Region 6 : San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group Public Engagement Committee Meeting May 5, 2022 10:00 AM **Hybrid Meeting**

Item 1: Call to Order

Item 2: Welcome and Roll Call

Item 3: Registered Public Comments on Agenda Items (limit of 3 minutes per person)

Item 4: Approval of Minutes a. July 28, 2021

Meeting Minutes Public Engagement Committee July 28, 2021 3:00PM CISCO WebEx Virtual Meeting

Roll Call:

<u>Public Engagement</u> <u>Committee Member</u>	Interest Category	<u>Present (x) /Absent () / Alternate</u> <u>Present (*)</u>
Todd Burrer	Water Utilities (Chair)	Х
Paul Lock	Electric Generating Utilities (Vice Chair)	x
Rachel Powers	Environmental (Secretary)	х
Christina Quintero	Public	х
Vacant	N/A	

Quorum:

Quorum: yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 4 Number required for quorum per current voting membership: 4:3

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Voting: None Non-Voting: Elie Alkhoury

Catherine Foley	Kena Ware
Christyn Cavazos	Lisa Mairs
Cory Stull	Maggie Puckett
Fatima Berrios	Reid Mrsny
Hayes McKibben	Walter Morris

**Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the Webex meeting.

All meeting materials are available for the public at: <u>Flood Planning Group Meeting Schedule | Texas</u> <u>Water Development Board</u> AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order Ms. Berrios called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome and Roll Call

Mr. Berrios welcomed everyone, took attendance and a quorum was established.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Registered Public Comments on Agenda Items – limit 3 minutes per person Ms. Berrios stated there were no registered comments and proceeded with the next agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Nominations, discussion, and possible action to elect Committee Chai, Vice Chair, and Secretary

Ms. Berrios opened the floor for volunteers to fill the Chair position of the Public Engagement Committee. Mr. Burrer stated he would volunteer to be the Chair of the Public Engagement Committee. Mr. Lock seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Burrer then opened the floor for Vice Chair. Mr. Lock volunteered for the position. Ms. Powers then seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Burrer then asked for a volunteer to be secretary. Ms. Powers volunteered. Mr. Lock seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion and possible recommendations concerning setting a future date for the next public outreach meeting, platform, and public input method as required by Texas Water Code §16.062(d) and 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(a)(4).

Mr. Stull stated that the next Public Outreach meeting was scheduled to be on the end of August to allow the public input meeting to be virtual. He stated Freese and Nichols Inc (FNI) proposed dates on August 23, 24, 30 or 31. Mr. Burrer stated that the 30 and 31 would be preferrable. Discussion ensued. After several suggestions, Mr. Powers motioned to move forward with August 30 or 31st for the next Public Engagement Meeting. Ms. Quintero seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stull stated the Mr. Stokes would be providing an overview for the proposed Public Engagement Meeting. Mr. Stokes stated the Holloway Environmental, the communications subconsultant, was proposing to use the same format as the previous Public Engagement Meeting held in May. As in the initial Public Engagement Meeting, Mr. Stokes recommended that the Public Engagement Meeting in August be translated in Spanish and the bulk of the meeting be public comments. Mr. Stokes stated that expectations be set before the meeting in order to maintain an organized and effective meeting. Mr. Stokes stated meeting notices would be given both in Spanish and English. The Public Engagement Committee members agreed with the format.

Mr. Stull then stated that the interactive web-map would be demonstrated at the meeting and would be used to gather public input on the San Jacinto RFPG website. He stated the map would allow members of the public to place dots or areas on the map of concern and provide their input and feedback. Ms. Quintero asked if the map would be provided in Spanish. Mr. Stokes stated that a separate link to a Spanish map can be provided. Mr. Burrer stated that the MUDs are required to provide notices in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Mr. Stull stated he did not believe there was any additional requirements for translation, but would verify with the Texas Water Development Board. Mr. Stull added that the format of the Public Engagement Meeting would be Zoom virtual platform.

For the next Public Engagement Meeting, Mr. Stokes asked if the San Jacinto RFPG would want to allow non-registered verbal comments or if the SJRFPG would prefer just written comments provided through the website. Ms. Quintero stated, in order to keep the meeting organized, it would be preferrable to encourage all other non-registered comments to be made through the website. Mr. Stokes stated that clear expectations would be given at the beginning of the meeting with a limit on the amount of time each speaker could speak. Mr. Stokes also stated that no comments would be responded to during the meeting. Mr. Burrer then agreed that setting a time limit and specific parameters would be appropriate for the next meeting.

Mr. Burrer stated that the Public Engagement Committee would make the recommendation to allow FNI to set up the next public meeting like the Pre-planning meeting, platform with clear expectations to the San Jacinto RFPG.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Update from Technical Consultant on Communications Plan, website launch, and survey

Mr. Stokes provided a brief overview. Mr. Stokes stated that the website is almost ready to launch with all the previously discussed communications tools including the public surveys, interactive map, and with the agreed upon design and functionality. He stated that the URL and accessibility features still needed to be agreed upon by the SJRFPG. He also stated Holloway Environmental will incorporate social media platforms. Discussion on social media platforms ensued.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Discussion and possible recommendations regarding future Public Engagement Committee meeting location/format and logistics

Mr. Mrsny stated that the San Jacinto RFPG was subject to the Open Meetings Act meaning that after September 1, 2021 all meetings have to go back to in-person meetings. Mr. Burrer stated that he has an office that can accommodate 25 people socially distanced. Mr. Stull stated that the Group did not have to be monthly, however should meet based on content and as needed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Consider agenda items for the next Public Engagement Committee Meeting agenda

- Discussion from the next Public Engagement Meeting
- Evaluation of the August Public Engagement Meeting

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Public comments – limit 3 minutes per person

Ms. Berrios stated no request to make comments had been made.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Adjourn Mr. Burrer adjourned the meeting at 4:06 p.m.

Rachel Powers, Secretary

Todd Burrer, Chair

Item 4: Approval of Minutes b. March 10, 2022

Meeting Minutes Public Engagement Committee March 10, 2022 at 11:30 AM Hybrid Meeting | Virtual Registration: <u>https://bit.ly/3MmEzFZ</u> Trini Mendenhall Community Center | 1414 Wirt Rd., Houston, TX 77055

Roll Call:

Public Engagement Committee Member	Interest Category	<u>Present (x) /Absent () /</u> Alternate Present (*)
<u>committee member</u>		Alternate Present []
Todd Burrer	Water Utilities (Chair)	X (In-person)
Paul Lock	Electric Generating Utilities (Vice Chair)	X (In-person)
Rachel Powers	Environmental (Secretary)	х
Christina Quintero	Public	х
Connie Pothier	Small Business	х

Quorum:

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 5 Number required for quorum per current voting membership: 5:3

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Voting: None Non-Voting: None

In person:

Claudia Garcia (HCED), Fatima Berrios (HCED), Connor Stokes (Hollaway), Marcello Moacyr

Remote:

- Bob Leibrock Brooke Bacuetes Colleen Gilbert Ginger C. Horn Grant Moss (Bayou Preservation Association) Hollaway Environmental + Communications Justin Bartlett Mariah Najmuddin (Hollaway)
- Matt Lopez (IRT-FCD) Peggy Zahler Stephan Gage (IRT-HCTRA) Susan Chadwick Todd Stephens Tom Mumford (Hollaway) Unknown: 2

**Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the Webex meeting.

All meeting materials are available for the public at: <u>Flood Planning Group Meeting Schedule | Texas</u> <u>Water Development Board</u>

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

Mr. Burrer called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome and Roll Call

Mr. Burrer welcomed the meeting attendees and went around the in-person conference room for introductions. Ms. Berrios took attendance, and a quorum was established.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Registered Public Comments on Agenda Items – limit 3 minutes per person Ms. Berrios stated there were no registered public comments.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Update from Technical Consultant on public engagement metrics and strategies

Mr. Stokes with Hollaway Environmental + Communications, welcomed the committee and gave an update on the SJRFPG website dashboard metrics. Mr. Stokes stated there had been an increase in survey replies. Mr. Stokes updated the committee on the distribution list, which was up to 1,220. Mr. Stokes stated that the e-blast would increase and described the SJRFPG social media platforms to the group.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion and recommendations for public engagement metrics that support the goals outlined in the SJRFPG Communications and Media Engagement Plan – June 2021, as well as goals adopted by the SJRFPG in November 2021

Ms. Najmuddin with Hollaway Environmental + Communications, began by reviewing the Communication Plan goals presented to the group during the June 2021 Public Engagement meeting. Ms. Najmuddin stated that the goals and the plan should be informed by the Public Engagement Committee and opened for comments. Ms. Quintero stated she shared the survey with neighbors, and she had to guide the non-technical savvy through it, which she recognized as a barrier. Ms. Quintero stated that she noticed the font and zoom features on mobile devices proved difficult to read and suggested to bring up the link on the feed so that members could easily share it.

Mr. Lock wanted to ensure goals could be measured. Ms. Powers stated there was no discussion of "meaningful engagement and input from a broad audience" as a goal. Ms. Powers continued that the survey was providing opportunities for input and not getting input, so she suggested to include a goal for meaningful input. Mr. Burrer suggested to revise goal number four to include "...and get meaningful input." Ms. Powers agreed with Mr. Burrer. Discussion ensued regarding "meaningful" definition. Mr. Stokes stated that the communications consultant intended to track the goals and acknowledged the committee's concerns with the language in the goals. Ms. Powers differentiated between quantitative vs. qualitative goal setting. Mr. Burrer asked if the Texas Water Development Board provided a definition and whether these goals met the requirements, or not. Mr. Stokes explained further regarding the requirements of having different forms for public participation. Mr. Burrer stated he would like to quantify the term "meaningful" as it related to metrics.

Ms. Powers referred to the previous public comment meeting and noted that most people had questions, not comments. Ms. Powers stated that if people didn't understand when and how to provide comments, it would be difficult to do so. Ms. Najmuddin suggested the need of a basic awareness campaign where people would be encouraged to visit the website paired with translating the technical terms into common language and making a timeline for the public's reference. Ms. Powers suggested an "open house" style meeting with one period of the meeting intended for public comment and/or questions. Ms. Powers

continued that the rest of the meeting could be with stations, graphs, and charts to educate people, citing concerns with complying with the Texas Open Meeting Act. Mr. Stokes agreed with an "open house" style meeting and suggested this type of meeting could be useful for the next public meeting. Mr. Stokes suggested the communicans consultant would take the input to the technical consultant to come up with how to incorporate them.

Mr. Stokes stated that the entire Communications Plan was included in the meeting materials and opened for comments or questions. Mr. Stokes began with the introduction of the Communications Plan and continued to present a high-level overview of the plan to the committee and meeting attendees. Mr. Burrer opened for questions and noted the measuring metrics graph at the end. Mr. Stokes pointed out that the graphic used quantitative tracking and didn't speak for Ms. Powers' concerns or qualitative tracking. Ms. Powers noted in section four regarding key audiences, should specifically include community-based organizations or ambassadors. Ms. Powers touched on representatives from lower income communities and those with historically less investment in infrastructure. Mr. Stokes concluded that Ms. Powers' suggestion could be incorporated in the plan. Mr. Burrer opened for further comments, and none were provided.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Discussion and possible recommendations for leveraging SJRFPG member participation in public engagement strategies

Mr. Stokes reviewed a list of recommendations on increasing outreach and level-of-feedback received. Ms. Najmuddin explained further regarding social media platforms and the ability to share by identifying and tagging those organizations and communities that Ms. Powers mentioned previously. Ms. Najmuddin continued by reinforcing that there should be a SJRFPG presence on social media platforms and to be intentional in reaching groups where they were. Ms. Najmuddin continued with the communications consultants' recommendations and advised the group that they put together informational booklets to attendees of the TFMA Conference to increase awareness, as part of the outreach. Ms. Najmuddin opened the floor for feedback or ideas on what community engagement could look like.

Mr. Burrer stated the recommendations looked great and suggested going through MUDS and the Cities for distribution. Ms. Powers didn't see recommendations on reaching out to the media and Ms. Naimuddin stated they could put together a press list and come up with a press release. Ms. Quintero suggested to make a presentation on Fox 26 on Saturday morning for awareness. Ms. Quintero suggested having a press release and doing a press conference. Ms. Quintero stated she would get with her contacts at Fox 26 and Univision. Ms. Quintero further suggested to include an interactive text pop-up on the site to give feedback in trying to access the survey. Ms. Quintero raised the question if the group could get feedback from other regions in their encountered struggles with community engagement. Ms. Powers suggested SJRFPG presence on Earth Day which expects 10,000 people. Mr. Lock suggested H-TV where the City of Houston broadcasts their open meetings. Mr. Moacyr suggested a database of people who opened insurance claims related to flood. Mr. Moacyr stated he had a contact at the Houston Business Journal and offered to make that connection as another way to reach the public. Ms. Pothier commented on recommendation number three in the plan and suggested the County Clerk send notices to homeowners/business owners and property taxpayers in their mailouts. Mr. Burrer asked the group for additional recommendations and there weren't any. Mr. Stokes stated that the next step would be to include the Committee's recommendations in the Plan and get it out for adoption.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Discussion and possible recommendations regarding the next public outreach meeting format and public input method(s) as required by Texas Water Code §16.062(d) and 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(a)(4)

Mr. Stokes stated the consultants were looking at a Summer 2022 date for the next Public Engagement meeting. Mr. Stokes stated the communications consultant wanted to start the planning process for the next Public Engagement meeting. Discussion ensued regarding possible dates. Mr. Stokes could not specify a firm date after Ms. Powers asked for a more targeted date. Ms. Berrios stated that the next mandatory meeting was set for public comments to the draft Regional Flood Plan, which should be ready in May, thus having a meeting in June made sense. Mr. Burrer implored the group to nail down a date for scheduling and suggested to move the date to include Ms. Powers, Ms. Berrios clarified the Regional Flood Plan draft is due in early August and required to be presented to the public for a window of 30-days. Ms. Berrios suggested to follow up with Freese and Nichols Inc., to pick a date. Mr. Burrer suggested June 21, 2022 with three full weeks to review before the meeting. Ms. Berrios stated to continue to have hybrid meetings and Ms. Powers suggested multiple meetings for a better outcome. Mr. Stokes wanted to ensure that the proposed open house style meeting format wouldn't interfere with Texas Open Meeting Act. Ms. Powers suggested to keep virtual separate from in-person meetings. Mr. Burrer asked if it was necessary to get permission for funding from the group. Ms. Berrios stated it could be considered by the SJRFPG, but only needed Chair approval. Ms. Powers asked Ms. Quintero if this plan aligned for meaningful input from the communities she works with. Ms. Quintero agreed with keeping the in-person separate from the virtual open house. Mr. Burrer asked where we could have the "open house" meetings. Ms. Berrios stated the project sponsor would seek legal input and report back and added that a central location to the region or a community center would be most appropriate.

Mr. Stokes offered second language translations and translations with materials or meetings through the communications consultant. Mr. Stokes brought up the discussion from last year on Vietnamese language or any other language and the group wanted to stay with English and Spanish. Ms. Powers suggested to pose the language services need as a question in the meeting notice to provide opportunity for someone to request additional language, we could accommodate, and the communications consultants agreed. Mr. Burrer asked for further comments on the public outreach discussion and there were none.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Consider agenda items for the next meeting

Mr. Stokes suggested to revisit the implemented recommendations and to further discuss qualitative metrics in the next meeting agenda. Mr. Stokes suggested to revisit the next Public Meeting discussion and to further plan for that meeting. Ms. Powers suggested a late April or early May meeting. Mr. Burrer suggested to decide on a date for the next meeting and suggested for the committee to input and decide. Mr. Lock suggested April 21 and April 28. May 5 was also suggested as April 28 presented a conflict for the communications consultants. Mr. Burrer suggested May 5 which seemed to be an agreeable date with time to be determined. Mr. Burrer suggested that any time after 9:00 a.m. and before 5:00 p.m. The Project Sponsor committeed to send out the invitation once details were ironed out.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Public comments - limit 3 minutes per person

Mr. Burrer opened for public comments. No public comments were made.

AGENDA ITEM 10: Adjourn

Mr. Burrer opened for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lock moved to adjourn, and Ms. Powers seconded the motion. Mr. Burrer adjourned the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

Rachel Powers, Secretary

Todd Burrer, Chair

Item 5: Discussion and possible recommendations for leveraging SJRFPG member participation in public engagement strategies



Update to Noticing Efforts

- Flyer will be sent via email to elected officials, stakeholder list and any organizations identified by the RFPG.
- A press release will be sent two weeks prior to the meeting to identified news outlets.

SAN JACINTO REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP REGION 6

JOIN US FOR THE UPCOMING SAN Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group Open Houses!

The San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group is offering three opportunities for public open houses, with virtual and in-person options. The public is invited to provide feedback on the Draft Regional Flood Plan and learn more about flood risk, stormwater management, and different projects for flood mitigation.

For more information about the San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group, visit our website: www.sanJacIntofloodplannIng.org or contact SanJacFldPG@eng.hctx.net (713) 274-3914

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2022 5:30 - 7:30 PM

The Recreation Center at Rob Fleming Park 6464 Creekside Forest Drive The Woodlands, TX 77389

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Virtual Open House tinyurl.com/SanJacFloodPlanning

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 2022 5:30 - 7:30 PM Clear Lake Shores Clubhouse

931 Cedar Road Clear Lake Shores, TX 7756

Item 6:

Update from the Communications Consultant on the content and format for the Open-House style Public Outreach meetings, discussion and associated possible recommendations



Public Engagement Meeting Recap

- Three Meetings
 - Two In-Person Meetings
 - One Virtual Meeting
- Format
 - Open-house style (in-person and virtual)
- Accommodations
 - Live Interpretation
 - Translated Meeting Notices/Materials
- Targeted Timeframe
 - May 23 June 3, 2022





Public Engagement Meeting Details

Meeting Date	Meeting Format	Meeting Location
Tuesday, May 24, 2022 5:00 – 7:00 PM	In-Person Open House	The Recreation Center at Rob Fleming Park 6464 Creekside Forest Drive The Woodlands, TX 77389
Thursday, May 26, 2022 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Virtual Open House	Zoom
Tuesday, May 31, 2022 5:00 – 7:00 PM	In-Person Open House	Clear Lake Shores Clubhouse 931 Cedar Road Clear Lake Shores, TX 77565



In-Person Meeting Details

- Open House
 - Three Stations
 - Flood Risk
 - Flood Management Practices
 - Studies and Mitigation Solutions
 - Self-paced event with an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions on the RFP projects.
 - Project Team members will be present to engage with the public





Virtual Meeting Details

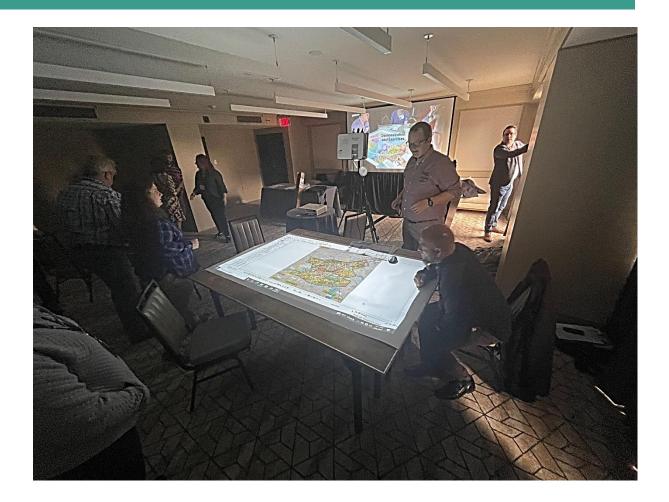
- Open House
 - Three Breakout Rooms Presentations and Q&A in 30 - minute intervals led by the project team
 - Flood Risk
 - Flood Management Practices
 - Studies and Mitigation Solutions
 - "How-to Participate" presentation will help orient members of the public
 - Participants will be able to move between rooms on their own
 - Hollaway staff will be available and present to help troubleshoot any tech issues for the public





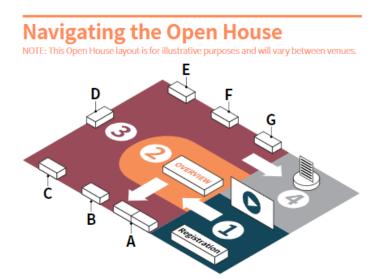
Meeting Materials

- All meeting materials will be made available to the public in English and Spanish
- Meeting Collateral Examples include:
 - "How to Participate in the Open House" handouts
 - FAQ document on the SJRFPG
 - Interactive maps and an online tool to enhance the engagement experience
 - Exhibit boards highlighting project information





Meeting Material - Examples



Project Topic Station Descriptions

- A Engineering Project Alignment Review and discuss the Preferred Project Alignment (2022) and how the project alignment has changed since the Feasibility Report Alignment (2017).
- B Real Estate Review and discuss currently anticipated real estate needs and overarching real estate acquisition processes with the Project Team.
- C Project Partners Review and discuss the roles and responsibilities of the Project Partners, including the Gulf Coast Protection District, Orange County, and the Orange County Dratinage District.
- D Environmental Impacts Review and discuss the analyses conducted and strategies employed during the development of the project to minimize and mitigate environmental impacts associated with the project features.
 - E Engineering Project Structures Review and discuss the structural features included in the Preferred Project Alignment.
 - F Hydrology & Hydraulics and Drainage Review and discuss the role of pump stations and other drainage features to provide for interior drainage. In addition, discuss how storm surge models are utilized to assess the anticipated benefit of the project to Orange County.
 - G Project StoryMap Review the project StoryMap with assistance from the Project Team.



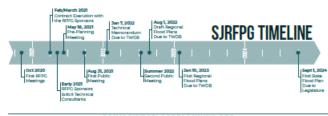
ABOUT THE SAN JACINTO Regional flood plan

In the wake of historic flooding in Texas, the 2019 Texas Legislature passed legislation to create Texas' first-ever regional and state flood planning process. The Legislature created a state flood planning framework and charged the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) with creating flood planning regions based on river basins and with administering the ongoing work of flood planning.

The San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group (San Jacinto Region) is one of the 15 Regional Flood Planning Groups (IRFPCs) formed by the TWDB. The San Jacinto Region includes all or part of 11 counties and extends from Galveston in the south to Huntsville in the north.

Through this groundbreaking, first of its kind flood planning effort, the San Jacinto Region received a flood planning grant from the TWDB to help identify specific flood nisks as well as strategies to reduce flood risks in coming years. This effort represents a bottom-up approach to flood planning and is intended to be a transparent process which relies on public input.

The Texas Water Code requires RFPGs to deliver regional flood plans to the TWDB by January 10, 2023, and every five years thereafter. The state flood plan, to be based on adopted regional plans, must be prepared and adopted by the TWDB by September 1, 2024, and every five years thereafter.



SANJACINTOFLOODPLANNING.ORG

STAY UP-TO-DATE Visit Our Website: sanjacintofloodplanning.org





For Questions & Comments: SJRFPG.TechCon@freese.com

TWDB Contact: Megan Ingram regan.ingram@twdb.texas.go

Take the Regional Survey:





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S2G Program: Orange County Project - How to Participate in the Public Open House

Item 7:

Discussion and possible recommendation pertaining to any changes and revisions to the Communications and Media Engagement Plan

Item 8: Consider agenda items for the next Public Engagement Committee Meeting

Item 9: Public Comments – limit 3 minutes per person

Item 10: Meeting Adjournment