- **July 24: TexasLand USA Meeting** - CDWC twice requested a public meeting so residents could ask questions. Lizzy McGee refused, allowing only a restricted, closed-door session. Five CDWC representatives attended to raise key concerns with McGee, James Underwood, and local allies Kirby Canon and Melissa Hegemeyer. The format fell far short of genuine engagement - but community concerns were still voiced.
 - In this meeting, TexasLand disclosed that it would take them **at least four months just to figure out a “plan.”** That means we won’t see concrete proposals until late fall or later - but it also underscores how speculative this project still is.
- **August 6:** CDWC attended the **County Assistance District Election Workshop** at Commissioners Court to support placing this on the November ballot. Claiming this existing 1% sales tax for the county ensures it benefits all residents - not TexasLand USA. (More to follow in October.)
- Volunteer working sessions continued to prep literature, coordinate signage placement, and plan upcoming outreach efforts.

Petition Update

Since June, our petition has gathered **1,591 signatures** - a separate, ongoing show of broad opposition in addition to the TCEQ letter drive.

Stay Connected – Take Action

- Sign the petition: <https://chng.it/2tRvksCRNx>
- **Join our Private Facebook Group** (member discussions, not shareable): <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/14DPrgG713s/>
- **Follow our Public Facebook Page** (shareable posts, good for spreading the word): <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61576613202397>
- Subscribe for email updates: <https://forms.gle/QR8ED2TgZqwi64qt5>
- Bring a friend into the movement



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Help Fuel the Movement

Volunteers have given countless hours, but covering costs like printing and shipping the TCEQ packages (200 pages total across 5 recipients, sent by FedEx) takes real dollars. Your donation helps cover printing, paper, signage/banners and outreach materials.

 Donate securely at www.texasland-usa.com
(CDWC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.)

Developers want us to run out of gas - but, we won't.

We've shifted into another gear - steady, deliberate, and ready for the long haul. With a TCEQ team in place, weekly fact-checks rolling out, and visible opposition, we'll keep TexasLand USA under the microscope until citizens get the transparency and accountability they deserve.

And remember: even TexasLand itself admitted on **July 24** that it will take them **at least four months just to come up with a "plan."** While they sort out their next steps, we'll keep doing the work - organizing, informing, and making our voices heard.

The fight is far from over, and your support makes all the difference. Thank you for standing strong with us.

– Citizens in Defense of Waller County