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# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Big Texas Paddlefest cancelled due to high water levels *Event scheduled for mid-July now set for next year*

LITTLE ELM (June 5, 2015) While losses related to the encroaching lake levels and expanded shoreline in Little Elm have been largely confined to inundated yards, barricaded low water crossings, and closed recreational facilities, the temporary high water has also resulted in the cancellation of a paddle board event.

The Big Texas Paddlefest, originally scheduled for July 11-12, will be suspended until next year. The two-day event was to have been the second such event at Little Elm Park Beach, having debuted at the sandy recreational area last summer. The event highlights the emerging sport of stand up paddling, requiring the use of the swim area where boats, and their accompanying wakes, are prohibited.

In addition, organizers decided to cancel because the event is completely dependent on occupying the beach area, where exhibitors, vendors and attendees were to have set up for the two days.

All activity related to the event, including the anticipated raffles, giveaways and paddleboard exhibitions, are also cancelled until next year. The 2016 event is now scheduled for July 16-17.

Little Elm officials, in conjunction with public safety personnel from associated organizations, are wary of placing an exact date for when the lake waters will recede to the point of making the beach accessible. Once the waters do return to acceptable levels, some remedial work on the beach may be required, further delaying public use.

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**ABOUT LITTLE ELM** – Little Elm is one of the state’s fastest growing communities. Nestled on the shores of Lake Lewisville, the Town was incorporated in 1966, adopting the Council/Manager form of government. The population increased dramatically over the last several years, growing from under 4,000 in 2000 to over 30,000 today. Little Elm’s population exceeds the state average in education and income, and is increasingly trending younger and technologically proficient. The Town’s footprint is just over 21 square miles and boasts some 66 linear miles of shoreline within its boundaries.