



Deer Park Community Advisory Council

DPCAC Receives Updates on Patrick Bayou and New College Building

Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) members heard one of the periodic updates they request on Patrick Bayou, where contaminated sediments deposited over past decades led to its designation in 2006 as an Environmental Protection Program (EPA) Superfund Site. The 2.5 mile-long bayou flows from near the City of Deer Park wastewater treatment plant through industrial property to the Houston Ship Channel. Three DPCAC plants are working cooperatively with EPA and other agencies to do the studies necessary to determine whether cleanup is advised and, if it is, to identify remedies that would be feasible and effective.

Studies have shown that the contamination poses no risk to human health. Through natural processes over about 40 years, contaminant concentrations in sediments are decreasing. Studies have identified four alternative remedies for the site. EPA is expected to choose one or more and will be notifying the public of its recommendations. The public will then have the opportunity to comment. After responding to the comments, the agency will sign a record of decision, tentatively in late 2018.

DPCAC members also heard about the new San Jacinto College Center for Petrochemical, Energy and Technology. Industry is working with the college to create an educational experience that will prepare graduates for work in local plants. Members were told that construction along Fairmont Parkway near the Pasadena Convention Center will include a small glycol-water separation plant to give students hands-on experience.

Visitors are welcome to attend the March 26, 2018 meeting to help members brainstorm and prioritize meeting topics for the coming 12 months. For details about the 6 p.m. meeting, contact the DPCAC facilitator at info@deerparkcac.org.

Visit www.deerparkcac.org to read about recent meeting topics, find links to useful resources on emergency communications and the environment, see lists of DPCAC community and plant members, and read our mission and purposes.