

July 30, 2020

County Judge Lina Hidalgo
Harris County Commissioners Court
1001 Preston Street
Houston, TX 77002

Dear Judge Hidalgo and Commissioners of Harris County,

The South Mayde Creek in West Harris County, west of the Addicks Reservoir in Harris County Precinct 3, has been established as one of the many recipients of capital Improvement funds from the Flood Control Bond Issue of 2018.

Given the recent review by the Commissioners' Court of the awarding of funds based on historically neglected areas that have been subject to flooding, we seek consideration for additional funds for improvements specifically along South Mayde Creek. The area a few miles north of I-10 is where South Mayde Creek lies. In this area is much poverty, a high percentage of Hispanic families, and a very high percentage of Economically Disadvantaged children in the schools.

These are the individuals who suffer the most during these ever-worsening floods of South Mayde Creek. They often do not own the home; they do not have flood insurance for their possessions; they have no expendable cash as their lives are a hand-to-mouth existence for just the basic necessities. These are the poor who live in West Harris County. They live in single-family homes, usually rented, and they frequently live in apartments subject to flooding. Their children often must have ESL services and other specialized services in our schools. These children are citizens. They deserve better than what we have been giving them.

No matter how regulated, as new development continues to expand in West Harris and Waller Counties, the increases in the water flow of South Mayde Creek will be exponential. Since there is no place for the water to go now or in the foreseeable future, the number of homes flooding closer to the Addicks Reservoir will increase. That is where these children live. A more substantial investment in the South Mayde Creek Capital Improvement project would go a long way to stabilize the lives of these children, their families, and the families of so many others who barely live paycheck to paycheck.

Below is a list of the Elementary Schools in the area impacted by South Mayde Creek for your review. The critical factor in all of these schools is the high percentage of families that are rated Economically Disadvantaged.

If changes are to be made in the allocation of these funds, let's do this in a way that benefits the most substantial number of economically disadvantaged throughout the Harris County region. Some

additional improvements and buyouts on the HCFCO wish list would make the South Mayde Creek area more stable in these massive rain events.

Poverty is not isolated in one quadrant of this vast county.

Annette Mennen Baldwin
One Creek West, Inc.

Economically Disadvantaged Schools – Katy Independent School District 2020-2021

Franz Rd Elementary 61.1%
Winborn Elementary 49.4%
Golbow Elementary 53.6%
Schmalz Elementary 61.8%
Morton Ranch Elementary 56.0%
McRoberts Elementary 62.9%
Sundown Elementary 73.9%
Mayde Creek Elementary 68.1%
Robert King Elementary 51.4%
Ursula Stevens Elementary 67.3%
Rhoads Elementary 67.6%