

COASTAL QUARTERLY

The Newsletter for the Gulf Coast Protection District

SUMMER 2024

DISTRICT NEWS

Galveston County Appoints Larry Taylor to GCPD Board of Directors - April 2024

The GCPD is pleased to announce that former State Senator Larry Taylor has joined the GCPD Board of Directors. The Galveston County Commissioners Court recently appointed Senator Taylor to represent Galveston County on the Board of Directors, replacing Roger "Bo" Quiroga who served in this role since the creation of the GCPD in 2021. Mr. Taylor's term is set to expire on June 16, 2027. [Learn more here.](#)

Gulf Coast Protection District Issues 2023 Annual Report - April 2024

The GCPD has issued its 2023 Annual Report detailing the activities and accomplishments of the past year and forecasting upcoming activities for 2024. This report is distributed to the Governor, the Texas Legislature, the Legislative Budget Board, the Texas General Land Office, and the Chambers, Galveston, Harris, Jefferson, and Orange County Commissioners Courts. The GCPD encourages interested stakeholders to review the Annual Report to gain a deeper understanding of the District's mission, responsibilities, current activities, future activities, and financial status. [Learn more here.](#)

Roger "Bo" Quiroga - Jan. 2024

The GCPD suffered a great loss with the passing of Roger "Bo" Quiroga. Roger was appointed by Galveston County to the GCPD Board of Directors in 2021 and reappointed for a second term in 2023. Roger served the Galveston community for decades in countless roles including three terms as Mayor, positions with the Port of Galveston and Galveston Chamber of Commerce, among many others. Last year, Galveston ISD renamed Tor Baseball Field after him as the "Roger 'Bo' Quiroga Stadium", recognizing his accomplishments in the sport. He was an invaluable member of the GCPD Board of Directors and he will be missed greatly.

[Learn more here.](#)



Join Us for Our Next Board Meeting

The next GCPD Board Meeting will be held in Harris County, Texas:

GCPD Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 14th, 2024
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
1150 Gemini Street
Houston, Texas, 77058

The public may attend GCPD Board Meetings in-person or watch via the [livestream here](#). The livestream can also be accessed via the Gulf Coast Protection District [Facebook](#) page during board meetings. Importantly, to provide public comment, you must be present in-person and sign up in advance of the meeting.

Board Meeting agendas are posted to the [GCPD website](#) approximately one week prior to the meeting. Meeting details, including date, time, location, and live stream information, are also available on the [GCPD calendar](#).

Visit Us Online:

www.GCPDTexas.com

Follow Us:

 @GCPDTexas

 @GCPDTexas

 gulf-coast-protection-district



GCPD Board Meeting, May 8, 2024

DISTRICT NEWS

(cont'd)

Governor Abbott Appoints Sharon Hulan to GCPD Board of Directors - Jan. 2024

The GCPD is pleased to announce the appointment of Sharon Hulan to the GCPD Board of Directors. Governor Greg Abbott recently appointed Ms. Hulan to represent industry on the Board of Directors, replacing Michael VanDerSnick who served in this role since the creation of the GCPD in 2021. Ms. Hulan's term is set to expire on June 16, 2025.

[Learn more here.](#)

Texas General Appropriations Bill Delivers Funding to GCPD - June 2023

As part of the 88th Regular Texas Legislative Session, which concluded in May, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill 1, the general appropriations bill, which provides approximately \$550 million to the GCPD and its projects. This funding will allow the GCPD to continue supporting the advancement of the USACE-led Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay (S2G) and Coastal Texas projects, for which the GCPD serves as a non-federal sponsor. When completed, these projects will provide critically needed protection from coastal storm surge to communities, nationally important industries, and vital ecosystems on the Texas coast.

[Learn more here.](#)

PROJECT UPDATES

S2G Orange County Project ([Learn More](#)) **Field Investigations Underway for the Orange County Project**

Contractors from USACE and GCPD are currently conducting various types of field investigations to advance the Orange County Project. USACE contractors are working on geotechnical, cultural resources, and environmental investigations. GCPD contractors are working on Phase II environmental site assessments, in addition to environmental and cultural resources investigations to support initial construction contracts. Soon, the GCPD will also be conducting survey activities to support real estate acquisition. For questions regarding right-of-entry or the real estate acquisition process, the public may contact the USACE at swg-re@usace.army.mil or the GCPD at info@gcpdtexas.com.

Orange County Project Design and Construction Update

In 2023, the USACE awarded contracts to complete subsurface investigations and testing, cultural resources investigations, and preliminary designs for the entire Orange County Project. In addition, the GCPD has completed supplemental interior drainage modeling and is actively working on the design of two initial construction contracts. The Project Team is also preparing a Post Authorization Change Report and coordinating with USACE leadership to secure approvals to initiate construction activities. The Project Team is planning to employ a phased construction approach which will allow the project to be constructed incrementally as engineering designs are finalized and environmental clearance is obtained. Initial construction contracts could potentially be awarded as soon as 2025 or 2026, with subsequent larger construction contracts anticipated to be awarded in the 2027 or 2028 timeframe.



A section of raised levees under construction in Port Arthur

S2G Port Arthur Project ([Learn More](#))

Port Arthur Project Continues to Move Forward with Design and Construction

The Port Arthur Project continues to advance with the first construction contract (PAVo1) completed and the second construction contract (PAVo3A) underway. In addition, the USACE anticipates awarding Contract PAVo4, the next Port Arthur Project construction contract, in late 2024. The Project Team anticipates finalizing designs for Contracts PAVo3, PAVo3B, and PAVo3C in the near future, while continuing to progress with the design of Contracts PAVo3D and PAVo5. Construction of the Port Arthur Project is anticipated to be completed by 2033.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Awards Next Contract for the Port Arthur Project - September 2023

On Sept. 9, 2023, the USACE awarded a \$102.5M contract to Flatiron Constructors, Inc., to construct additional portions of the Port Arthur Project, a component of the S2G Project. The award of this contract follows construction of the first Port Arthur levee improvements completed in 2022.

[Learn more here.](#)

Army Corps, partners, complete first mile of S2G surge risk reduction mega-project - October 2022

On July 30, the USACE and its contractors successfully completed the first construction contract and first mile of the Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay coastal storm risk management program. The first Port Arthur construction contract was awarded March 2020 and included raises to approximately 5,500 feet of existing earthen levee in West Port Arthur, requiring approximately 55,000 cubic yards of fill material. [Learn more here.](#)

Coastal Texas Project ([Learn More](#))

Coastal Texas Project Provided Funding in FY 2024 Work Plan - May 2024

On May 13, 2024, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) published its 2024 Work Plan allocating a first installment of Federal funding to the Coastal Texas Project. Specifically, the Army Civil Works Program FY 2024 Work Plan provides \$500,000 to support the preconstruction engineering and design of the first segment of the Bolivar Peninsula and West Bay Gulf Intracoastal Waterway Shoreline and Island Protection feature, also known as Ecosystem Restoration feature G-28, and to prepare the project for construction. [Learn more here.](#)

Coastal Texas Project Ranked #1, District Projects Prominently Featured, in Draft 2024 State Flood Plan - May 2024

The GCPD is pleased to report that its projects are featured prominently in the Draft 2024 Texas State Flood Plan, released by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) on May 10, 2024. Specifically, the Coastal Texas Project is the #1 ranked flood mitigation project state-wide. The two Sabine Pass to Galveston Bay (S2G) projects are also ranked, with the Orange County segment at #4 and the Port Arthur segment at #9. [Learn more here.](#)



A rendering of the proposed Coastal Texas Project's beach and dune system on Bolivar Peninsula



GCPD Territory and Location of GCPD Projects

Coastal Texas Project ([Learn More](#))

GCPD and Texas GLO Conduct Offshore Sand Source Investigations

With support from the GCPD, the Texas GLO has been conducting offshore sand source investigations to inform project planning for key components of the Coastal Texas Project. Specifically, new sources of beach quality sand are required to construct the Bolivar Peninsula and West Galveston beach and dune systems, in addition to ecosystem restoration projects. This effort is anticipated to conclude in 2024.

Coastal Texas Project Design Memorandum of Understanding Signed - July 2023

On July 12, 2023, the USACE and the GCPD signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to partner on the design of the [Coastal Texas Project](#), specifically the Galveston Bay Storm Surge Barrier System. The signing of this MOU marks the first official partnership between these two entities to advance initial planning and design activities under the Coastal Texas Project. [Learn more here](#).

WRDA 2022 Signed into Law - Authorizing the Coastal Texas Project - December 2022

President Biden signed the Water Resources Development Act of 2022 into law on Dec. 23, 2022, which includes authorization of the Coastal Texas Project. This legislative action officially authorizes USACE to begin implementation activities for this large-scale coastal storm risk management and ecosystem restoration program, pending appropriation of funding. [Learn more here](#).

Learn More About the Projects



Sign Up for our Distribution List

Stay up to date with the latest news from the GCPD and its projects by signing up for our email distribution list. Sign up by entering your email address at the bottom of the [GCPD website](#) home page.

To submit questions, comments, or feedback, visit our online comment portal or email info@gcpdtexas.com.