

City of El Lago

Mr. Mario Runco
President – Board of Directors
WCID #50
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El Lago, Texas 77586

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October 9, 2017

Dear Mr. Runco:

No doubt you are aware of the catastrophic flooding within our City caused by Hurricane Harvey. At least 90 homes received flood damage and many areas were inundated where emergency services were unavailable due to streets which flooded and became impassible to citizens and emergency vehicles. The majority of these homes are located in (or adjacent to) areas of El Lago where the streets flood regularly (generally two to three times a year) in any normal year – a long-standing situation which many citizens believe contributed to the devastation caused by Harvey in these same areas. This problem has remained unaddressed for many years.

The reason for my letter is to ascertain WCID #50's official stance on the current and repeated annual flooding situation in these areas – specifically Cedar Lane, Confederate Way, and Bayou View areas. There is also great concern in other regularly flooded streets including the Loch Lake, Lake Bluff and Whitecap areas. As the City of El Lago moves forward with Flood Mitigation efforts for the future – it is key for us to know (and for the citizens to know) if the WCID #50 Board believes the current situation where these areas flood regularly is considered an acceptable condition by the Board. Plainly put – does WCID #50 believe the current annual flooding conditions in El Lago are acceptable or not?

It is the City's position that correcting the current annual flooding issues in our City is the first step in addressing potential future hurricanes and storms which bring excessive rain. If these areas flood regularly now, how can they be expected to function in times of extraordinary rains and tidal influences? Addressing the current flooding is the first step in addressing future flood mitigation efforts.

We ask for your written response to the above question by the end of November 2017, a time period in which we feel is adequate for your Board to debate and respond.

The City will be moving forward with State and Federal programs. However, we feel that mitigation of current flooding issues will require several agencies to participate in the solution and funding of required mitigation efforts. We need to know if WCID #50 believes there is currently a problem that needs to be addressed, and is willing to be accountable for their part in the solution. And we believe the citizens deserve this commitment in writing.

I look forward to your response and am always available for discussions.

Regards,



Mark Briggs
Mayor – City of El Lago