



# MAYES MIDDLETON



STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 23

January 14th, 2019

Fellow Texan:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the proposed Coastal Barrier for our region.

While I am supportive of some form of the "coastal spine" concept to protect the Upper Gulf Coast, I am adamantly opposed to the current plan and configuration for a coastal barrier proposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the Texas General Land Office (GLO) known as the Tentatively Selected Plan (the Plan).

Like you, I am gravely concerned with many different aspects of the Plan. The current plan would condemn over 1,000 homes and businesses. By running a levee north of Farm to Market Road 3005 and State Highway 87, Bolivar and the West End of Galveston Island would be devastated.

Additionally, I cannot support a ring levee around Galveston. A ring levee would destroy multiple neighborhoods, businesses, our port, and possibly tourism. The proposed ring levee would divide the island and require massive seizures of private land.

Furthermore, I believe that any proposed coastal barrier plan should rely primarily on naturally appearing sand dune surge barriers. Not only are these barriers cheaper and less invasive to construct, they do not have the same appearance of a seawall and can provide protection while preserving the aesthetic of the existing beach.

I am confident that the Plan as currently rendered will not proceed forward, and will strongly advocate on behalf of taxpayers and property owners in House District 23 when evaluating all future proposals.

Thank you again for contacting me on this important issue.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mayes Middleton".

Mayes Middleton  
Texas State Representative  
House District 23