



RESOLUTION

Baytown Chamber of Commerce

(A Resolution in support of the development of a storm surge suppression system.)

WHEREAS, the Houston/Galveston area is the fourth largest economy in the World, is the 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 nation; 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, a vast amount of damage to the economy of the United States but mostly in the loss of lives; and

WHEREAS, a storm surge suppression system, 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, the 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 barrier surge suppression system is technically feasible, economically sound, environmentally friendly and socially just;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Baytown Chamber of Commerce and its more than 1200 members supports the continued development of a storm suppression system, such as the "Ike Dike concept" coastal barrier, which would provide comprehensive protection to the industries, businesses, schools, government facilities, residences and associated infrastructure in the Houston/Galveston area.

ADOPTED this 27th day of June 2016 by the Board of Directors of the Baytown Chamber of Commerce.

Brennon Marsh, Chairman of the Board

Tracey S. Wheeler, President & CEO