

HCMUD 136 NOVEMBER REPORT

NEIL M. POLANSKY, PRESIDENT

www.hcmud136.org

The November meeting capped off an interesting several months for your HCMUD 136 board of directors. Several atypical issues we've been wrestling with include district costs related to conversion to surface water, customer rate increases related to surface water conversion, and assumption of community trash and solid waste services by the MUD.

GARBAGE COLLECTION TO BE ASSUMED BY HCMUD 136: By the time you read this HCMUD 136 will have inked a new three year contract for solid waste services with Texas Trash. Beginning February 1, 2010 Texas Trash will handle both garbage collection and recycling, offering curbside services twice a week (Tuesdays and Fridays- recycling on Fridays). We're especially excited that Texas Trash will be recycling plastics numbered #1-7 as well as most glass items. They will provide us with new recycling bins, and you should be able to use your old refuse containers for garbage.

Beginning February 1, 2010 you will no longer receive a quarterly garbage collection bill from the DVCA/Allied, replaced instead by a monthly charge on your HCMUD 136 bill.

The monthly contract amount for the first year of service is \$11.90 for garbage and \$3.15 for recycling, for a total of \$15.05 per month, which is a decrease from the current contract. Your MUD 136 directors worked hard to get the best deal for district residents, and with added competition for garbage collection, we are the beneficiary of some very good rates. We were also successful in deleting the normal automatic anniversary date increase present in most garbage contracts. We will send out additional information as we get closer to the transition date, and will post the new garbage collection contract on our website.

SURFACE WATER CONVERSION: There's no way to sugar coat this, folks. Water rates are going up due to the state mandated conversion to surface water. Although HCMUD 136 has spent nearly \$450,000 on infrastructure improvements that were required to facilitate conversion to surface water (hopefully reimbursed at 100% to the district by March 2010) the West Harris County Regional Water Authority (www.whcrwa.com) is increasing its base rate for surface water to \$1.25 per thousand gallons effective January 1, and that rate is headed upwards to \$1.55 (2011) and \$1.85 (2012) per thousand gallons. HCMUD 136 has no control over the rate WHCRWA charges for surface water, but we will be looking at our base water rates to see if money saved by not operating our water wells can translate to a reduction in our base fees. We attend the monthly WHCRWA meetings to insure representation and that our voice is heard on matters affecting our customers.

DITCH CLEANING: Kudos to the Harris County Flood Control, District for a great job in getting the ditch scraped and maintained. Hopefully this will decrease downstream flooding within the district. All that's left appears to be some seeding and/or hydro- mulching, and replacement of sidewalks damaged by heavy equipment. HCMUD 136 has inspected applicable storm sewer infrastructure in the patio homes and repairs are being made where necessary. Overall the patio home storm sewers are in great shape (they are the only storm sewers under control of HCMUD 136).

Our regular meeting is the second Thursday of each month @ 6pm in the DVCA recreation center. See you then!