



SYLVESTER TURNER
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HOUSTON
TEXAS

September 5, 2019

Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
517 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn,

On behalf of the City of Houston, I would like to begin by thanking you for your assistance in making the dredging of the West Fork of the San Jacinto River, and part of the existing mouth-bar located at the confluence of the San Jacinto River and Lake Houston, a priority. The work that was conducted in the river and is currently being completed at the mouth-bar, to remove Harvey related sediment, is having a real impact on improving the flow of the river.

The purpose of this letter is to request the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) to designate the remaining debris located at the confluence of the San Jacinto River and Lake Houston (mouth-bar) as Category A for reimbursement through one of two options.

- Option One, our preferred method, FEMA authorizes another mission assignment extension to the United States Army Corps of Engineers to remove the remaining sediment utilizing existing contractors and equipment.
- Option Two, utilizing the Category A designation, the City of Houston will use existing resources and pre-positioned contracts to address the removal of the remaining Hurricane Harvey debris within the San Jacinto River and Lake Houston.

The two options mentioned require FEMA to approve the City of Houston's sedimentation study, which scope of work was developed utilizing the methodology prescribed by the Corps. The preferred option, Option One, will result in a significant savings in future mobilization as evident from the nearly \$20 million associated with the original mission assignment mobilization. It is clear through the collection of field data by the City of Houston provided to FEMA, the remaining debris is directly associated with Hurricane Harvey and its removal is paramount to secure life, property, and safety.

As of August 20, 2019, the City of Houston has proactively secured a third United States Army Corps of Engineers permitted disposal site needed for the additional debris. This designation is our final attempt to rehabilitate the San Jacinto River and Lake Houston to a prior good condition, which will allow for increased flood protection and safety to residents. Please consider granting this Category A designation, allowing the City of Houston to continue building Houston forward, post-disaster.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Sylvester Turner in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Sylvester Turner

Handwritten signature of Dave Martin in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Council Member Dave Martin

cc: State Senator Brandon Creighton, (SD - 4)
State Representative Dan Huberty, (HD - 127)