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celebrate. protect. restore.

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Bayou Preservation Association's Mission is to Celebrate, Protect, and Restore all of the Houston region's waterways. As such, we have concerns regarding the proposed project to raise the elevation of Interstate 10 between Heights Blvd and Interstate 45.

While flooding is one of the biggest issues facing our region, careful planning and consideration must be undertaken when implementing flood mitigation projects. While flooding of a major interstate highway is concerning, flooding at this location has only occurred during the region's most intense flood events, flooding the roadway for roughly 24 hours on each occurrence, and is not a frequent occurrence.

Bayou Preservation Association is chiefly concerned with the health of the aquatic and riparian habitats in the proposed project site. Construction of this scale, at the proposed proximity, has the potential to produce adverse impacts to the health of regional ecosystems. The identified and proposed detention location is currently located on a dense and established forested area that provides habitat for wildlife as well as noise abatement and aesthetics for surrounding neighborhoods along White Oak Bayou.

If selected, how will this project replace or mitigate the lost riparian habitat? Best practices in nature-based solutions have shown the outcomes and benefits of mitigated habitat are no substitute for an established one.

We ask TxDOT to reconsider the destruction of this habitat or to incorporate appropriate community engagement and regional specific mitigation measures if the project, as proposed, is deemed essential for the health and safety of residents.

A healthy bayou system is also an asset in flood mitigation, and one that should be just as strongly considered as large infrastructure and detention projects.

Grant Moss, Master of Science, Bayou Preservation Association, Program Manager

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Our Mission is to celebrate, protect and restore the natural richness of all our bayous and streams.
Our Vision is a network of healthy bayous, streams and watersheds.