



NEWS Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TEXAS A&M TO ASSIST ROCKPORT IN HURRICANE RECOVERY EFFORTS; FIRST COMMUNITY MEETING AUGUST 16

ROCKPORT, TX – The community is invited to the kick-off of the Texas Target Communities Program (TTC) on Thursday, August 16 at 6 p.m. at the Rockport Service Center, located at 2751 SH 35 Bypass. Rockport was one of two communities selected by Texas A&M University's TTC program as a Community Partner for the 2018-2019 academic school year. Hitchcock, Texas was the other designee.

TTC is an award-winning service learning program and university-wide community engagement initiative, where in faculty, professional staff and students from Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning and the Public Partnership & Outreach efforts of Texas A&M University join to provide technical assistance in developing locally tailored planning, design and development strategies. The major focus for Rockport will be the development of a comprehensive plan to guide the growth and development for the next 20 -30 years, which would include a Future Land Use Map, and a focused study on Downtown Rockport, contingent on the approval of a grant from the American Planning Association Foundation.

The community task force will have access to subject matter experts from the academic fields and affiliated state agencies at Texas A&M University; while university faculty, staff and

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students receive real world experience and information on effects of effective planning. TTC provides each community task force with a point of contact for facilitation, data to inform strategy selection, designs for alternative scenarios, consultation on implementation and a written planning document, which includes full documentation of the process and planning that can be used by community leadership to advance direction setting and apply for appropriate implementation funding.

TTC's work would not be possible without the Institute for Sustainable Communities and will work alongside other programs including Texas A&M University at Galveston, the Texas Rural Leadership Program, TX Sea Grant, the Community Resilience Collaborative, College of Architecture, the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning, the Center for Heritage Conservation, and the TX Chapter of the American Planning Association.

For more information about the project, please contact Amanda Torres, Community Planner, at (361) 790-1125.