

**HURRICANES, MAJOR DISASTERS, COASTAL PROTECTION AND RAPID RECOVERY IN
TEXAS AND GULF COAST REGION
Final Program- THC 2022 (August 5, 2022)**

Session I: (8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.) General Session

Moderator: C. Vipulanandan, Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Houston, Houston, Texas

Chuck Wemple, “Building a Stronger Region after Past Experiences,” Executive Director, Houston Galveston Area Council, Houston, Texas, Keynote Speaker.

Ryan Schwartzengraber, "U.S. Army Supporting Responses and Recovery to Disasters," Deputy Director Emergency Management, USACE-Galveston, Galveston, Texas, Keynote Speaker

Jet Hays, “Planning for Disaster Resilience,” Deputy Director, Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas. Keynote Speaker

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Coffee Break (Exhibit Area)

Session II: (10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.)

Panel 1: Inland Flooding Issues and Recovery

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

Panelist (25 min. presentations)

Ataul Hannan, “Understanding Urban Flooding,” Director Planning Division, HCFCD, Houston, Texas;

Christopher Steubing, “City of Sugar Land Disaster Responses after Disasters,” Assistant City Manager, City of Sugar Land, Sugar Land, Texas.

Rob Winiecke, “City of Galveston Experiences and Future Plans,” Director of Infrastructure and Engineering, City of Galveston, Galveston, Texas.

Panel Discussion: Major Flooding and Recovery Plans

Panel 2: Transportation and Emergency Response Issues

Moderator: Daniel Wong, P.E., Tolunay-Wong Engineers, Inc., Houston, Texas.

Panelist (25 min. presentations)

Melody Galland and Peter Sissons, “TxDOT Plans for Storm Response,” Director of Maintenance, TxDOT, Houston, Texas.

Richard Herrera, “METRO Plans for Storm Response,” Emergency Management Officer, METRO, Houston, Texas.

P.E. Board Rules and Emergency Rules During Disasters, Daniel Wong, CEO, Tolunay-Wong Engineers, Inc., Houston, Texas.

Panel Discussion: Challenges in Transportations and Emergency Responses

Lunch Break, Exhibition & Research Posters

Posters on research at **Various Universities along the Gulf Coast Region.**

Companies participate in the **Exhibition.**

12:15 to 12:30 p.m. State Representative, Dennis Paul, “Updates on Issues Related to Disaster Protection and Recovery ” State of Texas Representative-District No. 129, Seabrook, Texas.

12:30 to 12:45 p.m. Judge Matt Sebesta, “Brazoria County Challenges and Preparedness, County Judge, Brazoria County, Angleton, Texas.

12:45 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. K. P. George, “Disaster Related Challenges in Fort Bend County, Texas” County Judge, Fort Bend County, Sugarland, Texas.

Session III: (1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.)

Panel 3 : Coastal Issues, COVID -19 Virus Issues and Fire Disaster Impacts

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

Lieutenant Commander Namon Dimitroff, “Preparing a Port for Heavy Weather,” U.S. Coast Guard Houston-Galveston, Houston, Texas.

Total and Rate of COVID-19 Virus Cases and Deaths Compared to the GDP Impact Around the World, United States, New York and Texas, C. Vipulanandan, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Fire Disaster Impacts, Protection and Disaster Management with New Technologies for Rapid Recovery, C. Vipulanandan, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Panel Discussion: Coastal Protection and Fire Disaster Issues and New Technologies.

Panel 4: Assistant Programs and Port Issues

Moderator: Michael Lacy, P.E., Vice President, KIT Professional Inc., Houston, Texas.

Preparing for “Hurricane FEMA”- Applicant Best Practices for Understanding the Administration and Documentation Requirements Associated with FEMA’s Public Assistant Program,” Adam Ferguson, Senior Consultant, Rostan Solutions, Miami, Florida.

William Erwin Burden, “Harris County Engineering Department –Subdivision Drainage Improvement Projects,” Assistant Director, Harris County Engineering, Houston, Texas.

Microgrid-enabled Resilient Port, Jian Shi, University of Houston, Houston, Texas.

Panel Discussion: Federal Assistant Program and Port Issues

RECEPTION: (2:45 - 3:30 p.m.)

Reception will be held in the Exhibit area (food and drinks). In addition to conference participants, number of city, county and industrial leaders will be invited to participate. This is a good opportunity to network and number of door prizes is waiting for you.

Professional Development Hours (PDH)

Earn up to 5 hours of PDH by attending the conference. Certificates will be issued after the conference.