



Steve Radack, Commissioner

Harris County Precinct 3

**PRECINCT THREE REPORT
JUNE AND JULY 2010**

Sections of the immensely popular Terry Hershey Trail near the Sam Houston Tollway and Memorial Drive area will be closed as needed during the next year or so while an estimated \$4.2 million erosion control project is underway along Buffalo Bayou.

Dates for closures of various sections will be posted as the project moves forward and time permits. Sections will be closed as crews work their way up and down the trail.

Amenities, trail additions and trail extensions will become necessary because the Harris County Toll Road Authority (HCTRA), which is conducting the project, will need ready access to various sections of trail. Crews will need access to those areas during the work and after the project is complete. As a result, the project will result in a new trail to the Deerwood area just south and west of Buffalo Bayou and tie into a pedestrian bridge, a new walkway along a parking lot in that area, a realignment of the existing trail across Rummel Creek and a new low-water crossing there.

HCTRA will provide new landscaping and amenities up and down the trail and the project will help Harris County Precinct Three Commissioner Steve Radack realize his goal of providing access to Terry Hershey Park, 15200 Memorial Drive, from all four corners of the Sam Houston Tollway at Buffalo Bayou.

Work on the project started in June. Anyone with questions about the project or trail closures can call the Precinct Three Park Office at (281) 531-1592.

Commissioner Radack's Office also recently announced it will host a community health fair at the Bear Creek Community Center, 3055 Bear Creek Drive, on Saturday, Aug. 7 from 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Immunizations will be available for those who bring shot records. There will also be fingerprinting identification for children, health screenings, blood pressure checks and other basic medical tests. For more information, please call (281) 859-1566 or (713) 266-8193.

Also in the health care arena, Harris County Commissioners Court, at the urging of Commissioner Radack, recently appointed attorney Lawrence Finder to the Harris County Hospital District Board of Managers. Finder, a partner in a Houston law firm and a former U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Texas, is now serving his second stint on the board. He previously served on the Board of Managers from 1995 until 2003. He was its chairman from 1999 until 2003.

In other news, more than 400 people attended the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Harris County War Memorial in Bear Creek Pioneers Park. The crowd was one of the biggest to attend the event in its 25-year history.

Attendees heard a speech by Harris County Attorney Vince Ryan, a retired U.S. Army reservist, officer and Vietnam War veteran who also served during the 1990 invasion of Panama. The crowd also enjoyed military drills.

The names of Harris County war dead added to the war memorial wall this year were also publicly unveiled that day, including two etched into the World War II section and several placed on the section for the ongoing war in Afghanistan.

In recent years, because of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, new names have been added to the marble monuments before the solemn Memorial Day Ceremony. Names of military men and women from Harris County who lost their lives in previous conflicts are also added to the wall as they are brought to the attention of Commissioner Radack's office.

In construction news, base repair and overlay of several roads and parking lots in Bear Creek Pioneers Park is complete, as is the resurfacing of the jogging trails in the area of War Memorial Drive. Trails and sidewalks under construction in Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza Park are about 90 percent complete. Construction continues at the new Westside Senior Education Center and, at nearby Congressman Bill Archer Park, a concrete pad for skateboards and a sidewalk are complete.

The base repair, milling and asphalt overlay of Becker Road and Peek Road is about 20 percent complete. That contract was awarded to Forde Construction Co. on April 13 for \$746,413.00. It includes Becker Road from 700 feet south of US 290 to Katy Hockley Road and Peek Road from Clay Road to FM 529.

In other transportation news, the following projects are now listed as complete:

- Mueschke Road from about one mile north of US 290 to Sandy Hill Circle - Construction of a four-lane concrete boulevard.
- Tuckerton Road from Oak Trace Island to Queenston - Construction of a two-lane concrete roadway to complete a four-lane concrete boulevard.
- Kieth Harrow Boulevard from Westfield Village to Fry – Construction of a two-lane concrete roadway to complete a four-lane concrete boulevard.
- Tuckerton at Barker Cypress – Intersection improvement project includes new westbound left turn lane and removal and replacement of concrete pavement to improve grade differentials.

Projects complete with the exception of final punch list items:

- Katy Fort Bend County Road from North of Franz to North of Morton Ranch Road – Construction of a four-lane concrete boulevard with new traffic signal at Katy Fort Bend County Road and Morton Ranch Road.
- Kluge Road from Huffmeister to Little Cypress Creek – Construction of a four-lane concrete boulevard.

Construction Projects underway:

- North Eldridge from north of Cypress North Houston to north of Cypress Creek – 50 percent complete. Construction of the future southbound lanes to complete a four-lane concrete boulevard.
- Morton Road from Mason to Raintree Village – 40 percent complete. Construction of a four-lane concrete boulevard.
- Cypress Rose Hill from Manor Bend to Little Cypress Creek – 40 percent complete. Construction of a four-lane concrete boulevard.
- Greenhouse Road from FM 529 to Longenbaugh – 30 percent complete. Construction of the two future northbound lanes to complete a standard four-lane concrete boulevard with new traffic signal at the intersection of Greenhouse and Longenbaugh.
- Bauer Road Bridge at Little Cypress Creek – 30 percent complete. Construction of a new two-lane bridge.

As always, Precinct Three encourages comments and questions. You can mail them to Commissioner Radack's office at 1001 Preston, 9th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 or email us at pct3@hctx.net.