

# Resolution to Oppose City of Houston Proposition 1

## Vote No on

### “The Dedicated Drainage and Street Renewal Fund”

In The General Election November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

Whereas, Houston City Council has just raised residential water rates by 40% over the next three years, with lesser increases for commercial and industrial businesses, and

Whereas, this increase in the City of Houston water rates is based on a study that raises the Water Fund O&M expense by 12% or \$44 Million from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in just one year of an economic recession, and

Whereas, this increase has not been explained by any City of Houston official either in Bruce Hotze’s and Paul Bettencourt’s taxpayer intervention in Travis County District Court, or at any public City of Houston Council meeting even when questioned, and

Whereas, the ballot language approved by Houston City Council does not contain a proposed rate fee, nor the amount of new “Rain Taxes” to be imposed, and an '03 effort to tax area churches and schools was defeated by Norman Adams’ No Rain Tax PAC, and

Whereas, the amount to be charged ranges from \$300 to over \$400 Million dollars, and just the minimum \$125 Million dollar fee is calculated by Don Sumners to be at least a 1.33 cent per square foot charge on nearly all 9 Billion square feet of land in the COH, &

Whereas, the estimated amounts would be akin to raising property taxes on taxpayers, commercial and residential property owners alike, by as much as 40% or more as Houston City Council has not released any information to the public on the actual cost of this yearly fee or tax, and it is to be levied for successive 20 year periods unless canceled by a supermajority vote of Houston City Council.

Therefore be it Resolved, that the Harris County Republican Party opposes passage of Proposition 1 Charter Amendment, aka “Renew Houston”, on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010.

Be it further resolved, that this resolution be sent to all Elected Officials and Republican Precinct Chairmen in the City of Houston, plus a press release to Houston’s news media.