

CEER

COALITION FOR ENVIRONMENT, EQUITY, AND RESILIENCE

Focus on Equity

- Develop a regional body, adopted in partnership with community and environmental groups that operates under principles of equity, to address pollution, place, and the public's health.
- Ensure that environmental equity and needs-based spending of disaster dollars is at the heart of this recovery effort.

Embrace Transparency

- Ensure open and formal processes to inform the public about how each jurisdiction is prioritizing its investments and how those investments are directly related to harm caused by Hurricane Harvey.

Focus on Our Air

- Minimize the negative health consequences from air pollution events by promoting compliance with clean air laws.
- Limit public infrastructure like schools from being placed near hazardous facilities or from being built in neighborhoods.
- Strengthen emergency preparedness plans for hazardous facilities.
- Require facilities to make investments limiting harmful exposure events and inform residents about safety hazards.
- Examine an industry funding mechanism for pollution.

Embrace Resiliency

- Commit to a region-wide climate action plan.
- Ensure that future public investments reflect the environmental, social, and economic risks associated with a coastal landscape, an industrial ship channel and a growing population in a city rich with bayous and streams.

Focus on Displaced People

- Ensure that affordable housing units are sited outside the 500-year flood plain.
- Ensure that both rental and owner-occupied units are replaced so that affordable housing options are available near major centers of employment and public transportation.

Focus on Resource, Recovery & Recycling

- Improve and expand the regional emergency debris removal plan.
- Increase recycling opportunities to maximize diversion of all recoverable and harmful materials from landfills to minimize impact of temporary debris removal sites on communities.
- Begin a public education program regarding the importance of curbside separation of waste after a disaster and consider alternatives to waste recovery.

Focus on Our Water

- Prevent contaminants from entering our waterways.
- Require all wastewater treatment facilities and toxic waste sites to account for flood waters and storm surge, and maintain any spills or releases within their own facilities.
- Require that local industrial facilities and chemical storage tanks "armor" themselves to prevent chemicals from contaminating our watersheds.
- Address drinking water concerns both for source water and flooded pipes by prioritizing an outside, independent audit on drinking.



Focus on Our Land

- Ensure the protection of sustainable landscapes.
- Prioritize collaborative stream restoration efforts that improve air and water quality.
- Fund additional land acquisition to strengthen conservation such as those outlined in the Texas Coastal Resiliency Master Plan, including on the Katy Prairie, along our bayous, along Lake Houston shores, and our barrier islands.
- Incorporate low-impact and sustainable development (i.e. ecology-based solutions).