



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Drainage Project Protects Covington Woods During Harvey**

Sugar Land, TX – The city of Sugar Land recently completed a \$7.2 million drainage project in Covington Woods that was identified in 2013 to address street flooding.

Work began last year, and improvements implemented prior to Hurricane Harvey protected residents from historic amounts of rainfall. Despite the storm, the project was completed ahead of schedule.

The improvements along Bournemouth Drive, Ravenscourt, Borrowgate and Bramblebury Drive included concrete box culverts, storm sewers and new inlets to more efficiently move water out of Covington Woods and into drainage ditches and storage basins. Major components included:

- 3,700 linear feet of box culverts ranging in size from 4 feet by 3 feet to 10 feet by 6 feet;
- 3,800 linear feet of storm sewer pipe ranging in size from 24-54 inches in diameter;
- 19,750 square yards of concrete pavement and removal of existing pavement; and
- 8,750 linear feet of water line replacement ranging from 2-12 inches.

Routine maintenance and targeted drainage projects are important to protect Sugar Land during extreme weather events. Completed projects like Covington Woods, other areas north of U.S. Highway 90A and the Sugar Creek Subdivision protected homes and businesses during Hurricane Harvey, the most extreme rain event in U.S. history.

An analysis of Hurricane Harvey's impact on Sugar Land, along with other past major rain events, is available at [www.sugarlandtx.gov/HarveyAnalysis](http://www.sugarlandtx.gov/HarveyAnalysis). Approximately

230 homes flooded during Hurricane Harvey, with up to 6 inches of water entering homes in the areas of Settlers Park and Chimney Stone.

Since the hurricane, Sugar Land City Council approved a joint study with Fort Bend County Levee Improvement District #2 which has been completed and has also approved the following drainage studies that are currently in progress:

- River Bend, Plantation Bend, Plantation Colony and Magnolia Plantation subdivisions and Oyster Creek (between Dam # 3 and Dulles Avenue).
- Elkins Road and Knightsbridge Boulevard.
- Settlers Park, Chimneystone, Austin Park and Sugar Lakes subdivisions.
- Lakebend, Sugar Creek Subdivisions and the New Territory/Chatham Avenue intersection.

City staff continues to work closely with residents in the affected areas to ensure the drainage studies include extensive public outreach and engagement.

A Brazos River erosion study is also in progress. The objective of this study is to survey critical areas of the Brazos River in the City of Sugar Land, make predictions on bank erosion, perform analysis of risk and consequences and make recommendations on regulatory actions. The project is to be completed by April 2018 and is being coordinated with Fort Bend County.

City engineers continue to evaluate drainage design standards and code requirements intended to protect residents from extreme rain storms. City staff is also working closely with levee improvement districts, entities that provide important protection from the Brazos River. The LIDs are evaluating current infrastructure and taking actions to enhance flood protections.

*Photo Caption: Pictured at a recent ribbon cutting ceremony for the Covington Woods drainage project are members of the community with City Council, senior management and project managers.*