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**November 2, 2018**
**Barker & Addicks Reservoir Tour**
Tour lead by USACE Resident Engineer Brandon Smolinsky and Project Engineer Ed Chang

**November 7, 2018**
**General Membership Meeting**
Keynote Speaker Mr. Fred Leong, PE with Texas Department of Transportation on the I-69 Southwest/I-610 West Loop Interchange Reconstruction

**November 12, 2018**
**12th Annual Golf Tournament**
Due to weather conditions, the golf tournament was cancelled

**December 6, 2018**
**General Membership Meeting**
Keynote Speaker Jedediah Greenfield, the Deputy Assistant Director at Houston Public Works
On Friday November 2\textsuperscript{nd}, a group of SAME Houston/Galveston Branch members were greeted by USACE Resident Engineer Brandon Smolinsky and his Project Engineer Ed Chang at the construction trailer for the Barker Reservoir/Dam. Brandon and Ed gave us a brief PowerPoint presentation that included a chronological history of the reservoirs, details on the current construction plans, and the year to date update on current construction timelines and budget. After a short safety briefing, we headed out to the site. We first got to visit the Barker Dam construction site and then made our way along the reservoir wall about a mile to the Addicks Dam site. Both sites were very active with crews working double time due to the beautiful weather, which has been hard to come by lately. We observed the construction crew working for about half an hour and then made our way back to the construction trailers to conclude the tour.
On November 7, 2018, Mr. Fred Leong, PE, with Texas Department of Transportation, presented an update on the I-69 Southwest/I-610 West Loop Interchange Reconstruction project. The purpose of the project is to improve safety, mobility and reduce congestion. The one-lane director connections, lack of shoulders, low vertical clearances, and below minimum sight distances are a few of the issues that will be addressed with the project. Major weaving through this interchange will be addressed also.

The project has a 6 year construction schedule and expect to be completed in 2024. The construction schedule will be a seven-day work week, phased lane closures and night time and weekend freeway closures. They will use the Smart Work Zone Technology to monitor real time data and relay messages on roadside message boards. Detour updates can be checked on Drivetexas.org or Houston TranStar. TxDOT will also hire off duty officers to help with traffic. The estimated cost for the project is $300 million.

To learn more about the project, visit the website www.txdot.gov and search I-69/I-610 Interchange or contact Danny.Perez@txdot.gov.
December General Meeting
By: Yvonne Rivera

Jedediah Greenfield, the Deputy Assistant Director at Houston Public Works for the City of Houston, joined us on December 6 for our last general meeting of the year. He discussed how Hurricane Harvey impacted City of Houston homes and facilities and provided updates on how the City is mitigating future events. He presented an analysis of how many homes have had repetitive losses and indicated that some homes may be elevated and some may be purchased by the City and left as green space. In addition, there have been several more projects that include detention and channel improvements and diversions. At this meeting, we also voted for our 2019 officers.

12th Annual Golf Tournament
By: Tom Martens

Unfortunately, the 12th Annual Kenneth J Haveman golf tournament scheduled on November 12 was a victim of Mother Nature. The golf course called it off about an hour before tee time due to the wet conditions. Those that showed up were treated with a lunch buffet and a goodie bag that included a sporty SAME golf umbrella.

Thanks to everyone for the Fisher House donations that were collected at the December Meeting!
UPCOMING EVENTS

January 2019

January 15th
STEM METRO Railway Operation Center Tour
The Houston-Galveston Post will hold its 5th annual METRO Railway Operation Tour for St. Ambrose Catholic School 6th graders.

January 16th
Installation Banquet
The Houston-Galveston Post will hold its annual installation banquet on Wednesday, January 16, 2019, at the Hilton Post Oak, with Keynote Speaker Brigadier General Paul E. Owen, P.E., Commander of the USACE Southwestern Division. The banquet will include the 2019 Post Officers Induction Ceremony.

National Events

For More information on upcoming National events such as elections, scholarship applications, and STEM camps, please visit the SAME National’s calendar: http://www.same.org/calendar