

Bridging Diverse Knowledge Systems to Address Flood Risk in Northeast Houston Communities

Agenda

April 26-27, 2023

Hyatt Place Houston/Galleria
5252 W Alabama St., Houston, TX 77056

For those joining virtually:

Zoom: <https://nasem.zoom.us/j/91450016734?pwd=V1l3NG52ZnBEZVdmdmISNGt5K0dKQT09>
Meeting ID: 914 5001 6734
Password: 848184
Or call: 470 250 9358

Purpose To convene a diverse group of community stakeholders (e.g., academic researchers, community-based organizations) to share diverse data sets and knowledge in order to identify equitable solutions to mitigate flooding in Northeast Houston.

- Goals**
1. Explore how diverse data sources could provide a more comprehensive understanding of flooding and its impact on communities in Northeast Houston.
 2. Identify community knowledge gaps and potential solutions to better prepare for and mitigate future flood risks.
 3. Explore potential follow-on activities and collaborations with researchers and community partners in Northeast Houston.
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Wednesday April 26, 2023

Today's workshop will mainly focus on research efforts taking place in Northeast Houston related to three topics: environmental hazards, flood impacts on mental health, and communicating risk. Workshop attendees will identify knowledge gaps and potential solutions to address challenges associated with these topics.

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM **WELCOMING REMARKS**

SCOTT HEMMERLING (*Chair, Texas Workshop Planning Committee*)
Senior Research Geographer
The Water Institute of the Gulf | Baton Rouge, LA

DORIS BROWN
Co-Director of Community Research, Organizing, and Special Events
West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM **BRIEF INTRODUCTIONS**

- *Facilitator:* **CHARLENE MILLIKEN**, Senior Program Manager, Gulf Research Program, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
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10:30 – 10:45 AM **SETTING THE STAGE: The National Academies-West Street Recovery Partnership: Bridging Knowledge Systems for Collective Understanding of Flooding and its Effects on Northeast Houston Communities**

CHARLENE MILLIKEN

Senior Program Manager, Gulf Research Program

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine | Washington, DC

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM **PANEL: Effects of Environmental Hazards on Communities in Northeast Houston (+Q&A)**

- Moderator: **JESSICA SIMMS**, Associate Program Officer, Gulf Research Program, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

Setting the Stage: Northeast Houston

DORIS BROWN

Co-Director of Community Research, Organizing, and Special Events

West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

Panelists

JAYAJIT CHAKRABORTY

Professor of Geography, Department of Sociology & Anthropology

Founding Director, Socio-Environmental & Geospatial Analysis (SEGA) Lab

University of Texas at El Paso | El Paso, TX

GARRETT SANSOM

Assistant Professor, Environmental and Occupational Health, School of Public Health

Texas A&M University | College Station, TX

INYANG UWAK

Director of Research and Policy

Air Alliance Houston | Houston, TX

Discussion questions

- What research is still needed to understand the effects of environmental hazards on communities in Northeast Houston?
- How could the community be more involved in this work?
- What actions could researchers and the community take to reduce environmental hazards and health disparities?
- What barriers do communities experience accessing the data they need to improve health disparities? What can be done to overcome these barriers?
- What are the barriers to conducting environmental hazards research in Northeast Houston? What could be done to overcome these barriers?

12:15 – 1:00 PM **LUNCH**

Mapping activity: Ground truthing and Interpreting the Household Survey Results

1:00 – 2:30 PM **PANEL: Impacts of Flooding on Mental Health Northeast Houston Communities (+Q&A)**

- **Moderator: MONICA SCHOCH-SPANNA** (*Member, Texas Planning Committee*), Senior Scholar at the Center for Health Security, Senior Scientist in the Department of Environmental Health and Engineering, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University

Setting the Stage: Northeast Houston

DORIS BROWN

Co-Director of Community Research, Organizing, and Special Events
West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

FRANCISCA FLORES

Program Officer, Gulf Research Program
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine | Washington, DC

Panelists

IBRAHEEM KARAYE

Assistant Professor of Population Health
Hofstra University | Hempstead, NY

OMOLOLA E. ADEPOJU

Clinical Associate Professor, Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine
Director of Research, Humana Integrated Health Sciences Institute
University of Houston | Houston, TX

RACHEL ROY

Non-Communicable Disease Manager
Harris County Public Health | Houston, TX

ANA ZANGENEH

Communicable & Emerging Diseases Manager
Harris County Public Health | Houston, TX

Discussion questions

- What is mental health (e.g., clinical diagnoses or a sense of mental, psychological, or emotional well-being)? What is the universe of concern?
 - What research is still needed to understand the impacts of flooding and/or other disasters on mental health in Northeast Houston?
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- What actions could researchers and the community take to address mental health issues in Northeast Houston?
 - What are the barriers to conducting research or working on this topic? What could be done to overcome these barriers?
 - How could the community be more involved in this work?
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2:30 – 2:45 PM **BREAK**

2:45 – 4:15 PM **PANEL: Communicating Flood Risk (+Q&A)**

- *Moderator: SCOTT HEMMERLING (Chair, Texas Workshop Planning Committee), Senior Research Geographer, The Water Institute of the Gulf*

Setting the Stage: Northeast Houston

FRANCISCA FLORES

Program Officer, Gulf Research Program

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine | Washington, DC

BEN HIRSCH

Co-Director of Organizing, Research and Development

West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

Panelists

SHIH KAI HUANG

Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Management

Jacksonville State University | Anniston, AL

TOM MUNOZ

Deputy Director and Emergency Management Coordinator, Office of
Emergency Management

City of Houston | Houston, TX

PRANAVESH PANAKKAL

Advisor, Padgett Research Group

Rice University | Houston, TX

MALINI ROY

Research Assistant

Hazard Reduction & Recovery Center

Texas A&M University | College Station, TX

Discussion questions

- What are the research gaps or needs?
 - What approaches could be used to communicate disaster risk (e.g., one-way, two-way, collaborative, co-production approaches to engage the community)?
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- What actions could researchers, practitioners, and/or the community take to communicate flood risk in Northeast Houston?
- What are the barriers to conducting research or working on this topic? What can be done to overcome these barriers?

4:15 – 4:45 PM **BREAKOUT SESSION: Where do we go from here?**

Discussion questions

- What are the data telling us?
- How do these topics intersect?
- What are potential opportunities for future collaborations in Northeast Houston?
- What other efforts could be leveraged (from academia, community organizations, local government)? Who else is working on these topics?

4:45 – 5:00 PM **REPORT BACK**

5:00 PM **WRAP-UP & ADJOURN**

CHARLENE MILLIKEN

Senior Program Manager, Gulf Research Program

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine | Washington, DC

DORIS BROWN

Co-Director of Community Research, Organizing, and Special Events

West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

Thursday
April 27, 2023

Today's workshop will focus on existing data, current efforts, and potential solutions to address flood risk in Northeast Houston.

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM **BREAKFAST**

9:00 AM – 9:10 AM **WELCOMING REMARKS/CHARGE FOR THE DAY**

SCOTT HEMMERLING (*Chair, Texas Workshop Planning Committee*)

Senior Research Geographer

The Water Institute of the Gulf | Baton Rouge, LA

DORIS BROWN

Co-Director of Community Research, Organizing, and Special Events

West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

BEN HIRSCH

Co-Director of Community Research, Organizing, and Special Events
West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

9:10 – 9:30 AM **WARM-UP ACTIVITY**

- *Facilitator:* **JESSICA SIMMS**, Associate Program Officer, Gulf Research Program, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

9:30 – 9:45 AM **SETTING THE STAGE: The National Academies-West Street Recovery Partnership: Bridging Knowledge Systems for Collective Understanding of Flooding and its Effects on Northeast Houston Communities**

- *Moderator:* **CHARLENE MILLIKEN**, Senior Program Manager, Gulf Research Program, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

FRANCISCA FLORES

Program Officer, Gulf Research Program
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine | Washington, DC

BEN HIRSCH

Co-Director of Organizing, Research and Development
West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

9:45 – 11:15 AM **PANEL: Understanding Flood Risk in Northeast Houston (+Q&A)**

- *Moderator:* **MONICA SCHOCH-SPANNA** (*Member, Texas Planning Committee*), Senior Scholar at the Center for Health Security, Senior Scientist in the Department of Environmental Health and Engineering, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University

Setting the Stage: Northeast Houston

DORIS BROWN

Co-Director of Community Research, Organizing, and Special Events
West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

COURTNEY THOMPSON

Associate Program Officer, Gulf Research Program
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine | Washington, DC

Panelists

SUSAN ROGERS

Director, Community Design Resource Center
University of Houston | Houston, TX

RASHIDA CALLENDER

Project Manager
Texas Flood Registry | Houston, TX

BRODERICK BAGERT

Lead Organizer

Together New Orleans | New Orleans, LA

DONNA PILSON

Executive Director

Rebuild Bay County | Panama City, FL

11:15 – 11:30 AM **BREAK**

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM **ACTIVITY: Community Resilience Hubs**

Discussion questions

- The City of Houston plans to develop neighborhood resilience hubs (a.k.a., lily pads) across the city, and is currently working with partners in Kashmere Gardens to pilot a lily pad.
- Brainstorming a West Street Recovery resilience hub:
 - Who would the hub serve?
 - How could the hub be used?
 - What services could the hub provide pre-, during, and post-disaster and outside of a disaster context over the next one, three, and five years?
 - What capabilities does the hub need to have (e.g., electricity, storage, communications, etc.)?

12:30 – 1:15 PM **LUNCH**

Mapping Activity: Ground truthing and Interpreting the Household Survey Results

1:15 – 2:45 PM **PANEL: Flooding and Drainage Infrastructure in Northeast Houston Communities (+Q&A)**

- *Moderator: SCOTT HEMMERLING (Chair, Texas Planning Committee), Senior Research Scientist, The Water Institute of the Gulf*

Setting the Stage: Northeast Houston

BRENDA TIJERINA

West Street Recovery | Houston, TX

Panelists

NASIR GHARAIBEH

Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering

Texas A&M University | College Station, TX

EDITH WILSON

President & CEO
Rock Whisperer LLC | Tulsa, OK

CONSTANCE C. LUO

Director of Language Justice Partnerships
Tecolotl | Chicago, IL

JEFFREY SUPAK

Executive Director
WaterWise Gulf South | New Orleans, LA

KATHERINE PREVOST

President/ED
Bunny Friend Neighborhood Association | New Orleans, LA

DANA BROWN

President
Dana Brown & Associates | New Orleans, LA

2:45 – 3:00 PM **BREAK**

3:00 – 4:15 PM **BREAK OUT SESSION: Identifying Flood Mitigation Solutions and Brainstorming Potential Pathways Forward**

Discussion questions

- What assets and strengths can the community leverage to prepare for or mitigate flood risk?
- What are potential short-, medium-, and long-term strategies or solutions the community could implement to address flooding?
- What is needed to implement these solutions (e.g., funding, skills, data, research, other resources)?

4:15 – 4:45 PM **REPORT OUT**

– *Facilitator:* **CHARLENE MILLIKEN**, Senior Program Manager, Gulf Research Program, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

4:45 – 5:00 PM **CLOSING REMARKS**

SCOTT HEMMERLING (*Chair, Texas Planning Committee*)

Senior Research Scientist
The Water Institute of the Gulf | Baton Rouge & New Orleans, LA

BEN HIRSCH

Co-Director of Organizing, Research, and Development
West Street Recovery | Northeast Houston, TX
