



Fact Sheet: Harris County Public Private Air Monitoring Initiative

OVERVIEW

A strong air monitoring system is getting even stronger thanks to a collaborative effort between Harris County, an independent research group and private industry. The groundbreaking initiative is made possible by a \$1 million grant to Harris County from the American Chemistry Council (ACC) Foundation. The administration of this grant is being led by the office of Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- New air monitoring initiative will enhance the collection of air monitoring data and improve air quality knowledge during significant industrial incidents.
- Harris County is adding a large array of new air monitoring equipment to its network.
- Houston Advanced Research Center is providing Harris County with new tools to interpret air monitoring data.
- Local officials will get timely and useful data to help inform public health decisions.

SPECIFICS



Air Monitors

Harris County is deploying the following new equipment:

- **1 Stationary Gas Chromatograph (GC)** unit located in Friendship Park, Seabrook
- **4 Semi-stationary Sensit® SPOD units** located in:
 - Hartman Park in Manchester
 - Barrett Station near Crosby
 - River Terrace Park in North Channel
 - Fairmont Park in La Porte
- **8 Portable DustTrack™ units** to be used by Harris County Pollution Control Services (PCS) staff
- **55 handheld Multi-Gas Detectors** to be provided to the following emergency response teams:
 - Harris County Fire Marshal Hazardous Materials Team
 - City of Houston Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team
 - City of Baytown Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team



Scientific Support

HARC is supporting Harris County with the following:

- Analysis of air quality data and meteorological modelling.
- Development of protocols for interpreting and communicating air monitoring results with a focus on industrial incidents and weather events.
- Additional analysis and communication assistance during emergencies.

