

By: Metcalf

H.B. No. 5374

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the creation of the Montgomery County Municipal Utility  
3 District No. 226; granting a limited power of eminent domain;  
4 providing authority to issue bonds; providing authority to impose  
5 assessments, fees, and taxes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. Subtitle F, Title 6, Special District Local Laws  
8 Code, is amended by adding Chapter 7956A to read as follows:

9 CHAPTER 7956A. MONTGOMERY COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO.

10 226

11 SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

12 Sec. 7956A.0101. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

13 (1) "Board" means the district's board of directors.

14 (2) "Commission" means the Texas Commission on  
15 Environmental Quality.

16 (3) "Director" means a board member.

17 (4) "District" means the Montgomery County Municipal  
18 Utility District No. 226.

19 Sec. 7956A.0102. NATURE OF DISTRICT. The district is a  
20 municipal utility district created under Section 59, Article XVI,  
21 Texas Constitution.

22 Sec. 7956A.0103. CONFIRMATION AND DIRECTOR ELECTION  
23 REQUIRED. The temporary directors shall hold an election to  
24 confirm the creation of the district and to elect five permanent

1 directors as provided by Section 49.102, Water Code.

2 Sec. 7956A.0104. CONSENT OF MUNICIPALITY REQUIRED. The  
3 temporary directors may not hold an election under Section  
4 7956A.0103 until each municipality in whose corporate limits or  
5 extraterritorial jurisdiction the district is located has  
6 consented by ordinance or resolution to the creation of the  
7 district and to the inclusion of land in the district as required by  
8 applicable law.

9 Sec. 7956A.0105. FINDINGS OF PUBLIC PURPOSE AND BENEFIT.

10 (a) The district is created to serve a public purpose and benefit.

11 (b) The district is created to accomplish the purposes of:

12 (1) a municipal utility district as provided by  
13 general law and Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution; and

14 (2) Section 52, Article III, Texas Constitution, that  
15 relate to the construction, acquisition, improvement, operation,  
16 or maintenance of macadamized, graveled, or paved roads, or  
17 improvements, including storm drainage, in aid of those roads.

18 Sec. 7956A.0106. INITIAL DISTRICT TERRITORY. (a) The  
19 district is initially composed of the territory described by  
20 Section 2 of the Act enacting this chapter.

21 (b) The boundaries and field notes contained in Section 2 of  
22 the Act enacting this chapter form a closure. A mistake made in the  
23 field notes or in copying the field notes in the legislative process  
24 does not affect the district's:

25 (1) organization, existence, or validity;

26 (2) right to issue any type of bond for the purposes  
27 for which the district is created or to pay the principal of and

1 interest on a bond;

2 (3) right to impose a tax; or

3 (4) legality or operation.

4 SUBCHAPTER B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5 Sec. 7956A.0201. GOVERNING BODY; TERMS. (a) The district  
6 is governed by a board of five elected directors.

7 (b) Except as provided by Section 7956A.0202, directors  
8 serve staggered four-year terms.

9 Sec. 7956A.0202. TEMPORARY DIRECTORS. (a) On or after the  
10 effective date of the Act enacting this chapter, the owner or owners  
11 of a majority of the assessed value of the real property in the  
12 district may submit a petition to the commission requesting that  
13 the commission appoint as temporary directors the five persons  
14 named in the petition. The commission shall appoint as temporary  
15 directors the five persons named in the petition.

16 (b) Temporary directors serve until the earlier of:

17 (1) the date permanent directors are elected under  
18 Section 7956A.0103; or

19 (2) the fourth anniversary of the effective date of  
20 the Act enacting this chapter.

21 (c) If permanent directors have not been elected under  
22 Section 7956A.0103 and the terms of the temporary directors have  
23 expired, successor temporary directors shall be appointed or  
24 reappointed as provided by Subsection (d) to serve terms that  
25 expire on the earlier of:

26 (1) the date permanent directors are elected under  
27 Section 7956A.0103; or

1           (2) the fourth anniversary of the date of the  
2 appointment or reappointment.

3           (d) If Subsection (c) applies, the owner or owners of a  
4 majority of the assessed value of the real property in the district  
5 may submit a petition to the commission requesting that the  
6 commission appoint as successor temporary directors the five  
7 persons named in the petition. The commission shall appoint as  
8 successor temporary directors the five persons named in the  
9 petition.

10                           SUBCHAPTER C. POWERS AND DUTIES

11           Sec. 7956A.0301. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES. The district  
12 has the powers and duties necessary to accomplish the purposes for  
13 which the district is created.

14           Sec. 7956A.0302. MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT POWERS AND  
15 DUTIES. The district has the powers and duties provided by the  
16 general law of this state, including Chapters 49 and 54, Water Code,  
17 applicable to municipal utility districts created under Section 59,  
18 Article XVI, Texas Constitution.

19           Sec. 7956A.0303. AUTHORITY FOR ROAD PROJECTS. Under  
20 Section 52, Article III, Texas Constitution, the district may  
21 design, acquire, construct, finance, issue bonds for, improve,  
22 operate, maintain, and convey to this state, a county, or a  
23 municipality for operation and maintenance macadamized, graveled,  
24 or paved roads, or improvements, including storm drainage, in aid  
25 of those roads.

26           Sec. 7956A.0304. ROAD STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS. (a) A  
27 road project must meet all applicable construction standards,

1 zoning and subdivision requirements, and regulations of each  
2 municipality in whose corporate limits or extraterritorial  
3 jurisdiction the road project is located.

4 (b) If a road project is not located in the corporate limits  
5 or extraterritorial jurisdiction of a municipality, the road  
6 project must meet all applicable construction standards,  
7 subdivision requirements, and regulations of each county in which  
8 the road project is located.

9 (c) If the state will maintain and operate the road, the  
10 Texas Transportation Commission must approve the plans and  
11 specifications of the road project.

12 Sec. 7956A.0305. COMPLIANCE WITH MUNICIPAL CONSENT  
13 ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION. The district shall comply with all  
14 applicable requirements of any ordinance or resolution that is  
15 adopted under Section 54.016 or 54.0165, Water Code, and that  
16 consents to the creation of the district or to the inclusion of land  
17 in the district.

18 Sec. 7956A.0306. DIVISION OF DISTRICT. (a) The board, on  
19 its own motion or on receipt of a petition signed by the owner or  
20 owners of a majority of the assessed value of the real property in  
21 the district, may adopt an order dividing the district.

22 (b) An order dividing a district may create one or more new  
23 districts and may provide for the continuation of the district.

24 (c) An order dividing the district must:

25 (1) name any new district;

26 (2) include the metes and bounds description of the  
27 territory of each of the districts;

1           (3) appoint temporary directors for any new district;

2 and

3           (4) provide for the division of assets and liabilities  
4 between the districts.

5           (d) The board may adopt an order dividing the district  
6 before or after the date the board holds an election to confirm the  
7 district's creation.

8           (e) The district may be divided only if the district:

9                 (1) has never issued any bonds; and

10                (2) is not imposing ad valorem taxes.

11           (f) A new district created by the division of the district  
12 may not, at the time the new district is created, contain any land  
13 outside the area described by Section 2 of the Act enacting this  
14 chapter.

15           (g) On or before the 30th day after the date of adoption of  
16 an order dividing the district, the district shall file the order  
17 with the commission and record the order in the real property  
18 records of each county in which the district is located.

19           (h) This chapter applies to any new district created by  
20 division of the district, and a new district has all the powers and  
21 duties of the district.

22           (i) A new district created by the division of the district  
23 shall hold a confirmation and directors' election.

24           (j) If the creation of the new district is confirmed, the  
25 new district shall provide the election date and results to the  
26 commission.

27           (k) A new district created by the division of the district

1 must hold an election as required by this chapter to obtain voter  
2 approval before the district may impose a maintenance tax or issue  
3 bonds payable wholly or partly from ad valorem taxes.

4 (l) The district may continue to rely on confirmation,  
5 directors', bond, or tax elections held prior to the division of the  
6 district.

7 (m) Municipal consent to the creation of the district and to  
8 the inclusion of land in the district acts as municipal consent to  
9 the creation of any new district created by the division of the  
10 district and to the inclusion of land in the new district.

11 SUBCHAPTER D. GENERAL FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

12 Sec. 7956A.0401. ELECTIONS REGARDING TAXES OR BONDS. (a)  
13 The district may issue, without an election, bonds and other  
14 obligations secured by:

- 15 (1) revenue other than ad valorem taxes; or  
16 (2) contract payments described by Section  
17 7956A.0403.

18 (b) The district must hold an election in the manner  
19 provided by Chapters 49 and 54, Water Code, to obtain voter approval  
20 before the district may impose an ad valorem tax or issue bonds  
21 payable from ad valorem taxes.

22 (c) The district may not issue bonds payable from ad valorem  
23 taxes to finance a road project unless the issuance is approved by a  
24 vote of a two-thirds majority of the district voters voting at an  
25 election held for that purpose.

26 Sec. 7956A.0402. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE TAX. (a) If  
27 authorized at an election held under Section 7956A.0401, the

1 district may impose an operation and maintenance tax on taxable  
2 property in the district in accordance with Section 49.107, Water  
3 Code.

4 (b) The board shall determine the tax rate. The rate may not  
5 exceed the rate approved at the election.

6 Sec. 7956A.0403. CONTRACT TAXES. (a) In accordance with  
7 Section 49.108, Water Code, the district may impose a tax other than  
8 an operation and maintenance tax and use the revenue derived from  
9 the tax to make payments under a contract after the provisions of  
10 the contract have been approved by a majority of the district voters  
11 voting at an election held for that purpose.

12 (b) A contract approved by the district voters may contain a  
13 provision stating that the contract may be modified or amended by  
14 the board without further voter approval.

15 SUBCHAPTER E. BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS

16 Sec. 7956A.0501. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE BONDS AND OTHER  
17 OBLIGATIONS. The district may issue bonds or other obligations  
18 payable wholly or partly from ad valorem taxes, impact fees,  
19 revenue, contract payments, grants, or other district money, or any  
20 combination of those sources, to pay for any authorized district  
21 purpose.

22 Sec. 7956A.0502. TAXES FOR BONDS. At the time the district  
23 issues bonds payable wholly or partly from ad valorem taxes, the  
24 board shall provide for the annual imposition of a continuing  
25 direct ad valorem tax, without limit as to rate or amount, while all  
26 or part of the bonds are outstanding as required and in the manner  
27 provided by Sections 54.601 and 54.602, Water Code.

1       Sec. 7956A.0503. BONDS FOR ROAD PROJECTS. At the time of  
2 issuance, the total principal amount of bonds or other obligations  
3 issued or incurred to finance road projects and payable from ad  
4 valorem taxes may not exceed one-fourth of the assessed value of the  
5 real property in the district.

6       SECTION 2. Montgomery County Municipal Utility District  
7 No. 226 initially includes all the territory contained in the  
8 following area:

9       Being 535.7 acres of land, more or less, located in the  
10 Raleigh Rogers Survey, Abstract 33, and the Thomas Chatham Survey,  
11 A-127, Montgomery County, Texas, out of land conveyed to Homeplace  
12 Lands, LLC, as recorded under Clerk's File No. 2012125424 of the  
13 Official Public Records of Real Property, Montgomery County, Texas,  
14 (O.P.R.M.C.), being comprised of three (3) tracts as described  
15 below; said 535.7 acres, more or less, being more particularly  
16 described as follows, with all bearings referenced to the Texas  
17 Coordinate System, Central Zone, NAD83 (NA2011) Epoch 2010.00:

18       TRACT 1: 0.7 Acre

19       Being 0.7 acre of land out of the Thomas Chatham Survey, A-127  
20 Montgomery County, Texas:

21       BEGINNING at the intersection of a southerly line of land as  
22 described in an instrument recorded under Clerk's File  
23 No. 2012125424 of the Official Public Records of Montgomery County,  
24 Texas (O.P.R.M.C.), and the easterly right-of-way line of FM 2854  
25 (width varies);

26       THENCE NORTHWESTERLY approximately 196 feet, more or less,  
27 with and adjoining the easterly right-of-way line of said FM 2854,

1 to the northwest corner of the herein described tract to, lying in  
2 the common Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) line of the City of  
3 Conroe and the City of Montgomery, Texas;

4 THENCE NORTHEASTERLY approximately 201 feet, more or less,  
5 with and adjoining a curve to the left, also being the common ETJ  
6 line, to the northeast corner of the herein described tract, lying  
7 in a westerly line of Hilltop Ranch Section 1, as recorded in  
8 Cabinet "O", Sheet 138 of the Montgomery County Map Records  
9 (M.C.M.R.);

10 THENCE SOUTHERLY approximately 234 feet, more or less, with  
11 and adjoining said westerly line of Hilltop Ranch Section 1, to the  
12 southeast corner of the herein described tract, lying in the  
13 easterly line of FM 2854;

14 THENCE WESTERLY approximately 82 feet, more or less, with and  
15 adjoining the easterly line of FM 2854, to the POINT OF BEGINNING,  
16 and containing approximately 0.7 acre of land. This document was  
17 prepared under 22 Texas Administrative Code §138.95, does not  
18 reflect the results of an on the ground survey, and is not to be used  
19 to convey or establish interests in real property except those  
20 rights and interests implied or established by the creation or  
21 reconfiguration of the boundary of the political subdivision for  
22 which it was prepared.

23 TRACT 2: 438 Acres

24 Being 438 acres of land out of the Thomas Chatham Survey,  
25 A-127, and the Raleigh Rogers Survey, A-33, Montgomery County,  
26 Texas:

27 BEGINNING at the southeast corner of a 17.0 acre tract, as

H.B. No. 5374

1 recorded under Clerk's File No. 8805975 of the Official Public  
2 Records of Real Property Montgomery County, Texas  
3 (O.P.R.R.P.M.C.), also being an easterly corner of land conveyed to  
4 Homeplace Lands, LLC, as recorded under Clerk's File No. 2012125424  
5 of the Official Public Records of Montgomery County, Texas  
6 (O.P.R.M.C.), lying in the westerly right-of-way line of F.M. 2854  
7 (width varies);

8 THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY approximately 910 feet, more or less,  
9 with and adjoining said southwesterly right-of-way line of F.M.  
10 2854, to an easterly corner of the herein described tract, also  
11 being the northeast corner of Yesterday's Crossing, Section 1, as  
12 recorded in Cabinet "Z", Sheet 257 of the Montgomery County Map  
13 Records (M.C.M.R.);

14 THENCE WESTERLY approximately 1,057 feet, more or less, with  
15 and adjoining the north line of said Yesterday's Crossing, Section  
16 1, to an easterly interior corner of the herein described tract,  
17 also being the northwest corner of said Yesterday's Crossing,  
18 Section 1;

19 THENCE SOUTHERLY approximately 3,387 feet, more or less, with  
20 and adjoining the westerly line of said Yesterday's Crossing,  
21 Section 1, and the westerly line of a tract of land conveyed to  
22 Douglas B. and Carolyn Lee as recorded under Clerk's File  
23 No. 2014125321 of the O.P.R.M.C., to the southwest corner of said  
24 Douglas B. and Carolyn Lee tract, also being the northwest corner of  
25 a 216.521 acre tract, and the southeast corner of the herein  
26 described tract;

27 THENCE SOUTH 86 degrees 42 minutes 33 seconds WEST,

1 approximately 1,908 feet, more or less, to the southwest corner of  
2 the herein described tract, lying in the northeasterly right-of-way  
3 line of the BN & SF Railroad;

4 THENCE NORTHWESTERLY approximately 3,799 feet, more or less,  
5 with and adjoining said northeasterly right-of-way line of the BN &  
6 SF Railroad to intersection of the common Extra Territorial  
7 Jurisdiction line of the City of Conroe and City of Montgomery,  
8 Texas;

9 THENCE NORTHERLY approximately 2,555 feet, more or less, with  
10 and adjoining said common ETJ line, to a corner in the common ETJ  
11 line;

12 THENCE EASTERLY approximately 2,377 feet, more or less, with  
13 and adjoining said common ETJ line to a west line of a 22.178 acre  
14 tract, as recorded under Clerk's File No. 2018119879 of the  
15 O.P.R.M.C.;

16 THENCE SOUTHERLY approximately 76 feet, more or less, with  
17 and adjoining said westerly line of the 22.178 acre tract, to a  
18 northerly corner of the herein described tract;

19 THENCE EASTERLY approximately 1,078 feet, more or less, with  
20 and adjoining the southerly line of said 22.178 acre tract to the  
21 northeast corner of the herein described tract, also being the  
22 northwest corner of a 5.45 acre tract as described under Clerk's  
23 File No. 8805975 of the O.P.R.R.P.M.C.;

24 THENCE SOUTHERLY approximately 1,170 feet, more or less, with  
25 and adjoining the westerly line of said 5.45 acre tract, and the  
26 westerly line of said 17.0 acre tract, to the southwest corner of  
27 said 17.0 acre tract, and easterly interior corner of the herein

1 described tract;

2           THENCE EASTERLY approximately 1,424 feet, more or less, with  
3 and adjoining the southerly line of said 17.0 acre tract, to the  
4 POINT OF BEGINNING, and containing approximately 438 acres of land.  
5 This document was prepared under 22 Texas Administrative Code  
6 §138.95, does not reflect the results of an on the ground survey,  
7 and is not to be used to convey or establish interests in real  
8 property except those rights and interests implied or established  
9 by the creation or reconfiguration of the boundary of the political  
10 subdivision for which it was prepared.

11           TRACT 3: 97 Acres

12           Being 97 acres of land out of the Raleigh Rogers Survey, A-33,  
13 Montgomery County, Texas:

14           BEGINNING at the most easterly southeast corner of the herein  
15 described tract, lying in the southwesterly right-of-way line of  
16 the BN & SF Railroad, from which the northwest corner of a 216.521  
17 acre tract, as defined under Clerk's File No. 2012125424 of the  
18 O.P.R.M.C., also being the southwest corner of land conveyed to  
19 Douglas B. & Carolyn Lee as recorded under Clerk's File  
20 No. 2014125321 of the O.P.R.M.C., bears NORTH 86 degrees 42 minutes  
21 33 seconds EAST, 2,038.61 feet;

22           THENCE WESTERLY approximately 1,425 feet, more or less, to a  
23 southerly interior corner of the herein described tract;

24           THENCE SOUTHERLY approximately 1,071 feet, more or less, to a  
25 southerly corner of the herein described tract, also being a  
26 northerly corner of land as described in a warranty deed to Earle T.  
27 McCants and Edward W. McCants as recorded under Clerk's File

1 No. 99002183 of the Official Public Records of Real Property  
2 Montgomery County, Texas (O.P.R.R.P.M.C.);

3 THENCE WESTERLY approximately 940 feet, more or less, with  
4 and adjoining the northerly line of said Earle T. McCants and Edward  
5 W. McCants tract, to the southwest corner of the herein described  
6 tract, lying in the common Extra Territorial Jurisdiction of the  
7 City of Conroe and the City of Montgomery, Texas;

8 THENCE NORTHERLY approximately 3,811 feet, more or less, to  
9 the north corner of the herein described tract, lying in said  
10 southwesterly right-of-way line of the BN & SF Railroad:

11 THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY approximately 3,599 feet, more or less,  
12 with and adjoining said southwesterly line of the BN & SF Railroad  
13 right-of-way, to the POINT OF BEGINNING, and containing  
14 approximately 97 acres of land. This document was prepared under  
15 Texas Administrative Code §138.95, does not reflect the results of  
16 an on the ground survey, and is not to be used to convey or establish  
17 interests in real property except those rights and interests  
18 implied or established by the creation or reconfiguration of the  
19 boundary of the political subdivision for which it was prepared.

20 SECTION 3. (a) The legal notice of the intention to  
21 introduce this Act, setting forth the general substance of this  
22 Act, has been published as provided by law, and the notice and a  
23 copy of this Act have been furnished to all persons, agencies,  
24 officials, or entities to which they are required to be furnished  
25 under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and Chapter 313,  
26 Government Code.

27 (b) The governor, one of the required recipients, has

1 submitted the notice and Act to the Texas Commission on  
2 Environmental Quality.

3 (c) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has filed  
4 its recommendations relating to this Act with the governor, the  
5 lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of  
6 representatives within the required time.

7 (d) All requirements of the constitution and laws of this  
8 state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect  
9 to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act are fulfilled  
10 and accomplished.

11 SECTION 4. (a) If this Act does not receive a two-thirds  
12 vote of all the members elected to each house, Subchapter C, Chapter  
13 7956A, Special District Local Laws Code, as added by Section 1 of  
14 this Act, is amended by adding Section 7956A.0307 to read as  
15 follows:

16 Sec. 7956A.0307. NO EMINENT DOMAIN POWER. The district may  
17 not exercise the power of eminent domain.

18 (b) This section is not intended to be an expression of a  
19 legislative interpretation of the requirements of Section 17(c),  
20 Article I, Texas Constitution.

21 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.