

## TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DAN HUBERTY

December 11, 2019

San Jacinto River Authority Board Members 1577 Dam Site Road Conroe, TX 77304

To the Members of the Board of Directors:

I am writing today to express my gratitude for your previous support and encourage your renewed support of the temporary seasonal lowering policy instituted to protect life and property south of Lake Conroe, in both Montgomery and Harris Counties. These measures along with the increased communication between SJRA and partner entities has greatly reduced the reoccurrence of flooding incidents for residents in House District 127.

The current seasonal lowering strategy has proven to be a successful tactic in mitigating flooding downstream. According to data, "the spring 2019 seasonal lowering created an additional one foot of storage space to capture rainfall in early May 2019 when storms hit the Conroe and Lake Houston areas. Lake Conroe caught significant rainfall and runoff during the storms causing the lake to rise more than a foot. If Lake Conroe had entered this event at or near full, the peak release rate would have been higher thereby increasing the peak flow in the West Fork of the San Jacinto River."

I would remind you of the temporary nature of this policy. Seasonal lowering was never intended to be a permeant solution to the flooding concerns of our region. In fact, this is truly only necessary until the completion of the additional addition gates on the dam at Lake Houston, a project that has been expedited by the federal government and set for completion in 36 months.

Additionally, I was able to secure \$30 million in the supplemental budget during the 86th Session dedicated specifically to dredging in Lake Houston and the San Jacinto River. The execution of this ongoing silt and sediment removal program will allow for even greater increased capacity in the reservoir and prevent flooding occurrences.

As a lakefront property owner, I can personally attest to the success of the seasonal lowering on Lake

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CAPITOL OFFICE: P.O. BOX 2910 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768:2910 512:463:0520 Conroe and I am asking that you continue with this strategy next year. Those of us in the Lake Houston area fully understand the stress that comes with both flood and drought conditions. I would ask that you consider not only Lake Conroe when you cast this vote, those of us south of you who are so greatly affected by decisions like these.

Again, I want to express my gratitude for your earlier support of this program and I ask that you again support this measure to prevent against future flooding in our entire region. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely.

Dan Huberty