



District Report

FALL 2014

fast facts: LEVEES IN FORT BEND COUNTY

There are 99 miles of levees
in Fort Bend County
Of which, 27.4 miles of Brazos River
frontage is protected by levee

\$10.7 billion dollars
Total value, structures protected by levee,
Fort Bend County*

\$14.3 billion dollars
Total value, structures and land protected
by levee*

141,895 or 1 in 4 people
Total number of lives protected by levees
in Fort Bend County



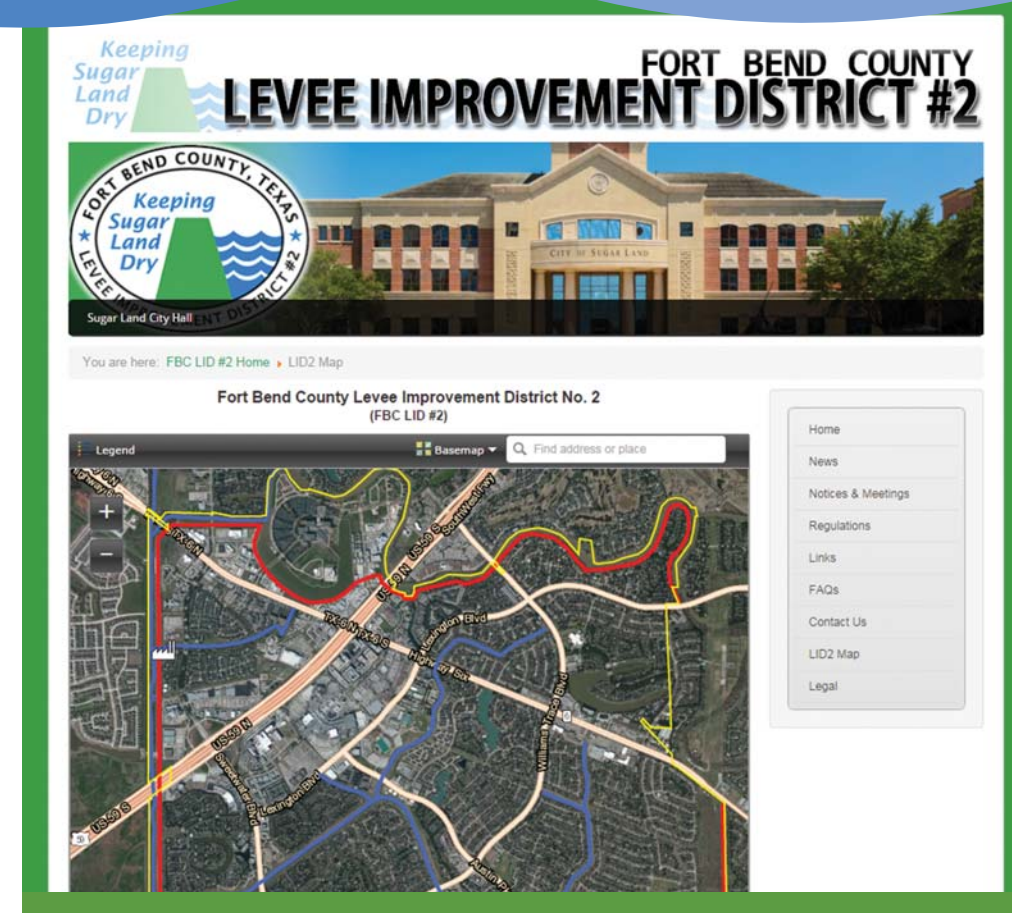
| LID Name | Value of Structures* | Value of Land/Structures* |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| First Colony LID | \$849,504,480.00 | \$1,105,795,050.00 |
| First Colony LID 2 | \$330,663,970.00 | \$430,579,090.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 10 | \$215,637,870.00 | \$294,847,360.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 11 | \$918,649,930.00 | \$1,108,314,500.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 14 | \$398,289,500.00 | \$538,770,400.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 15 | \$233,704,000.00 | \$341,830,060.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 17 | \$727,458,880.00 | \$1,043,064,750.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 19 | \$160,215,940.00 | \$222,394,520.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 2 | \$3,133,158,149.00 | \$4,184,018,889.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 20 | \$33,738,200.00 | \$46,325,950.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 6 | \$24,141,930.00 | \$49,024,720.00 |
| Fort Bend LID 7 | \$1,023,686,660.00 | \$1,308,608,850.00 |
| Fort Bend MUD 121 | \$168,825,470.00 | \$223,396,260.00 |
| Fort Bend MUD 46 | \$136,884,070.00 | \$204,133,270.00 |
| Fort Bend MUD 49 | \$51,717,590.00 | \$69,634,040.00 |
| Palmer Plantation MUD 1 | \$103,189,830.00 | \$144,943,800.00 |
| Palmer Plantation MUD 2 | \$118,015,906.00 | \$153,920,216.00 |
| Pecan Grove MUD | \$676,309,753.00 | \$849,009,473.00 |
| Sienna Plantation LID | \$1,417,547,715.00 | \$1,987,971,265.00 |
| Total | \$10,721,339,843.00 | \$14,306,582,463.00 |

*based on 2013 appraised values

UPDATED WEBSITE and ONLINE MAPS

Fort Bend County Levee Improvement District No. 2 (LID #2) recently updated the District website located online at www.fbclid2.com. The new website includes a great deal of information about LID #2, the District's mission, and other topics related to storm water management and flood control. The website also includes links to many other agencies at the local, state, and federal level that work with LID #2 to accomplish its goals.

The most exciting aspect of the updated website is the new, interactive online map (see inset screen image). The map allows District residents to better understand the assets operated and maintained by LID #2. It also includes additional mapping features like an address finder. If you click the "View Larger Map" link and select the "Content" tab, the online map program will open in another window that allows you to view the boundaries of other local governmental agencies. The map can display the city limits for all Fort Bend County municipalities as well as the boundaries of other Levee Improvement Districts in our area.



LID #2 REDUCES TAX RATE for 2015

The Board of Directors for Fort Bend County Levee Improvement District No. 2 have voted to lower the 2014 tax rate for District property owners. The new tax rate for LID #2 will drop to \$0.12 per \$100 of assessed property value on next year's tax bills. To provide some perspective, in 2002 the district tax rate was \$0.23, almost double the proposed rate for this year. Since that time the District has lowered the tax rate on 9 different occasions to cut that amount in half.

- what's inside:**
- DRAINAGE CHANNELS...pg 2
 - EPA & CLEAN WATER ACT...pg 3
 - STORM WATER QUALITY...pg 3
 - LEVEE FAST FACTS...pg 4

REHABILITATION OF DRAINAGE CHANNELS

Ditch "A", "D", and "G"

Beginning in the fall of 2014, Fort Bend County Levee Improvement District No. 2 (LID #2) will begin a large capital improvement project within the community. The project will impact Ditches "A", "D", and "G" (shown below) which drain storm water runoff from a large portion of First Colony. The goal of the project is to rehabilitate the ditch bottoms to prevent further erosion and to improve slope stability within these channels. All work performed during the project is in compliance with the United States Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit.

The project is currently under review by the City of Sugar Land and Fort Bend County, with construction scheduled to begin during the month of November. Once the project starts, it is expected to take 270 days to complete, pending inclement weather, and it should be finished during the summer of 2015. The contractor will enter the construction sites from Sweetwater Boulevard and Austin Parkway, so be aware of construction traffic when traveling through the impacted area. The attached map shows the approximate areas that will be impacted by the project as well as the proposed construction entrances. For questions or concerns related to the project, please contact the LID #2 General Manager at 713-574-5261 or email pilmartin@mikestoneassociates.com.



Confluence of Ditch "A" & Ditch "D"

SPOTLIGHT

on the EPA and the Clean Water Act

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is an agency of the United States federal government which was established in December 1970 under President Richard Nixon. Simply stated, the EPA's mission is to protect human and environmental health. In conjunction with that mission, the EPA is responsible for conducting environmental assessment, research, and education to create and enforce standards and laws that will promote the health of individuals and the environment. Under that broad umbrella, the EPA regulates the "waters of the United States." The Clean Water Act (CWA), which was originally passed in 1972, establishes the basic structure under which the EPA regulates discharges of pollutants into the "waters of the United States" and the quality standards for surface waters.

What are "waters of the United States"?

Historically, the CWA has framed the "waters of the U.S." definition in the context of waters that are navigable or significantly connected to navigable waters. Currently, the EPA is undergoing the process of revising the current definition. The proposed rule revision has met with great opposition and for good reason. The proposed rule would broaden the definition significantly, and include smaller waters and even some dry land in the definition of "waters of the U.S." As a result, permit requirements that apply to navigable waters would also apply to ditches, small ponds, and even depressions in fields and pastures that are only wet when there is heavy rain.

What does this mean for me as a LID #2 resident?

LID #2 maintains a levee system that protects your home from possible flooding during times of heavy rainfall or high water events. The proposed rule could encompass significant additional parts of the levee system, thereby giving the EPA more regulatory control over the LID #2 system. While no one in Fort Bend County or elsewhere wants polluted waters, LID #2 feels that the proposed rule change could have negative unintended consequences. Such consequences are being highlighted by multiple organizations including the United States Farm Bureau (ditchtherule.fb.org).

In LID #2's dedication to protect the residents living within its boundaries, it must follow all applicable laws—whether they are local, state, or federal. Therefore, should the proposed rule be adopted, LID #2 will comply with any future EPA imposed requirements. While such requirements are unknown at present, LID #2 is concerned that such requirements would entail complying with additional regulations at a hefty price tag for any necessary operational costs and capital improvements, while receiving little to no added benefit in combating pollution. LID #2 will continue to monitor developments related to the proposed rule in order to protect the best interests of its residents.



STORM WATER QUALITY

in LID 2

On December 13, 2013, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) adopted the Phase II storm water quality permit - TXR040000. This is a five year permit that affects all public entities that own and operate storm water conveyance systems. Fort Bend County Levee Improvement District No. 2 (LID #2) is included in the list of affected entities, along with the City of Sugar Land and many other small cities, LIDs, and Municipal Utility Districts in our area.

LID #2 recently submitted its Storm Water Management Plan to the TCEQ in order to satisfy permit requirements. We are waiting on approval of the plan which outlines several initiatives the District will undertake over the next five years to help improve the water quality of the streams in our area, including Oyster Creek. Many of these initiatives include public education and involvement, so stay tuned as we send out information in mailers and other publications on what you can do to help keep our streams clean.

For information on this important topic you can visit www.upperoystercreek.com, www.cleanbayous.org, or the City of Sugar Land's website, www.sugarlandtx.gov.