

Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group Hybrid Meeting
Thursday, April 21, 2022
10:00 a.m.
Dallas City Hall
L1 Auditorium
1500 Marilla
Dallas, Texas 75201

The Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group held a meeting, in person as well as virtual, on Thursday, April 21, 2022, at 10:00 AM. Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

Voting Members Present:

Melissa Bookhout
Lissa Shepard
Sano Blocker (absent)
Jordan Macha
Craig Ottman for Rachel Ickert
Matt Robinson
Sarah Standifer
Andrew Isbell
Glenn Clingenpeel
Chad Ballard (joined after roll call)
Galen Roberts for Mike Rickman
Scott Harris

10 voting members were present at the time of roll call, constituting a quorum.

Ex Officio Members Present:

Adam Whisenant (absent)
Rob Barthen
Steve Bednarz
Kevin Enoch for Andrea Sanders
James Bronikowski for Richard Bagans
Humberto (Bert) Galvan
Kris Robles for Brooke Bacuetes
Greg Waller (absent)
Ellen Buchanan
Todd Burrer (absent)
Jerry Cotter
Lisa McCracken
Diane Howe (absent)
Edith Marvin
Justin Bower
Lonnie Hunt (absent)

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

Motion: Lissa Shepard moved to approve the minutes as presented;
Second: Sarah Standifer; Action: Minutes were unanimously approved.

Acknowledgement of written public comments received

One written comment was received on March 3, 2022 from Bruce Campbell via Region 3 Trinity RFPG Website Public Comment Form. The Group acknowledged receipt of the comment.

Receive registered public comments on specific agenda items

No registered public comments were received.

TWDB Update

James Bronikowski with TWDB provided an agency update.

The TWDB staff recently provided informal comments on the January 7th Technical Memorandum Deliverables. Those letters were sent out the week of April 18. The March 7th Deliverables are still being reviewed. TWDB staff comments hope to be provided during the second week of May.

Additional funds were provided to the RFPGs. Grant agreement amendments have been executed with all regions to accommodate changes in additional scope, additional contract dollars, and additional extension of time. Subsequently, subcontracts with Technical Consultants will need to be amended. Once subcontracts are completed and executed, please send them to TWDB for recordkeeping.

The next RFPG Chair Conference Call will be on Wednesday, May 25th at 1 pm. The next Technical Consultants Conference Call will be on Tuesday, May 24th at 10 am. The agendas and materials for those meetings will be sent out closer to the meeting dates.

The Draft Regional Flood Plan 60 day public comment period must be centered around a public meeting that is held to allow public comment on Draft Regional Flood Plans. The 60 days must be split evenly around the first public meeting. 30 days before the first public meeting and 30 days after the first public meeting. The Draft Regional Flood Plan must be made publicly available throughout the entire 60 days. The required first public meeting may be held prior to the RFPG submitting the Draft Regional Flood Plan to TWDB on August 1st. The first public meeting does not need

to be the meeting where the RFPG approves the Draft Regional Flood Plan. More information is provided in the recent newsletter.

Receive report from Nominating Committee

Scott Harris gave an update on filling the vacant Water District Voting position. He stated that the Nominating Committee met Thursday, April 21st at 9:16 am. Mr. Harris said the Nominating Committee received one application for the position: Mr. Galen Roberts, North Texas Municipal Water District (NTWMD), who has currently been serving as an alternate for Mike Rickman. The Nominating Committee discussed, considered, and recommended that Mr. Roberts be elected to fill the vacant Water District Voting position on the RFPG Committee.

Consider filling Water District seat

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel called for a motion to recommend Mr. Galen Roberts be appointed to the Water District Voting position on the RFPG Committee.

Motion: Scott Harris made a motion to appoint Mr. Galen Roberts to the Water District Voting position on the RFPG Committee; Second: Matt Robinson; Action: Motion passed unanimously.

Update from Region 3 Technical Consultant - Stephanie Griffin with Halff Associates

The RFPG Technical Subcommittee has been meeting to determine which FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs are potentially feasible (Chapter 4) and should be recommended for Chapter 5. Ms. Griffin stated that an update on Chapter 2 Flood Risk Analysis would be presented that would cover the results of the public comment period pertaining to the interactive web map of existing conditions. She also stated that an update on Chapter 7 Flood Response Information and Activities would be presented along with an update on Chapter 8 Admin, Regulatory and Legislative Recommendations. She further stated that the RFPG would participate in interactive polling to determine what is of importance and should be potentially recommended in Chapter 8. Recommendations to date have been tracked throughout this RFPG process. An overview of Chapter 9 Flood Infrastructure Financing Analysis and Chapter 10 Public Participation and Plan Adoption were also to be presented along with an update on Public Outreach activities.

a. Chapter 2 Flood Risk Analyses - Samuel Amoako-Atta with Halff Associates:

i. Update on interactive web map existing conditions flood risk map

12 public comments were received in the upper region of the Trinity on the interactive web map. Most of the comments were from municipalities

and individuals or entities within a municipality. Comments were received from the City of Balch Springs, City of Corinth, City of Plano, City of Garland, Tarrant County, and Collin County. A few comments consisted of requesting additional mapping studies or flood mitigation projects. These will be added to Chapter 4. A few comments consisted of LOMRs since new LOMRs have been issued over the past few months. The Technical Consultant will be incorporating these into the flood quilt. In addition, there was one attributes error that had already been updated. The 30 day public comment period had ended, but the interactive web map was still active and able to capture additional comments.

ii. Receive feedback on Chapter 2

Chapter 2 Flood Risk Assessment had been provided to the RFPG for review. A summary of the Chapter 2 components was presented. One component of Chapter 2 consisted of gathering existing data and the creation of the interactive web map for individuals and entities to provide additional information. Existing Conditions were inventoried by looking at different data sets, for example, FEMA, USACE, TWDB, and regional entities. All the data was compiled and mapped to create one seamless map for Region 3. Fathom data was used in areas where other flood mapping data did not exist. Existing map data gaps were also reviewed. Buildings, Population, Critical Facilities, Utilities and Agriculture exposed to flood risk were inventoried. A current flood quilt and future flood quilt were created. Future Conditions as well as Exposure and Vulnerability were also assessed and mapped. The Chapter 2 Draft now has maps, tables and text supporting the analyses to date.

The RFPG were acknowledged and thanked for their comments on Chapter 2. The comments were responded to with appropriate changes included in the Chapter 2 Draft that is currently available for public comment. Additional comments will be reviewed and addressed until the Draft is complete.

There was considerable discussion on the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI). There was concern that the CDC-developed SVI that was used, is not appropriate for flood planning as it includes an all hazards vulnerability index, of which flooding is only one component. It was recommended that the State develop one focused exclusively on flooding. The TWDB recommended that the 2018 CDC SVI be used for this assessment, and for that reason, it is being used by the Group. There are plans to develop a flood-focused approach for the SVI that FEMA currently uses. There will be updates over the next few months. It was noted that there were other metrics used to assess flood risk. For example, risk analysis flooding tools developed by FEMA were used to assess flood risk in terms of a counties resiliency. It was suggested that

TWDB reach out to the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Community Health and Resource Management ([CHARM](#)) program as they are working on an alternative SVI product for the state of Texas.

James Bronikowski with TWDB provided a response. TWDB is aware of current limits of the SVI and are working on a research project to develop a state wide flood focused index. The project is in its early stages and they are currently reviewing applications to their RFA (580-22-RFA-0006 Texas Flood Social Vulnerability Index Research Project). They hope to have this for future flood planning cycles. This is the reason why the CDC SVI was recommended for this flood planning cycle.

b. Chapter 4 Flood Mitigation Needs and Potentially Feasible Solutions
(estimated time 5 min) - David Rivera with Freese and Nichols, Inc.:

i. Task 4B update

An overview of updates to Task 4B were provided. Task 4B required justification of potential FMX's (actions). The [Region 3 Trinity RFPG Dashboard](#) was developed to visually display the potential actions. The number of actions for FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs are constantly changing. 58 FMEs were added after 4/15/2022. It was conveyed that the FMPs are the hardest to evaluate and incorporate in the Draft Regional Flood Plan. The consultant team is doing their best to capture all of the FMP information to include in the Draft Regional Flood Plan, but unfortunately not all will be included. However, they will be included in the first amendment. FMPs can still be submitted, but there is not enough remaining time to analyze the models and reports for inclusion in the Draft Regional Flood Plan. 3 additional FMSs were added on 4/13/2022 as a result of the RFPG Technical Subcommittee meeting. The Dashboard is publicly accessible and contains a complete list of actions.

c. Chapter 5 Recommendation of FMEs, FMSs and FMPs - David Rivera with Freese and Nichols, Inc.:

i. Update on Technical Subcommittee activity:

The RFPG Technical Subcommittee had convened twice since the last RFPG meeting: on March 15, 2022 and on April 13, 2022. The meeting on March 15th, 2022 was primarily to discuss the selection philosophy and how the decision making process was going to be applied. The RFPG Technical Subcommittee meeting on April 13th consisted of reviewing the decision-making process for each potentially-recommended action for the Draft Regional Flood Plan. The Technical Consultant used the guidance from March 15th and provided a first draft of actions to be recommended.

Minutes from both of these meetings will be made available through the Region 3 RFPG website.

ii. Present Technical Subcommittee recommendations

The reasons for not recommending an action were presented, and were based on TWDB criteria as discussed during the RFPG Technical Subcommittee meetings. Reasons for not recommending FMEs included evaluations that are already being undertaken, the division of master drainage plans into individual projects, merging individual projects into a larger project when they should be considered individually, and the lack of interest from a sponsor on an evaluation. The reasons for not recommending FMSs consisted of strategies relating to MS4 or water quality permits, and strategies that were merged with other actions.

35 FMPs were still being evaluated and could not be recommended. They are currently marked as pending until they can be satisfactorily evaluated and determined to meet TWDB requirements. The Technical Consultant believes that the FMPs will be finalized for recommendation by the next RFPG meeting on June 2nd. The RFPG Technical Subcommittee recommended that all 35 projects be recommended contingent upon the Technical Consultants evaluation, including confirmation that the projects do not have any negative impacts and that they meet all other TWDB requirements. It was cautioned that for those reasons, some projects currently listed may not be recommended in the Draft Regional Flood Plan. Finally, it was stated that benefit cost ratios for potential projects are being calculated.

A few FMPs have been evaluated for flood risk indicators. The evaluation looks at existing conditions and determines the impacts the projects may have on flood risk reduction. 5 FMPs of the 35 had been evaluated for flood risk reduction. This evaluation discusses the benefits that could be expected if the project was to be implemented.

In summary, 284 FMEs were recommended, 13 FMEs not recommended and 56 FMEs are pending review. There are 135 FMSs recommended and 7 FMSs that were not recommended. There are 24 FMPs pending review and 11 FMPs not recommended.

iii. *Consider approval of recommendations

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel asked the group if there were any FMXs that were recommended for approval by the Technical Subcommittee that should be pulled and considered separately. Scott Harris requested 8

actions be set aside for further review. These actions were numbered as follows on the meeting materials provided: 121, 123, 128, 133, 169, 170, 262, 274. These 8 FMEs will be set aside for review and voted on at the June 2nd meeting.

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel called for a motion to approve the FMEs and FMSs that have been reviewed individually, with the exception of those to be reviewed separately.

Motion: Scott Harris motioned to approve the FMEs and FMSs that have been reviewed individually, with the exception of those to be reviewed separately; Second: Lissa Shepard; Action: Motion passes unanimously.

FMPs were not voted on today, but guidance was provided to the Technical Consultant. It was recommended that the Technical Consultant not use a minimum cost benefit threshold, but assess each action based on the criteria provided and individual merit. The Technical Consultant will have the discretion to recommend FMPs to the RFPG.

In addition, it was recommended that FME and FMS submittals be accepted until May 6th, 2022. FMPs will be subject to the resources needed to evaluate and process submittals. FMXs submitted after May 6th will be added to an amendment that may be added to the Regional Flood Plan at an appropriate time during the 5-year flood planning cycle.

iv. Update on "Emergency Needs" definition - Laura Haverlah with H2O Partners, Inc:

Two area metrics that are linked to specific FMXs were recommended as true mitigation actions: Areas that have a history of severe and/or repetitive flooding and Areas with critical structures within the 1% annual chance flood area.

1) Areas that have a history of severe and/or repetitive flooding:

A graphic was presented displaying Severe Repetitive Loss (SRL). SRL was determined over a 10 year time frame. Actionable FMXs for SRL are acquisition, demolition, and/or elevation.

2) Areas with critical structures within the 1% annual chance flood area:

Schools, Emergency Shelters, Fire Stations, and Hospitals were displayed on the graphic. Actionable FMXs include acquisition, demolition, and/or elevation, infrastructure improvements such as flood-proofing access to the critical facility, and flood-proofing and/or retrofitting the facility itself.

Additional metrics were discussed, but dismissed since they are not capable of being related to a specific FMX. One included examining disaster declarations over the last 21 years. Chambers and Tarrant County each had 6 disaster declarations, but there were no actionable FMXs to mitigate against future disaster declarations. The second metric consisted of examining grey infrastructure, stormwater infrastructure, levees, and dams. Currently, the conditions of dams, levees, and detention facilities are not available. Therefore, no actionable FMX can be provided. Finally, loss of life was examined. Historic loss of life data does not provide the location where the event occurred, for instance, a water crossing. NOAA's NCEI provides some information, but not the exact location where, for instance, a car washed away, however, NCEI does provide where the car was found. Therefore, a metric for mitigation against loss of life is not appropriate, and none were proposed. All flood planning regions have been struggling with the "Emergency Needs" definition and some have opted not to pursue it. TWDB announced that Emergency Needs were unlikely to be used in recommendations.

There was considerable discussion on Hazard Mitigation Plans, High Hazard Dams, and on Loss of Life related to flooding. It was recommended that these metrics still be included in the narrative of the Draft Regional Flood Planning to allow for amendment at a later time.

Steven Bednarz submitted a comment via the WebEx Chat Feature: "Emergency Action Plans for high hazard dams are important and should be eligible for funding. Upgrading high hazard dams to meet high hazard criteria will increase the level of flood protection downstream from 25-year frequency to 100-year frequency. Sometimes federal funding is available for this, with 35% local match."

- d. Update on Chapter 7 Flood Response Information and Activities - Laura Haverlah with H2O Partners, Inc:

This chapter is separated into 3 sections: Actions and Preparations, Relevant Entities, and Plans and Regulations. The chapter has been written and has gone through one round of internal review. The RFPG will have the opportunity to review it in the next few weeks.

Adjourned at 11:40 am and reconvened at 11:53.

- e. Update on Chapter 8 Administrative, Regulatory and Legislative Recommendations – Audrey Giesler with Halff Associates:

In Chapter 8, the RFPG members, non-voting members, and Technical Consultants present recommendations and items regarding administrative, regulatory, and legislative aspects of the planning process for consideration

to the TWDB. Chapter 8 is divided into 4 categories. Legislative Recommendations would require action by the State of Texas. Regulatory or Administrative Recommendations are guidelines or procedural items of consideration. Flood Planning Recommendations are related specifically to the Flood Planning Process and lessons learned. Funding Recommendations are new and improved pathways that the RFPG would like to bring to TWDB's attention. A table was provided with a list of recommendations and supportive reasoning. These recommendations have been gathered from RFPG and RFPG Technical Subcommittee meetings, as well as directly from the RFPG and the Technical Consultants. The RFPG was asked to prioritize the list via real-time interactive polling. This is a first draft and will undergo significant revision before the next review.

i. 8.1.1-8.1.7 Legislative Recommendations:

There was considerable discussion on 8.1.1 "Extend Local Government Code, Title 13, Subtitle A, Chapter 552 to allow counties the opportunity to establish and collect drainage utilities/fees in unincorporated areas". It was suggested to include text on leveraging state funding or state sales tax that would divert resources to counties for drainage in unincorporated areas. It was recommended to simplify 8.1.1 to "allow State or Counties to leverage drainage fees to assist local governments with floodplain and drainage related responsibilities." This wording will be revisited by the Technical Consultant and updated.

There was considerable discussion on 8.1.6 "Adopt state mandatory building code requirements (2015 or 2018 versions of International Building Code and International Residential Code)". Currently, FEMA BRIC funding cannot be accessed without a state mandatory building code requirement. The State of Texas did not receive FEMA BRIC funding during the last funding cycle because the State did not have updated building codes. While local jurisdictions may have updated building codes, they are not considered in the state application, and therefore ineligible. It was recommended that the State take action with the FEMA requirements for BRIC funding and work to modify the guidelines. It was also suggested that 8.1.6 be reworded to only include building codes associated with flood risk as opposed to all building codes and that a review process of building codes and strategies for development of codes should be added to this recommendation. Legislation could be recommended to develop strategies to facilitate and support the updating of flood-risk building codes and strategies to aid in acquiring federal funds. In conclusion, the recommendation of mandatory building codes will be removed and substituted with developing strategies to aid in acquiring federal funds.

It was suggested to reorder all recommendations based on hierarchy of government, for example, Federal then State then Local.

It was recommended that 8.1.2 and 8.1.5 add in additional language pertaining to leveraging of state funding.

It was recommended to take out the phrase "revenue generating" from 8.1.3 and update to read "Provide for alternative sources of funding."

The RFPG ranked the recommendations in the following order: 8.1.4, 8.1.3, 8.1.7, 8.1.1, 8.1.5, 8.1.2, 8.1.6.

- ii. 8.2.1 – 8.2.9 Regulatory and Administrative Recommendations:
There was considerable discussion on 8.2.1 "Revise TxDOT design criteria to require all new TxDOT roadways to be elevated above the 1% ACE water surface elevation." It was recommended to strike any reference to TxDOT and replace that with all infrastructure agencies. The phrase "elevated above the 1% ACE water surface elevation" should be changed to "elevated to 1% ACE water surface elevation." It was also recommended to include language regarding funding for agencies to meet the 100 yr. design criteria.

There was considerable discussion on 8.2.7 "Educate county officials regarding the county's ability/authorization to establish and enforce higher development standards." It was recommended to expand this to include cities since many smaller municipalities are experiencing rapid growth. It was recommended that the education specifically target floodplain managers. It was also recommended to add that the State should develop education programs, and to provide other resources to local officials that would assist in establishing and enforce local floodplain regulations. All further comments from group members should be emailed to the Technical Consultants. The RFPG was asked to review all recommendations and provide feedback to the Technical Consultant by April 30th. Additional comments can be provided on the Chapter 8 Draft after it is available for review. Chapter 8 Draft will be available for review 2 to 3 weeks following the meeting.

James Bronikowski with TWDB confirmed that these recommendations are consistent with what they expect. TWDB will be compiling the statewide recommendations into the State Flood Plan. The RFPG should continue to recommend region-specific recommendations as they will be included within the Regional Flood Plan. As a state agency, they are limited on what they can recommend to the state legislature.

In a final comment, it was suggested that a recommendation be included that discusses the RFPG developing and providing regional resources to other areas in the region without resources. TWDB replied that this was the purpose of submitting FMEs that identified communities in need. Furthermore, additional funding was provided to the Technical Consultants to meet with these communities to identify potential projects.

- f. Introduce Chapter 9 Flood Infrastructure Financing Analysis - David Rivera with Freese and Nichols, Inc:

This chapter entails requesting the sponsors of potential FMP's to identify their financing capabilities and needs for a given project. The Technical Consultant will survey the sponsors to identify the current source of funding, the percentage the sponsor can fund, and the percentage of other funding needed for the project. A table was presented that highlighted the areas that will be populated by the survey. The RFPG was asked what percentages should be used for funding needs for recommended projects that do not receive a response from the sponsor. In response, the TWDB requested that the RFPG fill in the percentages as best as possible as they want to gauge what the additional funding needs may be beyond what the sponsor intends to provide themselves. The RFPG then came to a consensus to use less than or equal to 10% with a caveat that notes the RFPG time constraint in contacting all sponsors.

- g. Introduce Chapter 10 Public Participation and Plan Adoption - Colby Walton with Cooksey Communications:

An overview of Chapter 10 requirements was presented. There are four required elements. Chapter 10 summarizes all public participation activities. Chapter 10 appendices list all public comments and RFPG responses to comments. Past and upcoming activities were summarized. Chapter 10 Draft will be provided to the RFPG by June 22nd. Comments will be due to the Technical Consultants by June 29th. Chapter 10 revised Draft will be presented at the RFPG meeting on July 14th for approval.

- h. Public outreach updates - Colby Walton with Cooksey Communications:

A postcard mailer featuring the Draft Regional Flood Plan will be distributed in July to approximately 1,100 region stakeholders. The postcard will encourage regional stakeholders to review and provide public comment on the Draft Regional Flood Plan .

Open house-style "roadshow" meetings by consultants were proposed to be held throughout the Trinity River Basin. The roadshows are proposed for the August to early September timeframe. There was considerable discussion on what and how material should be presented to the public. It was clarified that these roadshows would not be intended to be formal meetings of the RFPG, that a virtual component would not be offered, and that a quorum of the RFPG should not be present to avoid the need to convene. One of the things that the roadshow should emphasize, is that the Draft Regional Flood Plan is iterative, and if a particular project is not included in the draft, there will be opportunities to add it at a later time. It was proposed that the RFPG members establish ground rules and objectives for the roadshow as well as

recommend locations for meetings in their regions within the Trinity River Basin. NCTCOG has offered their location for the upper region of the Trinity River Basin.

The public hearing on the Draft Regional Flood Plan is tentatively scheduled for early September, 2022. TWDB noted that the RFPG is allowed to hold the public hearing prior to submitting the Draft Regional Flood Plan on August 1st.

Stephanie Griffin with Halff Associates provided information on upcoming deadlines. Chapters 1-3 of the Draft Regional Flood Plan will be closed for public comment on May 21st. There will be no May and August RFPG meetings. The Draft Regional Flood Plan will be sent to TWDB on August 1st.

Updates from liaisons for adjoining coastal regions

- a. Region 5 Neches RFPG: Andrew Isbell reported that Region 5 is currently at the same planning stage as Region 3. They are currently sorting out projects.
- b. Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG : Scott Harris reported that Region 6 met on April 14th and discussed Task 4a and 3a as well as the process for recommending FMXs. Their next meeting will be on May 12th.

Update from Planning Group Sponsor

The subcontract amendment between TRA and Halff Associates has been sent to Halff Associates for signatures. It should be executed next week.

Review administrative costs requiring certification

There were no administrative costs requiring certification.

Receive registered public comments – limit 3 minutes per person

Mr. Clingenpeel opened the floor for public comments. No comments were received and the public comment section was closed.

Announcements

Lissa Shepard announced that Flood Awareness Week is May 23rd-May 27th, 2022. Now is the time to prepare resolutions for public officials.

Confirm meeting date for next meeting

June 2nd, 2022 tentatively scheduled for the Crockett Civic Center
July 21st, 2022 in the DFW area

Consider agenda for next meeting

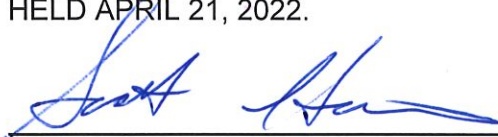
Chapters 4, 5, 7, 8 reviews

Consultant provides update on Chapters 6, 9, 10

Adjourn

1:41 pm adjourned

THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING ARE CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP
HELD APRIL 21, 2022.



SCOTT HARRIS, Secretary
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD
PLANNING GROUP



Date



GLENN CLINGENPEEL, Chair
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD
PLANNING GROUP

7/13/2022

Date