

Annexation Update

The City of Aransas Pass continues to attempt to move forward on annexation. They have put annexation into 4 Phases. If it moves forward the canal communities (City by the Sea, La Buena Vista, Islands of Rockport, Bahia Bay and parts of Palm Harbor) would be in Phase 4. The Citizens for Responsible Annexation which BBPOA is a part of continues to fight the annexation. During the recent Texas state legislative session, a bill was passed and signed by the Governor that went into effect May 24, 2019 that would prevent forced annexation such as cities have now. Aransas Pass in an apparent attempt to circumvent that law met in a City Council meeting May 17, 2019 and passed a resolution (2019-893) that directed the City Manager to develop a Service plan for approximately 21,000 acres which represents the balance of land within the Aransas Pass ETJ including the canal communities.

The lawyer for the Rockport Terminals has filed a Petition called a Quo Warrantary that basically says that the City Council and the Mayor have acted wrongly during this process and asked that the Resolution 2019-893 be voided. In addition he asked that the Aransas County Commissioners support this petition by directing the Aransas County District Attorney to participate. At an Aransas County Commissioners Court meeting July 25th the Commissioners agreed to support the Aransas County District Attorney in pursuing this petition. The Aransas County District Attorney told the audience that she would pursue all avenues to resolve the issue. The Commissioners cannot force the Aransas County District Attorney to take any action, but they have publicly showed that they support her actions. Commissioner Chaney who represents us is the lead Commissioner on this and has done a lot of work for us. To date the District Clerk has not done the necessary paperwork to file the lawsuit.

Richard Hyde, Committee Chair