

## INSIDE WILLOW FORK DRAINAGE DISTRICT



Enhancing Our Community  
through Drainage, Parks & Trails

January 2022



### Project Barker Update

More than 100 residents, elected officials, stakeholders and individuals interested in Project Barker—a flood reduction solution that increases flood storage in Barker reservoir—attended a town hall hosted by WFDD in December. “Project Barker aims to help solve a historic problem that has yet to be fixed by excavating Barker reservoir to allow more water to be stored during significant rainfall events,” said Steve Robinson with ABHR, who serves at the District’s attorney. The pilot project will also improve wetlands currently onsite, providing park enhancements and environmental educational opportunities.

WFDD has committed to issuing up to \$10 million of its authorized but unissued bonds toward the \$24 million project, which includes \$1.9 million in grant funding and a \$22.1 million, 30-year interest-free loan from the Texas Water Development Board. “We are asking MUD districts and counties within our boundary to join this effort to prevent future flooding by committing \$12 million toward repayment of this loan,” said WFDD president Wendy Duncan. “Together we can demonstrate that we are a community with the collective force to protect our community from future flooding.” Visit [ProjectBarker.com](http://ProjectBarker.com) to view a video of the town hall.

[Learn More](#)



### Don't Miss H-Town Sports Day at Central Green

WFDD’s Central Green is kicking off its spring programming with the third annual H-Town Sports Day on February 26. Meet and visit with local professional athletes, including Houston Texans Pharoah Brown, NASCAR’s Ty Hymel, the Astros Shooting Stars and Street Team, and Houston Sabercats and Dynamo players, to name a few. Emceed by Tamar and Houston Radio’s DJ Cruise, the event also will include autograph signings, sports activities, giveaways, professional cheerleaders, mascots, games, and sports and nutrition experts offering tips for young athletes. “H-Town Sports Day is one of our most requested events, said Central Green Parks Manager Yvonne Arceneaux. “The players have a great time meeting fans and the crowd loves interacting with them.” Athletes and participating organizations are being confirmed daily, so visit [Central Green on Facebook](#) for the latest event updates.

[Central Green Facebook](#)

### Alec Bray Joins Board of Directors

WFDD would like to welcome Alec Bray, a more than 20-year resident of the District, as its newest director. Bray was appointed December 15 to fill a position recently vacated by Dan Smith, who moved from the District. An avid cyclist, Bray says he especially appreciates the bike path improvements, landscaping and seating arrangements along the bayou and drainage channels. “I have also been impressed with maintenance of the drainage infrastructure and efforts put into parks and cultural experiences at Central Green,” Bray said. “As a recently retired geologist, I now have more time to give back to our community and look forward to using my skills to assist WFDD in drainage improvement projects.” [Read more about WFDD’s board and operation on our website.](#)



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