



RESOLUTION NO. 001-2014

A RESOLUTION OF THE ECONOMIC ALLIANCE HOUSTON PORT REGION, SUPPORTING THE “COASTAL BARRIER” CONCEPT BEING PROPOSED BY TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON, AS THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND EQUITABLE MEANS OF PROTECTING THE ENTIRE HOUSTON-GALVESTON REGION FROM STORM SURGE AND SUB-TROPICAL RAIN EVENTS; AND PROVIDING FOR THE DELIVERY OF SUCH RESOLUTION TO TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY AT GALVESTON, THE GULF COAST COMMUNITY PROTECTION AND RECOVERY DISTRICT, AS WELL AS THOSE STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATORS THAT REPRESENT THE HOUSTON PORT REGION.

WHEREAS, the Houston Port Region includes 16 coastal communities with a significant population of residents and businesses that can be affected by a storm surge and sub-tropical rain events; and

WHEREAS, the Houston Port Region is home to the 25-mile Houston Ship Channel - home to one of the world’s most influential energy corridor and trade ports; and

WHEREAS, storm surge entering Galveston Bay as a result of a hurricane or other significant storm event tends to increase in height as it moves further up into the Bay and endangers human life, destroys property, and damages sensitive ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive flood gate and barrier system along the Gulf Coast, including San Luis Pass, Bolivar Peninsula and the mouth of the Houston, Galveston and Texas City ship channels would provide the necessary protection for the Houston-Galveston region and in particular, areas surrounding Galveston Bay; and

WHEREAS, the “Coastal Barrier” concept looks to existing technology created and effectively used in the Netherlands; and

WHEREAS, the cost of constructing the “Coastal Barrier” concept would be a mere fraction of the cost of structural damage, lost productivity and environmental clean-up, otherwise incurred without the project after a major hurricane; and



WHEREAS, in 2010, the Texas Governor’s Commission on Recovery and Renewal reviewed the “Coastal Barrier” proposal and recommended a six-county public corporation known as the Gulf Coast Community Protection and Recovery District be established to explore viable options for storm surge protection of the Houston-Galveston region; and

WHEREAS, the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region desires to support the “Coastal Barrier” concept, pursuant to sound engineering and economic impact data, in order to advance the need for a coastal barrier system to protect the 16 coastal communities, Port of Houston, including over 130 petrochemical and manufacturing companies, and the entire Houston-Galveston region.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE ECONOMIC ALLIANCE HOUSTON PORT REGION:

Section 1. The Economic Alliance hereby wholeheartedly supports and endorses efforts to create the “Coastal Barrier” project for a coastal barrier protecting the entire Houston-Galveston region, including communities fronting Galveston Bay, from hurricane storm surges, and encourages the Gulf Coast Community Protection and Recovery District to locate the necessary resources to facilitate construction of the “Coastal Barrier” concept pursuant to sound engineering and economic impact data.

Section 2. The Economic Alliance Executive Board hereby directs the Economic Alliance staff to send a signed copy of this Resolution to Rear Admiral Robert Smith III, USN, President and Chief Executive Officer of Texas A & M University at Galveston; Gulf Coast Community Protection and Recovery District Chairman, Mark Henry; and those state and federal legislators that represent the Port of Houston region.

Section 3. This Resolution shall become effective from and after its adoption.



DULY PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of June, 2014.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Karen Gregory'.

CHAIRMAN, Economic Alliance Houston Port Region

ATTEST/ASSENT:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'James P. Griffin'.

SECRETARY, Economic Alliance Houston Port Region

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PRESIDENT/CEO, Economic Alliance Houston Port Region