



Resolution

Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

WHEREAS the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce is an economic development organization, whose mission is to promote business growth, educational excellence and community partnerships while fostering the overall vitality and quality of life throughout the Clear Lake Bay Area Houston region; and

WHEREAS the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce serves 125 square miles, a population of approximately 250,000 in nine cities within portions of Harris and Galveston Counties between Houston and Galveston, Texas; and

WHEREAS the Houston/Galveston area is home to the largest and most important concentration of petroleum refining and petrochemical processing plants in the United States, and the Port of Houston is the second-busiest port in the nations; and

WHEREAS this region experiences a major hurricane approximately every 15 years resulting in billions of dollars in damaged property, billions in losses to the Texas economy, hundreds of thousands jobs, a vast amount of damage to the economy of the United States but mostly the loss of lives; and

WHEREAS a storm surge suppression systems, using manmade sand dunes along the length of the coast connecting to the existing Galveston seawall as well as large moveable flood gates, is essential to protect the industries, economy, citizens and communities of the Houston/Galveston region while preserving the regional coastal ecosystem; and

WHEREAS such a storm surge suppression system currently under serious study is termed the "Ike Dike concept," a name derived from Hurricane Ike, which made landfall in Galveston, Texas on September 13, 2008, and developed by Texas A & M University at Galveston by Dr. Bill Merrell; and

WHEREAS this concept is modeled from other technologies successfully installed around the world – including Rotterdam, the Netherlands, St. Petersburg, Russia , along the Thames River in London and in New Orleans, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS the "Ike Dike concept" coastal spine surge suppression system is technically feasible, economically sound, environmentally friendly and socially just;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce does hereby fully support the continued development of a storm surge suppression system, such as the "Ike Dike concept", which would provide comprehensive protection to the industries, businesses, schools, government facilities, residences and associated infrastructure near Galveston Bay.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON THIS 18th DAY OF May, 2016

Roy Green
Chairman of the Board

Cindy Harreld-DeWease
President and CEO