



BULLETIN

THE PROTECT LAKE TRAVIS ASSOCIATION

FALL 1985

LCRA LAND SALE

The LCRA contracted with Johnson, Johnson, & Roy, a Dallas consulting firm to make a proposal for sale and or land use of property owned by the LCRA on Lake Travis and all upstream lakes. The first part of this study cost \$120,000. Parts II and III will cost additional amounts. Supposedly the reason for the proposed disposal by sale of 50% of these lands is to generate a fund to operate lakeside park facilities and to establish new ones. JJR says that 25% of the land around Lake Travis is owned by the LCRA. They are proposing the sale of this land to take care of the increased growth and development on the Highland Lakes.

Mr. Roy of JJR implied that a super recreational area (an area called the "Bends" by JJR) should be developed and considered as a prospect for a state park or possibly a national park. The Bends is that part of Lake Travis from Lago Vista upstream for about 15 miles. He also implied that these recreational areas should be built in areas where there is likely to be residential development.

YOUR PRESIDENT'S

CONCLUSIONS

This land owned by the LCRA is a tremendous asset. It was acquired with great effort by gifts, condemnation proceedings, and purchases. Only in a bare minimum of cases, should any parcels be sold. Counties, cities, and state agencies would in most cases agree to lease and operate any desired recreational area at no cost to the LCRA.

One of the things that makes Lake Travis unique and delightful from a boat is the wilderness aspect. There certainly is a lack of door to door housing along the shoreline. Retaining the 25% of the land now owned by the LCRA will tend to help preserve this feature.

If and when the rapid residential development does occur, some of this LCRA land could and would be needed as irrigation areas for effluent disposal. Leasing the land for such purpose will help keep our Lake clean.

YOUR LETTER TO LCRA

In order to advise the LCRA Board of our viewpoints, it is essential that our individual members write and advise your thoughts about the sale of LCRA land. A sample letter is enclosed which you may add to, or change as you desire, but Mail This Before November 1.

PROTECT LAKE MARBLE

FALLS/LAKE LBJ ASSOC.

A goal described in our last newsletter is now a reality. The Protect Lake Marble Falls/Lake LBJ Association was formed on September 24. Homer Vergil from Marble Falls is the president and is moving forward rapidly. We have given our help in forming this group and have now met with three of their directors to make recommendations and answer their questions. Martin McLean, a LCRA Director, was very helpful in putting together pre-organizational meetings with interested individuals so that the association could be formed.

PROFILES

Taylor Ollmann was president of PLTA from 1982 to June 1985 and now serves as head of Technical Committee which reviews sewage permit applications. He has a long standing concern about lakes as he grew up on Loon Lake in the Adirondack Mountains in the East. He obtained an AB degree from Dartmouth College and his masters and PHD from Cornell University in mathematical logic, which explains his ability to understand and address complex issues. He taught college math at LSU and Russell Sage and then did actuarial studies for John Hancock Insurance in Boston. As his main area of concern became the stock market and as he could work anywhere that he could connect his phone line and his computer, he and his family chose to move to Lake Travis in the summer of 1980. He started working with other concerned citizens on the Baseline case and joined PLTA almost at its inception. He has become extremely knowledgeable and was chosen to serve on the Governor's Select Committee on Water Quality Standards for Lake Travis and Lake Austin. This was a most rewarding experience because of the people he worked with and because of accomplishments they made and awakening State people to seriousness of sewage discharges. Taylor is currently a member of League of Women Voters Water and Natural Resources Committee and is vice chairman of planning and zoning committee of Lago Vista where he and his family live.

STILLHOUSE HOLLOW LAKE

There is a permit application by Lloyd Parker to discharge 450,000 gallons of effluent daily into Stillhouse Hollow Lake; this lake is west of Belton. It is one of the four cleanest lakes in Texas. Because of this and also to better establish our organization as a specialist in water quality, we agreed to meet with any application protestors and offer suggestions to defeat this permit. Current protestors include the Texas Rural Water Association and Kathy Rampy of Cedar Park.

Many attempts have been made to reach Stan Schlueter, state representative for thzt area, to offer and/or to get his help. So far this has been hopeless. He was involved in getting a previous Lloyd Parker application denied.

EFFLUENT DISCUSSION WITH LCRA

A presentation to the Natural Resources Committee of the LCRA on land use of effluent was made recently. Surely after a thorough discussion of the harmful aspects of effluent when discharged into streams and the merits of its use when disposed of on land, the several board members should have an improved understanding of irrigation with effluent. Our movie, "Water Passages" was used effectively at this meeting.

YES!! I CARE ABOUT THE HIGHLAND LAKES

() Here is my contribution of
\$25___,\$50___,\$100___

() Here is my membership fee
of \$10___

I will help with () Finance () Member-
ship () Legislative () Technical
Committees.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

(Return to Protect Lake Travis Assoc.
8400 MOPAC, Suite 304, Austin 78759

Mr. Richard T. Colgan
Manager Parks & Land Department
LCRA
Box 220
Austin, Tx. 78767

I do not think that any LCRA land on the Highland Lakes should be sold.

If there is a need for parcels of this property for recreational or environmental reasons, an appropriate lease should be made with responsible parties.

Such leasing arrangements should provide a source of revenue that will make these lands a valuable asset, and thus eliminate the need to sell land to provide for an operating fund.

I am not against development of land, but I do not think the LCRA should promote residential development by making extra land available for this use, nor should it make adjacent land more valuable because of amenities that the LCRA might install that rightfully should have been made by the private sector.