

## NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING ON TWO DRAFT TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS FOR INDICATOR BACTERIA IN CHOCOLATE BAYOU

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has made available for public comment two draft Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for indicator bacteria in Chocolate Bayou, of the San Jacinto–Brazos Coastal Basin within Brazoria and Fort Bend counties.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide the public an opportunity to comment on the draft TMDLs in two assessment units: Chocolate Bayou Tidal 1107\_01 and Chocolate Bayou Above Tidal 1108\_01.

A TMDL is a detailed water quality assessment that provides the scientific foundation to allocate pollutant loads in a certain body of water in order to restore and maintain designated uses. The commission requests comments on each of the major components of the TMDL: problem definition, endpoint identification, source analysis, linkage analysis, margin of safety, pollutant load allocation, seasonal variation, public participation, and implementation and reasonable assurance.

After the public comment period, TCEQ may revise the draft TMDLs if appropriate. The final TMDLs will then be considered by the commission for adoption. Upon adoption, the final TMDLs and a response to all comments received will be made available on TCEQ's website. The TMDLs will then be submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 office for final action. Upon approval by EPA, the TMDLs will be certified as an update to the State of Texas Water Quality Management Plan.

**Public Meeting and Testimony.** The public meeting for the draft TMDLs will be held at the **Alvin Public Library, 105 S Gordon St, Alvin, TX 77511, on November 13, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.**

**Please periodically check**

***<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/nav/chocolate-bayou> before the meeting date for meeting related updates.***

During this meeting, individuals will have the opportunity to present oral statements. An agency staff member will give a brief presentation at the start of the meeting and will be available to answer questions before and after all oral statements have been received.

**Written Comments.** Please choose one of the methods provided to submit your written comments. Written comments on the draft TMDLs may be submitted to Jazmyn Milford, Water Quality Planning Division, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, MC 203, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas, 78711-3087 or faxed to *fax4808@tceq.texas.gov*. Electronic comments may be submitted to <https://tceq.commentinput.com/>. File size restrictions may apply to comments submitted via the TCEQ Public Comments system. All written comments must be received at TCEQ by midnight on November 30, 2023 and should reference *Two Total*

*Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria in Chocolate Bayou.*

For further information regarding the draft TMDLs, please contact Jazmyn Milford at [Jazmyn.Milford@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Jazmyn.Milford@tceq.texas.gov). The draft TMDLs can be obtained via TCEQ's website at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/waterquality/tmdl/nav/chocolate-bayou>.

Persons with disabilities who have special communication or other accommodation needs who are planning to participate in the meeting should contact Jazmyn Milford at [Jazmyn.Milford@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:Jazmyn.Milford@tceq.texas.gov). Requests should be made as far in advance as possible.