

FLOOD PROTECTION STRATEGIES: INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

DAY 1 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025

8:30 – 9:00	REGISTRATION & COFFEE (THE COMMONS)
INTRO	WELCOME AND OVERVIEW
9:00 – 9:10	Philip Bedient, Director, SSPEED Center & Professor, Rice University
SESSION I.	GALVESTON BAY PARK PLAN
9:10 – 9:30	Rob Rogers, FAIA, ROGERS PARTNERS Architects+Urban Designers
9:30 – 9:50	Jim Blackburn, Co-Director, SSPEED Center
9:50 – 10:10	Avantika Gori, Rice University, SSPEED Center
KEYNOTE	GULF COAST PROTECTION DISTRICT
10:10 – 10:30	Coalter Baker, Executive Director for the Gulf Coast Protection District (GCPD)
10:30 – 10:50	BREAK (THE COMMONS)
SESSION II.	NATURE-BASED FLOOD SOLUTIONS
10:50 – 11:10	Bas Jonkman, TU-Delft, The Netherlands
11:10 – 11:30	Jamie Padgett, Rice University, Chair of Civil & Environmental Engineering
11:30 – 12:00	Anne Loes Nillesen, The Netherlands
12:00 – 1:00	LUNCH (THE COMMONS)
KEYNOTE	HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL ISSUES
1:00 – 1:20	Tina Petersen, Executive Director, HCFCD
SESSION III.	HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL MAAPNEXT & RESILIENCY PLANS
1:20 – 1:40	Ataul Hannan, Director/ Planning Division; HCFCD
1:40 – 2:00	Priya Zachariah, HCFCD
SESSION IV.	RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE
2:00 – 2:20	Charles Penland, Walter P. Moore & Associates, Inc.
2:20 - 2:50	BREAK (THE COMMONS)
KEYNOTE	COASTAL OVERVIEW
2:50 – 3:10	Lt. Col. Ian P. O'Sullivan, USACE
SESSION V.	RESILIENT COMMUNITIES & INFRASTRUCTURES
3:10 – 3:30	Dominic Boyer, Rice University, Center for Coastal Futures & Adaptive Resilience
SESSION VI.	HILL COUNTRY FLOOD: ADVANCED FLOOD WARNING & MONITORING SYSTEMS
3:30 – 3:50	Nick Fang, University of Texas- Arlington
3:50 – 4:10	Jacob Torres, Torres & Associates
CLOSING	FINAL REMARKS
4:10 – 4:25	Philip Bedient, Director, SSPEED Center & Professor, Rice University
RECEPTION	PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS & A POSTER SESSION
4:25 – 5:30	Generously Sponsored by Arva, B Carbon, Earth Optics, and Grassroots. AECOM, Geosyntec, Torres & Associates and Walter P. Moore.

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DAY 2 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2025

8:00 – 8:30	REGISTRATION & COFFEE (THE COMMONS)
SESSION I.	THE CARBON MARKET
8:30 – 8:50	Welcome and Overview of the Carbon Market, Jim Blackburn, Co-Director SSPEED Center
8:50 – 9:10	Offsets and Certifications—All Carbon Credits are Not the Same Jeff Cohen, Jasmine Zhu, Climate Advisors
9:10 – 9:30	Insetting and the Supply Chain, Jay McEntire, ARVA
SESSION II.	NATURAL CARBON SOLUTIONS
9:30 – 9:50	The Role of the University in the Carbon Market, Chris Ordoñez, Rice University, SSPEED Center
9:50 – 10:10	The Role of a Houston-based Carbon Credit Registry, Eric Unverzagt, BCarbon
10:10 – 10:30	BREAK (THE COMMONS)
SESSION III.	SOIL CARBON
10:30 – 10:50	Soil Carbon from a Buyer's Perspective – The BCarbon/Exxon Mobil Project Adam Usadi, ExxonMobil
10:50 – 11:10	What We Learned about Soil Carbon Credits from the Exxon Mobil Project Michael Marler, Rock Matrix
11:10 – 11:30	Contracts & Carbon Credits- What Landowners Should Know Anson Howard, Uhl, Fitzsimons, Burton, Wolff & Rangel
11:30 – 11:50	The Soil Carbon Credit Market, Henk Mooiweer, Grassroots Carbon
KEYNOTE	BIOCHAR KEYNOTE
11:50 – 12:10	Carrie Masiello, Rice University, Sustainability Institute
12:10 – 12:45	LUNCH (THE COMMONS)
SESSION IV	BLUE CARBON
12:45 – 1:00	Overview & Permitting Living Shorelines, Matt Stahman, Resource Environmental Solutions (RES)
1:00 – 1:15	Coastal Blue Carbon and Port Arthur Marsh, Darrin Prescott, Grenian
1:15 – 1:30	Carbon Data and Protecting the Marsh, Dr. Rusty Feagin, TAMU
1:30 – 1:45	Coastal Blue Carbon and Endangered Species, Lalise Mason, Scenic Galveston
SESSION V.	METHANE
1:45 – 2:05	Methane Basics, Dan Arthur, All Consulting
2:05 – 2:25	Methane Market, Dan Romito, Pickering Energy
2:25 – 2:40	BREAK (THE COMMONS)
SESSION VI.	MEXICO
2:40 – 3:00	The Tamaulipan/ Mexico Carbon Credit, Marcela Ronquillo, Earth Carbon
3:00 – 3:20	A Landowner Perspective and Testing, James Clement, Earth Optics
3:20 – 3:40	Mexico and the Carbon Future, Ivonne Cruz, Rice University, Baker Institute
3:40 – 4:00	Remote Sensing & Hydrology, Noemi Vergopolan, Rice University, Earth, Environmental and Planetary Sciences
THANK YOU	CONCLUSION & FINAL REMARKS
4:00 – 4:05	Jim Blackburn, Rice University, SSPEED Center