

The Alliance's Coastal Task Force

The co-chairs of Texas Conservation Alliance's Coastal Issues Task Force, Earl and Lonnie Matthew, say folks in the Rockport area are getting serious about balancing growth with protection of the natural resources and scenic beauty that stimulates that growth. They worked with the mayor to pass a budget proposal for the City to buy land for preservation. Local people have formed a county-wide environmental task force, with Lonnie serving as chair of the legislative committee to gain ordinance-making authority for the county. Earl's Green Corridors committee promotes greenbelts, hike and bike trails, and protecting natural habitats which could connect throughout the county. Earl is also chair of the local land trust, Aransas First.



As chair of the Environmental Committee for the Chamber of Commerce, Lonnie arranged a meeting for 150 people.

It was clear from the discussion that local people are not opposed to growth, but they want carefully-planned, sensible growth that protects habitat vital for the birds and wildlife that depend on the area's marshes, estuaries, and oak motts.

To learn what you can do to help, contact the Alliance, 903-592-0909, TCA@TCAtexas.org