

# HURRICANES, MAJOR DISASTERS, COASTAL PROTECTION AND RAPID RECOVERY IN TEXAS AND GULF COAST REGION

THC - 2021  
13<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference\*



Texas Hurricane Center  
for Innovative Technology

<http://hurricane.egr.uh.edu>

Conference and Exhibition  
Sponsored by

Texas Hurricane Center for Innovative  
Technology (THC-IT)  
&  
Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Industrial Engineering  
University of Houston

August 6, 2021

**\*ONLINE CONFERENCE**

University of Houston  
Houston, Texas 77204-4003

## Conference Registration

The Conference presentations will be online format to update the community, emergency managers, owners, transportation and medical providers, businesses, educators and food suppliers who play an important role related to preparedness, loss mitigation and rapid recovery during hurricanes and other major disasters. Also the impact of COVID-19 virus in the planned activities will be discussed. Well known and influential speakers will provide valuable information to the conference attendees. Complete and return the registration form with the registration fee before August 2, 2021 for an advanced registration discount. **Also email Dr. Vipu about your registration to coordinate the online conference.** This will be the second online conference organized by the Texas Hurricane Center for Innovate Technology (THC-IT).

### Top Reasons To Attend:

- (1) Be informed about the latest plans and procedures in preparing for hurricanes and other major disasters in number of major Gulf coast cities with the COVID-19 virus impact.
- (2) Presentations include COVID-19 virus impact, winter storm, hurricane experiences, debris management, preparedness, loss mitigation, evacuation, coastal protection, transportation issues, rapid recovery and new technologies that could influence your operations.
- (3) Provide 3.5 PDH certificate for attending the online conference.
- (4) Online conference will be easily accessible from anywhere in the U.S.

For conference information email or call  
**Dr. Vipu** at (713) 743-4278.

## REGISTRATION

Advanced Registration (by 8/02/2021)	\$ 50.00
Late Registration	\$ 60.00
Student Registration*	\$ 25.00

\*Current School Registration;

Please make check payable to THC-IT/UH

and mail it to:

Conference Registration

THC-IT/Dept. C&EE

University of Houston

4726 Calhoun Road

Houston, TX 77204-4003

(Attn: Dr. C. Vipulanandan (Vipu))

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Nick Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
(office use only)

For more information

Phone: (713) 743-4278; Fax: (713) 743-4260

Email: [CVipulanandan@uh.edu](mailto:CVipulanandan@uh.edu)

## About the Conference

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual conference organized by the Texas Hurricane Center for Innovative Technology (THC-IT) on "Hurricanes, Major Disasters, Coastal Protection and Rapid Recovery in Texas and Gulf Coast Region" is on August 6, 2021. This will be an online conference based on the current conditions. The COVID-19 virus has impacted the entire world over one year. It has impacted the industries, businesses, travelling and educational programs. Also the guidelines, rules and regulations have not only impacted the individual but also the families, communities and the countries economically. Also the disaster responses and rapid recovery has become a major challenge. In the United States many coastal cities including Gulf of Mexico cities have been impacted by the COVID-19. Also the virus has impacted the medical field and the resources available to accommodate the number of sick patients have limits. This could really impact the future evacuation due to hurricanes and flooding disasters. Also Texas had its historically worst winter storm Uri in February 2021 with major power losses and estimated loss of over \$195 billion dollars.

The presentations will include current preparation plans for the entire Gulf Coast including Texas counties and cities for the 2021 hurricane season with the COVID-19 virus and other disasters. Special feature of this conference will be the discussions on hurricane issues, other disasters, coastal protection and debris management with the COVID-19 virus impacts. Also the disaster responses related to past experiences will be discussed.

Earn 3.5 PDH by attending the entire conference.

## List of Distinguished Speakers Session I: (9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.)

### General Session

**Moderator: C. Vipulanandan,** University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

**Allie Isbell,** "Resilience and Durability to Extreme Weather in Transportation Planning," Transportation Regional Planning Manager, Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

**Alicia Rea,** "U.S. Army Supporting Responses and Recovery to Disasters," Director Emergency Manager, USACE-Galveston, Galveston, Texas, Keynote Speaker

**Heather Lagrone,** "Building Resiliency in Texas: Program Status and Mitigation," Senior Deputy Director-Community Development & Revitalization, Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas, Keynote Speaker

Network Discussion: Major Planning Issues

## Session II: (10:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)

### Inland Flooding Issues and Emergency Response

**Moderator: Rafael Ortega,** Aurora Technical Services, Houston, Texas.

**Ataul Hannan,** "MAAPnext – Resilience to the Next Level," Director Planning Division, HCFCD, Houston, Texas;

**Melody Galland,** "TxDOT Plans for Storm Response," Director of Maintenance, TxDOT, Houston, Texas.

**Venus Price,** "Experience Related to Drinking Water Operations During Winter Storm Uri," Managing Engineer-Drinking Water Operations, City of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Network Discussion: Major Recovery Issues

## Session III: (11:30 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.)

### Lessons Learned and New Technologies

**Moderator: Daniel Wong,** Tolunay-Wong Engineers, Houston, Texas.

**Dennis Paul** "Updates on the Current Situation in the State of Texas", Member of Texas House of Representatives – District 129, Harris County, Texas.

**Developing Mobile Energy Unit For Hurricane Affected Community, Siva Parameswaran,** Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas.

**Electrical Power and Energy: Needs, Supply Systems and Failures with Disaster Management and Rapid Recovery Plans, C. Vipulanandan,** University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Network Discussion: Lessons Learned and Other Issues

## **Research Presentation (12:45 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.)**

There will be Research Posters Presentations with questions and discussions between the attendees.

### Discussion and Networking

During the short breaks there can be questions and discussions between the attendees.

### Professional Development Hours (PDH)

Earn up to 3.5 hours of PDH by attending the online conference. Certificates will be issued after the conference.

**"Innovation through Research and Education"**