

## **Gulf of Mexico Alliance Coastal Resilience Team 2018 Fall Meeting – Information**

The Gulf of Mexico Alliance Coastal Resilience Team will be hosting its annual Fall Meeting this year in Austin, Texas on December 11-13-2018 at the Holiday Inn Austin Town Lake (<http://www.hiaustintownlake.com/>) located at 20 North Interregional Highway 35, Austin, TX 78701. This meeting is a chance to bring together state, federal, and local government, along with academia, non-profit organization and corporate business by offering network, collaborative information and leveraging opportunities to effectively address issues of concern in the Gulf region.

Meeting participants will get updates on current and ongoing projects that are team specific and Gulf Star related. In addition, members will continue the discussion from the All Hands Meeting in June that hosted the National Academies' Gulf Research Program Business/Industry Engagement Panel. During this meeting, we will have more time to flesh out ideas, dig deeper and really engage the panel to draft a template for a community disaster recovery plan with the input from the team. There will also be a Fortified Wise training hosted by Smart Home America the morning of December 11th at the meeting location. We anticipate this training to take two (2) hours and is free to meeting participants.

In an effort to keep registration free and make this collaborative meeting accessible to all, we have sponsorship opportunities to help with meeting costs. If you know of any organization that would like to be a Gulf of Mexico Alliance Coastal Resilience sponsor, please forward them this email with sponsorship attachments. They will have the opportunity to engage regional partners in addition to the benefits identified on the attached Sponsor Opportunity Flyer.

Please use the hyper link

(<http://ichotelsgroup.com/redirect?path=rates&brandCode=HI&GPC=GMA&hotelCode=AUSTL&PMID=99801505>) to book your room. It should generate the group code, but if not it is GMA. The group dates have been reserved for Tuesday, December 11, 2018 through Thursday, December 13, 2018, at a reduced rate of **\$114.00**. The option is there to book additional nights (shoulder dates of 2 day prior and 2 days after event) at the contracted rate. **The cutoff date for this rate is Tuesday, November 27, 2018.** If you have any issues with booking online, please reach out to the hotel reservation office at 1-888-615-0509 and provide the GMA group code.

For those that might be flying, the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport is located 7.8 miles from the hotel and is estimated to be a 20 minute drive (<https://www.austintexas.gov/airport>). **The Holiday Inn has a complimentary 24-hour airport shuttle!** This is a cost savings of \$20-\$20 cab ride, each way. You would just need to call Front Desk (512-472-8211, then dial "0") after you've collected your luggage. The Front Desk Agent will tell you where to stand for pick-up and give an ETA on the arriving shuttle 😊

Registration has begun on Eventbrite( <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-gulf-of-mexico-alliance-coastal-resilience-team-fall-meeting-tickets-51661398634> ). Attached is the draft

agenda. I am waiting on a few presentation titles and speakers to confirm, so please bear with me. I should everyone's commit by the end of this week. The meeting will be ½ on the first, full day on the second day, and ½ on the third day.

**Lastly, a big THANK YOU to GEOSYNTEC CONSULTANTS for being the afternoon break sponsor on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> and December 12<sup>th</sup> !**

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Austin!



**Kristen Kapiotis**

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