



## Deer Park Community Advisory Council

### Deer Park CAC Hears about Bridge and Road Projects

Beltway 8 bridge expansion, improvements to State Highways 225 and 146, and freight transportation priorities in support of economic growth were described to the Deer Park Community Advisory Council (DPCAC) at its June meeting.

Matt Kainer of the Harris County Toll Road Authority shared plans for the expansion of the Beltway 8 Bridge over the Houston Ship Channel. When complete, the bridge will have four lanes in each direction instead of two, as well as shoulders. The ascent and descent will be less steep, and curves will be smoothed out so that vehicles may maintain speed. During the first phase of construction, new southbound main lanes will be built. The current bridge will then be demolished, and a northbound sister bridge will be constructed. Southbound bridge construction will begin this year. Demolition of the existing bridge is slated for 2021, and northbound bridge construction should be completed by 2024.

Current, proposed, and long-term projects for State Highways (SH) 225 and 146 were described by Maria Aponte, Assistant Area Engineer for the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Southeast Harris Area Office. Landscaping and illumination improvements are beginning along SH 225 as are improvements to the SH 225-Battleground Road intersection. The major TxDOT project beginning this year is expansion of SH 146. The initial focus will be from Fairmont Parkway south to SH 96. The number of lanes will be expanded from 6 to 12, grade separations will be added at intersections, access roads will be built in certain locations, and express lanes will carry thru traffic over Clear Creek. In conjunction with the expansion of the ship channel bridge, direct connectors will be built from SH 225 to Beltway 8. Looking more than a decade ahead, TxDOT anticipates that SH 225 will need widening. Aponte's slides are attached.

Chad Burke, President of the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region, said that freight transportation improvements are essential to support growth in industry and PortHouston. The alliance's Transportation Committee recently developed and prioritized a list of freight transportation projects and is working with Harris County and TxDOT to determine how to implement them. Burke's slides are attached.

The next DPCAC meeting will be held on Monday, August 27. The timely topic will be *Planning for the 2018 Hurricane Season: Municipal, Industrial and Environmental Lessons Learned from Harvey*. DPCAC welcomes visitors. If you would like an invitation to attend one of the 6 p.m. meetings, contact a member or email the DPCAC facilitator at [info@deerparkcac.org](mailto:info@deerparkcac.org).

Visit [www.deerparkcac.org](http://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.

## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

*Each CAC agenda offers time for Updates of various types. On a set schedule, at each meeting, two or three DPCAC plants provide written updates on safety and environmental performance and business news. At any meeting, plants with significant news make verbal reports. Members report on community activities or ask questions related to the CAC. The CAC also makes decisions on organizational matters as needed. Highlights from Plant Updates are listed in the summary below. They cover a six-month period from November 2017 to May 2018.*

### Evonik Oil Additives USA, Inc.

No OSHA recordable illnesses or injuries since October 2014. Spring Safety Day topics included Active Shooter Awareness training, Steam Trap training, tabletop Emergency Response drills, and Process Safety Management training.

“Evonik Oil Additives manufactures lubricant additives for blenders of gear oil, automatic transmission fluids, grease, hydraulic fluids and engine oils.”

### Valvoline, Deer Park TX

No reportable spills. Eighteen months without an OSHA recordable injury. Summer Safety is being emphasized, with a focus on Heat, Hours, and Hurricanes. A fourth tank farm is being installed.

“Valvoline Inc. (NYSE: VVV) is a leading worldwide producer and distributor of premium branded automotive, commercial and industrial lubricants, and automotive chemicals. The Deer Park plant primarily blends, packages and distributes premium lubricants to a wide range of customers including OEMs, Retailers and Warehouse distributors.”

### Vopak Terminal Deer Park

Since November, Vopak has had an annual US Coast Guard audit, an annual inspection by the Harris-Galveston Coastal Subsidence District, and a US Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration inspection. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has conducted inspections for compliance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Underground Injection Control program, and the plant’s wastewater permit.

“The Vopak Deer Park Terminal is a third-party storage, import/export, and distribution facility handling the following products: Biofuels, Chemicals, and Petroleum products.