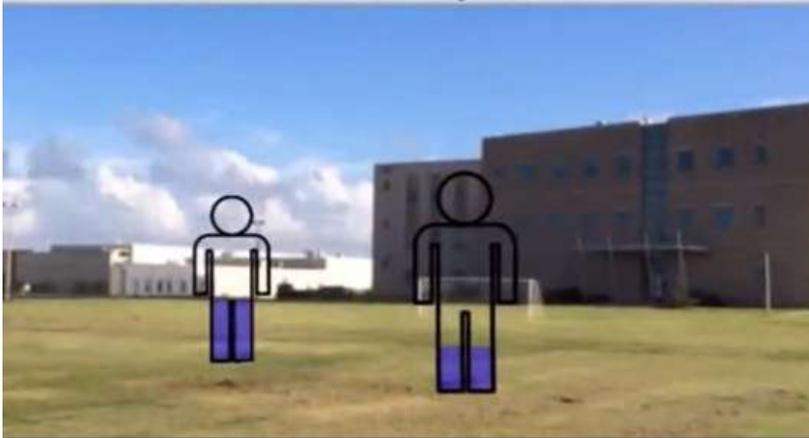


Flooding Augmented Reality App



Dr. David Retchless was featured on KHOU for his latest work on a new app using augmented reality to help residents and officials better understand and prepare for major storms and flooding. Dr. Retchless describes the app as the “Pokemon Go for flooding.” The app integrates rainfall, storm surge forecasts and flooding scenarios developed by the Center for Texas Beaches and Shores. It then projects high

water levels displayed through customizable stick figures of the user’s height. The goal of the app is to engage and prepare those who are both skeptical and curious of the flood risk in their neighborhoods.

CTBS Supporting Governor’s Commission Work

CTBS is supporting the Governor’s Commission to Rebuild Texas (CRT) in the wake of Hurricane Harvey. Several researchers, including Sam Brody, Bill Merrell, Wes Highfield, and Gerry Galloway have been providing technical guidance to the Commission on how to best “future-proof” the state and reduce adverse impacts from storm events for future generations. Most recently, CTBS has begun working on an analytically-grounded report to be delivered to the State Legislature that provides specific policy recommendations to help Texas become a national leader in flood risk reduction and storm recovery. The report will be completed by December in advance of the 86th legislative session.

Greater Houston Flood Mitigation Consortium

CTBS is taking part in the Greater Houston Flood Mitigation Consortium. Dr. Sam Brody and Russell Blessing have been involved in assisting in bi-weekly discussions and specifically data analysis to answer some of the questions about flood risk reduction in the wake of Harvey that have been posed by the larger group. “The consortium serves as an independent collaborative of expert researchers and community advocates committed to compiling, analyzing and sharing a rich array of data about flooding risk and mitigation opportunities, and translating this data into information that can engage the public and guide decision-makers at all levels as they steer our region’s redevelopment.”