

4/10/2012 PUBLIC HEARING

Transportation, Technology & Infrastructure Council Committee

Houston City Council

Texas Port Recycling, 8945 Manchester Street

MSD # 2011-039-TPR

Good Morning. Today's public hearing is to consider a Municipal Setting Designation or MSD sought by Texas Port Recycling, for their site located at 8945 Manchester Street. You'll recall that an MSD protects public health by designating a particular parcel, beneath which contaminated groundwater is prohibited from use as potable water through a deed restriction. It is a state program that is administered by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, but requires local support.

Articles 13 of Chapter 47 of the Code of Ordinances provides the City's process to either support, or not support, a party's MSD application to the State. As part of that process, today we are holding this public hearing.

The Texas Port Recycling site was developed in 1913 by Lone Star Cement, which operated as a cement manufacturing facility until the late 1980s. The site currently is a metals recycling facility. Four groundwater plumes are

located on the southern portion of the site consisting of Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons, benzene, and methylene chloride. A licensed Professional Geologist has certified that the area of contamination is delineated, stable and in most cases decreasing in concentration.

On March 1st written notices in English and Spanish were mailed to property owners within a half mile of the site, and to water well owners and operators within five miles of the site. Our department then hosted a public meeting on April 5th at the Hartman Community Center. A copy of the application is online at the City's website, and a hard copy is available at the Park Place Regional Library.

Based on the information supplied in the application, input from various City Departments, and input at the public meeting, my Director has requested this public hearing. Depending upon the outcome of today's hearing, the Director of Public Works and Engineering will request that council take action to adopt an ordinance to support this MSD application. The ordinance will include all elements required by state law and Article 13 of Chapter 47 of the Code of Ordinances. The applicant is present today as required by the ordinance, and staff along with the applicant are available if you have any questions. Thank you.