

To: Bryan City Secretary  
From: Councilmembers Southerland and Pena  
Subject: Agenda Item Titled:



## Disaster Relief Home Buyout

This agenda item placement is in accordance with the Bryan City Charter (j) (1) a. 2. (a) “Council agenda. 1.The City Council shall identify items to place on the City Council meeting agenda and shall establish the order of the agenda. 2.Any two City Council members desiring a particular item to be placed on the City Council agenda shall notify the City Secretary in writing. The item shall be placed on the agenda as requested. 3.This section of the charter supersedes any city Code of Ordinances with which it conflicts.”

Also the Texas Attorney General Opinion Number DM-228 (1993) states no policy can preclude a councilmember from placing an item on the agenda for public discussion.

*Therefore, any changes to this agenda item must be approved in writing by both under signs prior to posting to the agenda.*

Place the following item on the Bryan City Council Regular agenda of the first regularly scheduled meeting of July 2016:

Discussion, consideration, and possible action to:

Direct the City Staff to establish a City of Bryan home purchase fund in an amount up to \$1,000,000 the sole purpose of which is to purchase homes from willing sellers within the city limits of Bryan that have been flooded the required times to qualify for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) property acquisition. The process should begin as soon as possible. The funding shall be from City of Bryan General Fund monies, unless the State of Texas and/or FEMA funding is made available within the next 6 months.

Presentations: Councilmembers Pena and Southerland

Comments: Outside funding sources have not been made available to relieve homeowners of the sever impact of flooding. FEMA, Release Number: SRFO-NJ NR-023, May 28, 2014 states in part: “Flooding may impact the stability of a home or an entire neighborhood, damage or destroy personal property, impact property values and lead to injuries or loss of life. Emergency responders may risk their own lives to help residents escape rising waters.

And while the waters eventually recede, the misery caused by floods is long lasting. The impact of a storm surge may have structurally weakened formerly sturdy homes. Water-laden walls and floors may set the stage for the development of hard-to-eradicate colonies of mold that can present health risks for vulnerable residents, particularly those with compromised immune systems, children and the elderly. Repeated flooding may leave homes uninhabitable and unlikely to attract a buyer.”



Date: 07/5/2016

Rafael Pena, Councilmember District 2, [apena@bryantx.gov](mailto:apena@bryantx.gov), 979 402 9164



Date: 07/05/2016

Mike Southerland, Councilmember District 4, [msoutherland@bryantx.gov](mailto:msoutherland@bryantx.gov), 979 229 7805