

SAM HARLESS

State Representative District 126
August Newsletter



Texas House of Representatives



District 126

**News
and
Information**



THE INTERIM BEGINS

The summer heat has us all watching the thermometer lately while we watch for summer storms and hurricanes simultaneously. Back home in the District we have been active, meeting with community leaders and different civic groups. We have also been preparing for the grand opening of our District Office on Cypresswood.

District Office Opens

Our new district office is open to serve constituents in District 126 and we are located at 6630 Cypresswood Drive Suite 150. It is located at the Northeast corner of Cypresswood Drive and North Greenfield Dr, across from the Atria Assisted Living Center. The office is staffed by our District Director, James Cook. The office phone is 281-251-0194. He will

be representing me at Chamber of Commerce functions, attending meetings and events that I cannot make, so get to know him and feel free to stop by **YOUR** district office.

Our planned "Grand Opening" and ribbon cutting is September 13th at 12:30.

Flood and Disaster Related Activities

Texas Water Development Board

I attended the Texas Water Development Board's Stakeholder Workshop in Tomball on August 9th, to stay up to speed on what projects the TWDB and the State were working on that could impact our area. Because we continue to be vulnerable, this issue remains among the very top concerns by our area residents. The Stakeholder meeting was a great opportunity for residents to listen to Kathleen Jackson, an engineer and TWDB Board member talk about their approach to their projects.

This effort is a crucial pice of the puzzle for solving water issues for Texas' future.

[Texas Water Development Board Website](#)



Stakeholder Presentation

Flood Control & Bond Project Update

North Houston Association Annual Update

The North Houston Association held their monthly breakfast on August 28th. Russ Poppe, the Executive Director for the Harris County Flood Control District provided an Annual Update on Flood Control and Bond Projects. The Flood Control District was great to work with during the session and their efforts were important in our flood control legislation like House Bill 3782 that we passed to assist in removing obstacles on flood control property.

[Harris County Flood Control Website](#)

I invited Chairman Dade Phelan from our State Affairs Committee to speak at the meeting about Proposition 8 and its importance to disaster funding in Texas. The measure creates a Flood Infrastructure Fund independent of the general revenue fund in the State Treasury. The fund will be administered by the Texas Water Development Board. The



fund is designed to help with assisting in the financing of drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects by providing significant funding for flood control and mitigation project across Texas.

[Proposed 2019 Amendment Analysis](#)



Bill Signing With Governor Abbott

I was excited to have Governor Abbott personally sign House Bill 3782. It was passed to assist Harris County in expediting removing property and structures built on Flood Control right of way areas that could impede the flow of drain water. Our sponsor in the Senate, Senator Carol Alvarado attended the signing as well. The law is estimated to save Harris County millions in legal fees and months of time in getting the rights of way cleared for maintenance.



Speaking Around The District

North Houston Association / Legislative Update



Early in the interim, on June 18th, I was on a panel that spoke at the North Houston Association's Legislative Update with Senator Brandon Creighton of the Woodlands area.

The event was moderated by our good friend and Chancellor of Lone Star College, Dr. Steve Head. It was a great opportunity to give our first real overview of the last legislative session and our accomplishments.

Restoring America Event

I was one of the guest speakers for the August 26th "Restoring America Event, held at The Glorious Way Church on Champion Forest Dr. I was honored to speak with Congressman Dan Crenshaw and his wife Tara, along with our Precinct 4 County Commissioner, Jack Cagle, and

Representative Valoree Swanson from District 150.

These local events give us a great opportunity to engage with our constituents and discuss the local issues that they care about and affect them directly.



Champions Sunrise Rotary Club

On August 27th, I was the guest speaker for the Champions Sunrise Rotary and gave an overview of the 86th Session, highlighting our accomplishments in Public Education and Taxpayer Transparency Reforms. I covered the bills we filed for our constituency as well as our working relationship with our county leaders.



Cypress Tea Party

I was invited to speak to the Cypress Tea Party on August 24th. They event was well attended. They meet at the Spring Creek Barbecue on Spring Cypress and 290. The vent was well attended and I gave a brief overview of the successes we had during the 86th session and our local and constituent related bills.

In The District

Greater Tomball Area Chamber of Commerce

Transportation and Mobility Committee

2nd Tuesday of each month
Meeting Location:
29201 Quinn Rd.
Tomball, Texas 77375
Upstairs Conference Room



Tomball Government Affairs
Committee

**Cy-Fair Chamber of Commerce
Transportation\Government Affairs
Committee**



The committee meets the 1st Thursday of each month to discuss governmental issues that confront their Cy-Fair area. They meet at the Chamber offices located at 8711 Highway 6 North, Ste. 120 Houston, TX 77095.

[Cy-Fair Chamber Website](#)

September's Speaker is Rep Jon Rosenthal.



[Visit the Houston NW Chamber Website](#)

**Houston NW Chamber
Public Safety Forum**

Public Safety Forum Meeting: June 27th
8:30 am - 9:30 am
Champions Emergency Services District
12730 Champion Forest Dr.
Houston, TX 77066

[Visit our House of Representative Website:](#)

Contact Us

Capitol Office Phone - 512-463-0496

District Office Phone - 281-251-0194

District Office Address - 6630 Cypresswood Dr #150

Spring, Tx 77379

Ron Hickman
Chief of Staff

[Email Ron](#)

Ashley Hyten
Legislative Director
[Email Ashley](#)

James Cook
District Director
[Email James](#)



[Email Sam](#)

