



Tommy Wan

Tiffany D. Thomas
Houston City Council Member, District F

June 22, 2022

RE: Houston City Council District F on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Dear Texas Sunset Advisory Commission:

The Houston City Council District F is committed to just environmental policies and regulations. Equitable permits, policies, and proper emission tracking are paramount not only for safety in District F, but for council districts B, I, and E on the east end that are heavily impacted by concrete batches, creosote contamination, industrial pollutants, and hazardous lots.

Your attention to providing quality interventions and solutions is critical to the quality of life not only in District F, one of the most diverse communities, but for our entire city.

The EPA highlights vulnerable neighborhoods caused by hazardous substances and superfund sites in Fifth Ward, Galena Park, Kashmere Gardens, Harrisburg/Manchester, and countless other communities. Particularly in District F, residents are impacted by unhealthy air quality prevalent in zip codes 77036 and 77099. Constituents were also affected by hazardous superfund sites in the district such as Crystal Chemical Co. on 3502 Rogerdale Road, which contaminates the community with Arsenic, Phenolic, and Amine Herbicides through 24.4 Acres. The city is plagued with at least a dozen federal Superfund sites, with many other toxic lots managed by the TCEQ. The effects of these sites are exacerbated by dangerous and unpredictable floods. The district also experienced Chromium-6 lead contaminant in our water system, with the highest level observed as 8.0 parts per billion.

The District F office emphasizes a need for closer collaboration with government entities within the City of Houston, especially with council districts and local officials as per *ISSUE ONE* of the Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report of 2022. Thorough consulting, cross-examination of constituent cases and localized investments in environmental monitoring ensure that policies and regulations enacted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality are applied equitably to all neighborhoods within the city—our constituency depends on it.

With regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tiffany D. Thomas".

The Honorable Council Member Tiffany D. Thomas

Housing & Community Affairs, Chair | Budget & Fiscal Affairs | Ethics, Elections & Council Governance
Regulations & Neighborhoods Affairs | Public Safety & Homeland Security