

Hays County Commissioner

Precinct 3



Lon A. Shell

200 Stillwater, Suite 103 • P.O. Box 2085 • Wimberley, Texas 78676

May 9, 2018

RE: City of Blanco Wastewater Discharge Permit, TPDES No. WQ0010549002

Dear Hays County Precinct 3 Residents:

Most of us are greatly concerned about the protection of our natural resources. Our aquifers, creeks, and rivers are some of our most precious assets and make Hays County the unique and special place we all love. As growth occurs in and around Hays County, we will continually be challenged with maintaining our quality of life and values. Recently, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) issued a notice regarding a major amendment to the City of Blanco's wastewater permit. This permit application is of great importance to Precinct 3, and for those of us that have been following this issue, this notice by TCEQ is an opportunity for us to formally engage in this process.

Specifically, the Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision for the City of Blanco's major amendment to their Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) permit No. WQ0010549002 would allow for an increase to an annual average flow not to exceed 1,600,000 gallons per day from their current daily average flow maximum of 225,000 gallons per day and allow for the discharge of the treated effluent into the Blanco River. The application process to amend Blanco's permit began over a year ago. Former Commissioner Will Conley followed this process from the beginning, and I have been actively engaged since last fall. It is now time to officially state our concerns related to the City of Blanco's permit application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. I have asked State Representative Jason Isaac to request a public meeting as part of the permit process and he has agreed to do so.

Once a public meeting has been scheduled, all interested parties will have time to submit comments and concerns and present alternatives. I believe we must be organized and thoughtful as we constructively work towards solutions that will protect our natural resources while allowing the City of Blanco to reasonably address its needs. I will continue to give updates on this issue and I encourage you to participate in this process. More specifics can be found at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid, use number **WQ0010549002** to search the database for activities regarding the City of Blanco's permit. Information on the process can be found at www.tceq.texas.gov/agency/working-with-us/permitting-participation/municipal-wastewater.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, you can reach me by email at Lon.Shell@co.hays.tx.us, at my office phone, 512.847.3159 or on my cell phone, 512.644.0848.

I truly appreciate the opportunity to represent you,



Lon A. Shell
Hays County Precinct 3 Commissioner