



December 17, 2021

City of Pearland
3519 Liberty Drive
Pearland, TX 77581

Dear Mayor Cole and City Council Members,

The Pearland Chamber of Commerce was established in 1963 to support the business community of Pearland. During this time, we have maintained a positive working relationship with the City of Pearland while serving as the voice of business for our community.

This letter is to express suggestions for Council to review and consider prior to calling for the Stormwater Fee to be placed on the ballot in May 2022.

Proactive Business Engagement

We believe pro-active engagement with the business community was missing in the decision by Council to adopt a resolution calling for the May 2022 election. In speaking with businesses, most were not aware of the Council meeting in June 2021; even fewer were consulted by decision makers prior to the meeting. By delaying the potential election and having proactive engagement with businesses, City Council can review additional options and better understand the questions and concerns posed by business owners. The Stormwater Fee will have a significant impact on our businesses and their voices should be heard.

Bond Scope

Additionally, we encourage Council to pause the potential election and conduct a bond feasibility study first. The bond scope will outline specific projects that can be placed before the voters for decisions, while clearly outlining the cost to business and setting an end date for the tax. We understand this would delay any vote to November 2022 but would allow additional engagement and a better understanding of an alternate funding option for drainage projects in Pearland.

Partnership with Other Organizations

Drainage is a regional issue and will take regional solutions to generate the drainage improvements that benefit Pearland for decades. During the City Council meeting on December 6, 2021, there were comments made that few conversations have taken place with other agencies including the Corp of



Engineers and Brazoria County Drainage District #4. We respectfully request that prior to calling for an election that is focused on drainage, City Council and City Staff will visit with regional organizations to develop strategies and solutions that benefit all parties and are shared with the business stakeholders in advance of any decisions being rendered. Partners with a key responsibility to be considered include Brazoria County Drainage District #4, Brazoria County, Corp of Engineers Region 6, the Texas General Land Office, and the Harris County Flood Control District.

We thank you for your service and encourage you to consider these requests prior to calling for the vote on the proposed Stormwater Fee.

With respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jim Johnson
President and CEO
Pearland Chamber of Commerce

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Strouhal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A".

Ann Strouhal
Board Chair
Pearland Chamber of Commerce

cc: Clay Pearson, City Manager, City of Pearland