



## **OPPORTUNITY TO DEMAND CLEANER AIR FOR MAGNOLIA PARK AND THE GREATER EAST END**

Derichebourg Recycling USA – Metal Shredding Center

### **New Air Quality Permit**

Located at: 1 Wharf Street, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77012.

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#### **PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCED:**

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 7PM  
American Legion Harrisburg Post 472  
7599 Avenue C, Houston, Texas 77012

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#### **What is being decided?**

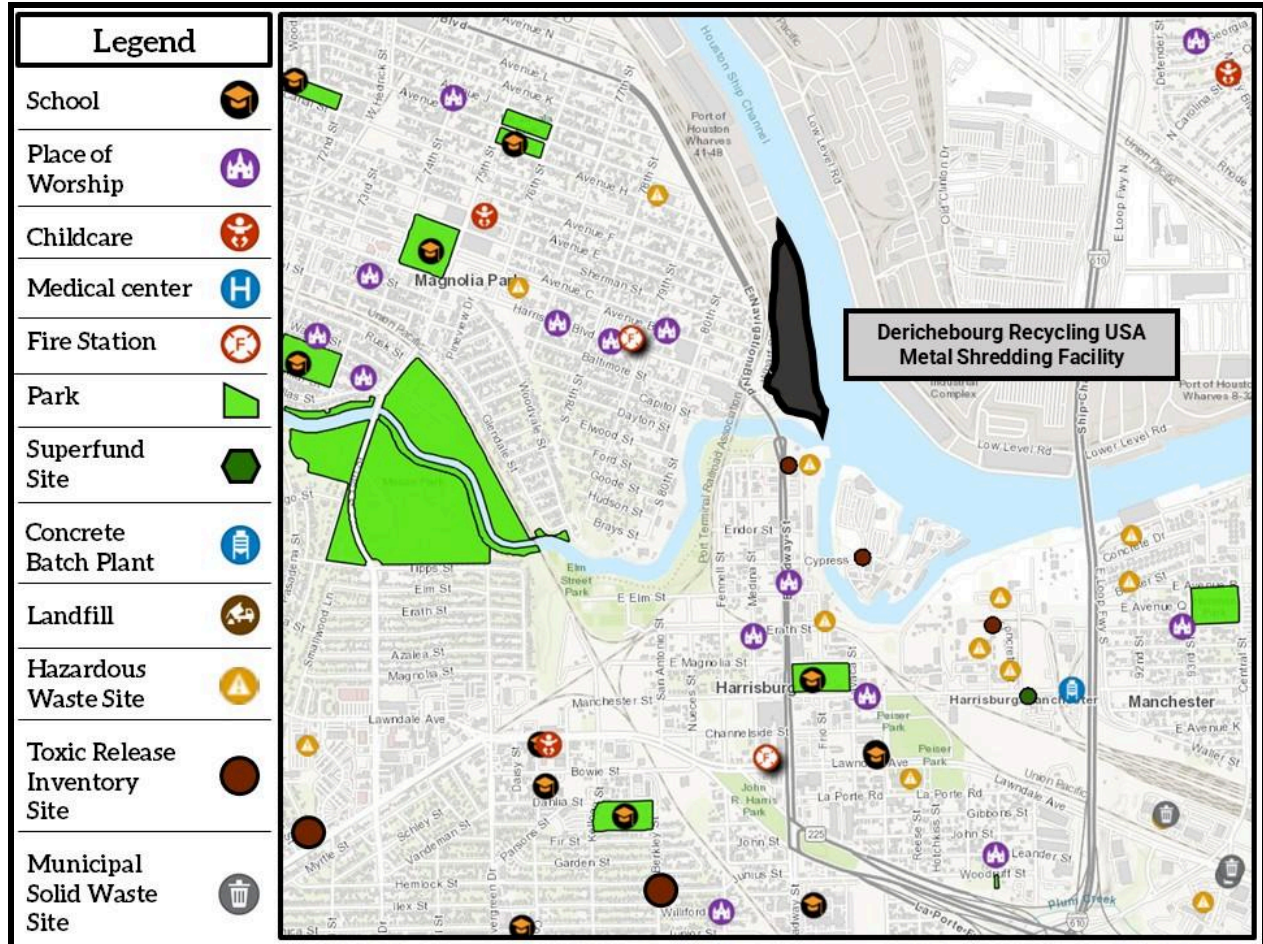
- Derichebourg Recycling USA has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for air quality permits to construct a **new** permanent metal and automobile shredding facility at 1 Wharf Street, Houston, Texas 77012.
- This permit will authorize the construction of a metal shredding and recycling facility that will produce/manufacture recycled scrap metal and be allowed to operate 7 hours a day, 5 days a week, 52 weeks a year for a total of 1,820 hours per year.
- The permit will allow the facility to process 160 tons of metal per hour and over 291,000 tons of metal per year
  - These metals include automobile bodies, appliances, and light iron
- TCEQ can approve, amend, or reject the permit. The company must receive an air permit to construct the plant.
- Metal recyclers, shredders, and other polluting facilities like it are unfairly clustered in communities of color and lower-wealth.

#### **What concerning pollutants are emitted by metal recyclers?**

- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) like benzene, butadiene, ethylene, hydrofluoric acid, and formaldehyde. These highly toxic chemicals can damage organs and cause cancer.
- Particulate Matter 2.5 (tiny particles of soot, dust, silica, metals etc.). It can enter into lung tissue and the bloodstream, triggering asthma attacks, cardiovascular issues, cancers and other severe health problems
  - These particles include metal dust containing iron, lead, zinc, chromium, mercury, arsenic, cadmium, copper, nickel, and other toxic heavy metals
- Carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides: all are hazardous air pollutants that impact public health.
- Severe noise, odors, and light pollution from operations, long hours, and potential fires and explosions: these impact the well-being of residents around the facility and disrupt their daily lives.

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**What are the specific concerns about the Derichebourg metal shredding recycling center?**

- If granted, the permit will allow the new shredding facility to release the following quantities of air pollution every year:

Chemical	Quantity
Volatile Organic Compounds	156,320 pounds
Particulate Matter	360 pounds
Nitrogen Oxides	160 pounds
Carbon Monoxide	100 pounds
Sulfur Dioxide	20 pounds

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- More than **2,500 residents live within a one-mile radius** of the proposed facility.
- The plant would be close to **5 schools, 6 places of worship, 10 childcare centers and clinics, 1 fire station, and 4 parks, among other sensitive use areas.**
- Within 1 mile of the facility:
  - 98% people of color, 5% identify as Black, 92% identify as Hispanic, and 1% identify as Asian, and 82% are Spanish speaking.
  - The surrounding area also experiences elevated levels of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

#### Schools

1. De Zavalla Elementary
2. Gallegos Elementary
3. JR Harris Elementary
4. Yes Prep - East End
5. Briscoe Elementary

#### Medical Centers / Nursing Homes / Childcare Centers:

1. Neighborhood Centers Inc: Magnolia Early Child Development Center
2. Community Family Center
3. Los Ninos Montessori
4. Little Bo Peep Lawndale
5. Clinica Hispana Harrisburg
6. Clinica San Felipe - Harrisburg
7. El Centro de Corazón John S. Dunn Health Center
8. Clinica San Angel
9. El Centro de Corazón Magnolia Health Center
10. Broadway clinic

#### Places of Worship:

1. Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
2. Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
3. The Promise Church of Houston
4. NewSong Fellowship Church
5. Iglesia Universal
6. New Vision Temple

#### Parks:

- Brays Greenway Park
- Mason Park
- DeZavala Park and Community Center
- Hartman Park and Community Center

Other: Houston Fire Station 22

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### **What should TCEQ do about the permit application?**

- Deny the permit because of the environmental and health harms posed by metal recycling and shredding facilities like this—especially in a community already overburdened with pollution sources.
  - Studies have shown that particulate matter from metal recycling facilities poses an increased cancer risk to surrounding residents.
- Barring a permit denial, TCEQ must strengthen the permit and *require enhanced pollution control practices* to reduce the plant's pollution.
- TCEQ should require fence-line monitoring for better transparency about pollution emissions.

### **What can I do to slow, stop, or strengthen this permit?**

- Contact your elected officials and voice your concerns about this new concrete batch plant being proposed near you, which will increase air pollution in your community if the permit is issued.
- Submit your comments on the permit to TCEQ virtually at: [www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/](http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/). Type “180552” in the Permit Number box. The form requires you to provide contact information.

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## COPY AND PASTE THESE SAMPLE COMMENTS

I live near Derichebourg Recycling USA's metal and automobile shredding shredding facility on Wharf Street and am stating my opposition to this permit being granted.

I understand that this facility will be a source of hazardous health-harming air pollution, including:

- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) like benzene, butadiene, ethylene, hydrofluoric acid, and formaldehyde. These highly toxic chemicals can damage organs and cause cancer.
- Particulate Matter 2.5 and toxic heavy metal dust, which, when inhaled, can enter into lung tissue and in the bloodstream, triggering asthma attacks and adverse cardiovascular outcomes for vulnerable persons.
- Carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides are all hazardous air pollutants.
- Severe noise, odors, and light pollution from operations, long hours, and potential fires and explosions: these impact the well-being of residents around the facility and disrupt their daily lives.

More than 2,500 households are within 1 mile of the proposed concrete plant, which would also be close to 5 schools, 6 places of worship, 10 childcare centers, and 4 parks.

I am writing this to ask TCEQ to prioritize my health and my community's health. Time and time again, TCEQ has failed us in doing so. This is your opportunity to prioritize people over polluters.

**ADD YOUR PERSONAL TESTIMONY HERE: This can be about how your health, neighborhood, and quality of life will be affected by this facility, etc.**

I want TCEQ to prioritize my community's health, as they can stop this concrete batch from exposing me and my neighborhood to continued air pollution and all of its negative health and quality of life impacts.

## END OF SAMPLE COMMENTS

**For additional information, contact Air Alliance Houston at (713) 528-3779.**

Go to our website for updates on permit campaigns:  
[www.airalliancehouston.org](http://www.airalliancehouston.org) > Community Updates > AirMail

To join our movement for clean air, sign up for our mailing list by scanning the QR code or by following this link: [tinyurl.com/subscribeaah](https://tinyurl.com/subscribeaah)



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