



**Region 3 Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group
Technical Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2026
9:00 a.m.**

The Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group (R3TRFPG) Technical Subcommittee will hold a public meeting pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.127. This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format.

In-person:
Walker County Annex
1313 University Ave
Huntsville, Texas 77340

Virtually:
Via WebEx videoconference at:
<https://trinityra.webex.com/trinityra/j.php?MTID=m0d88c9dd795d49ce4c763e50c21e4b73>
Webinar code: 2487 864 7044
Or via phone at: 1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 248 786 47044

Members of the public may attend, participate and/or address the R3TRFPG Technical Subcommittee in person, or they may virtually access the meeting using the videoconference link or teleconference information provided above. Members of the public wishing to address the Technical Subcommittee during the meeting are encouraged to follow the registration and comment procedures found below.

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. * Approval of minutes from the previous Technical Subcommittee meeting
4. Acknowledgement of written public comments received
5. Receive registered public comments on specific agenda items – limit 3 minutes per person
6. Update from the Region 3 Technical Consultant
 - a. Overview of small/rural definitions from other regions
 - b. Discussion on small/rural definition for Trinity RFPG
 - c. *Consider recommending a definition of “small/rural” to the Trinity RFPG
 - d. Update on process applied to prioritize FMEs for advancement to FMPs

Region 3 Trinity RFPG Technical Subcommittee February 3, 2026 Meeting Notice and Agenda, cont.

- e. Present results of prioritization
 - f. *Consider recommending to RFPG the list of FMEs for TWDB to perform
 - g. *Consider recommending to RFPG the list of FMEs for RFPG to perform
 - h. Present 2023 Cycle's approach to recommending FMEs, FMPs, FMSs
 - i. *Consider recommending approach to recommend FMEs, FMPs, FMSs to the RFPG
7. Receive public comments – limit 3 minutes per person
 8. Announcements
 9. Confirm meeting date for next meeting
 10. Consider agenda items for next meeting
 11. Adjourn

* Denotes Action Item

ORAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

If you wish to provide oral public comments at the meeting, you are encouraged to register in advance by emailing info@trinityrfpg.org no later than 8:00 a.m. on Feb. 4, 2026, providing your name, phone number, email address and who are you representing, and indicating if you wish to comment on a specific agenda item or provide general comments. During the meeting, those who have registered to speak will be called upon by the Chair during the appropriate comment period. At the discretion of the Chair, unregistered attendees who wish to speak may also have the opportunity to provide oral comments during the public comment periods of the agenda.

- Those participating by video conference will be asked to use the “raise hand” function, visible by hovering the cursor over the attendee’s name onscreen, to indicate their interest in speaking during the appropriate public comment period.
- Those participating by teleconference will be asked to enter *3 to indicate their interest in speaking and to be placed into the queue in order to be called upon during the appropriate public comment period.

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to info@trinityrfpg.org and include “Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group Meeting” in the subject line of the email.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Heather Firn at: (817) 467-4343 or by email at: firmha@trinityra.org

Physical location: 5300 South Collins Street, Arlington, TX 76018

The background of the slide is a deep teal color with a wavy, rippling surface line that separates the top and bottom halves, resembling water. The text is white and positioned in the lower half of the image.

Technical Subcommittee #2

February 4, 2026



1. Call to order



2. Roll call



3. Approval of minutes

Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group
Technical Subcommittee Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
9:00 a.m.

The Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group Technical Subcommittee convened a public meeting, in person as well as virtual, on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Notice of the meeting was posted at least 72 hours in advance in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Chairman Andrew Isbell opened the meeting at 9:07 a.m. A quorum of the Subcommittee was present. The posted in-person meeting location was open and accessible to the public throughout the meeting. The videoconference was visible and audible to the public at that location.

Members Present:

Scott Harris
Andrew Isbell
Craig Ottman for Rachel Ickert
Matt Robinson
Lissa Shepard
Sarah Standifer

Members Absent:

Galen Roberts

Quorum: Six (6) voting members were present, constituting a quorum.

Approval of the Minutes for the May 14, 2025 Meeting

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

Acknowledgement of written public comments received

No written public comments were received.

Receive registered public comments on specific agenda items

No registered public comments were received.

Updates from Region 3 Technical Consultant

- a. Update on recent TWDB direction for FMEs submitted for TWDB to perform

The Technical Consultant (Audrey, Halff Associates) provided an update on recent Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) direction indicating that FMEs performed by TWDB are intended for small and/or rural communities lacking the capacity to perform FMEs independently. The Consultant noted that TWDB guidance references “urban area population” in eligibility considerations and that the term is not explicitly defined, creating interpretation challenges for consistent application across the Region.

Substantial discussion on the definition of “rural” and “urban area population” included:

- How “urban area population” should be interpreted at county and municipal levels.
- Whether and how to treat incorporated areas with populations under 10,000.
- Avoiding unintended exclusion of small communities located within larger counties.
- Ensuring alignment with TWDB’s intent to support communities with limited capacity.

The group recognized that for communities, the working definition for “urban area population” could be reinterpreted as “incorporated area”.

Motion (Item 6.a)

- Motion: Scott Harris moved to reassess FME eligibility and prioritization **using a working definition of “urban area population” for counties as the total population of incorporated areas with populations greater than 10,000 (i.e., excluding incorporated areas under 10,000)** for purposes of FMEs submitted for TWDB performance. **If the urban area population sums to more than 50,000 population, then the county is considered “urban”.**
- Second: Lissa Shepard
- Action: Approved unanimously.

Items Not Addressed; Deferred to a Future Meeting

No action was taken on the following posted sub-items under Agenda Item 6; they were deferred to a future Technical Subcommittee meeting to allow the reassessment directed by the motion above:

- Overview of the process applied to prioritize FMEs for advancement to FMPs

- Presentation of FME prioritization results
- Consideration of recommending to the RFPG the list of FMEs for TWDB to perform
- Consideration of recommending to the RFPG the list of FMEs for RFPG performance

Receive public comments – limit 3 minutes per person

No public comments were received.

Announcements

None

Confirm meeting date for next meeting

The Subcommittee discussed availability for a follow-up meeting prior to the February 26, 2026 RFPG meeting. Possible dates discussed included **Tuesday, February 3, 2026** or **Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 9:00–10:00 a.m.** The date and agenda will be posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Consider agenda for next meeting

The Technical Subcommittee identified agenda items for the next meeting, including review of regional definitions for small and rural communities, presentation of revised FME prioritization using the approved urban area definition, and consideration of recommending FMEs for TWDB and RFPG performance, with additional discussion of FME/FMP/FMS recommendation approaches if time permits.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at **10:20 a.m.**

THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING ARE CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE HELD JANUARY 20, 2026.

CRAIG OTTMAN, Secretary
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE


Date

ANDREW ISBELL, Chair
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP TECHNICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

Date



4. Acknowledgement of written comments received

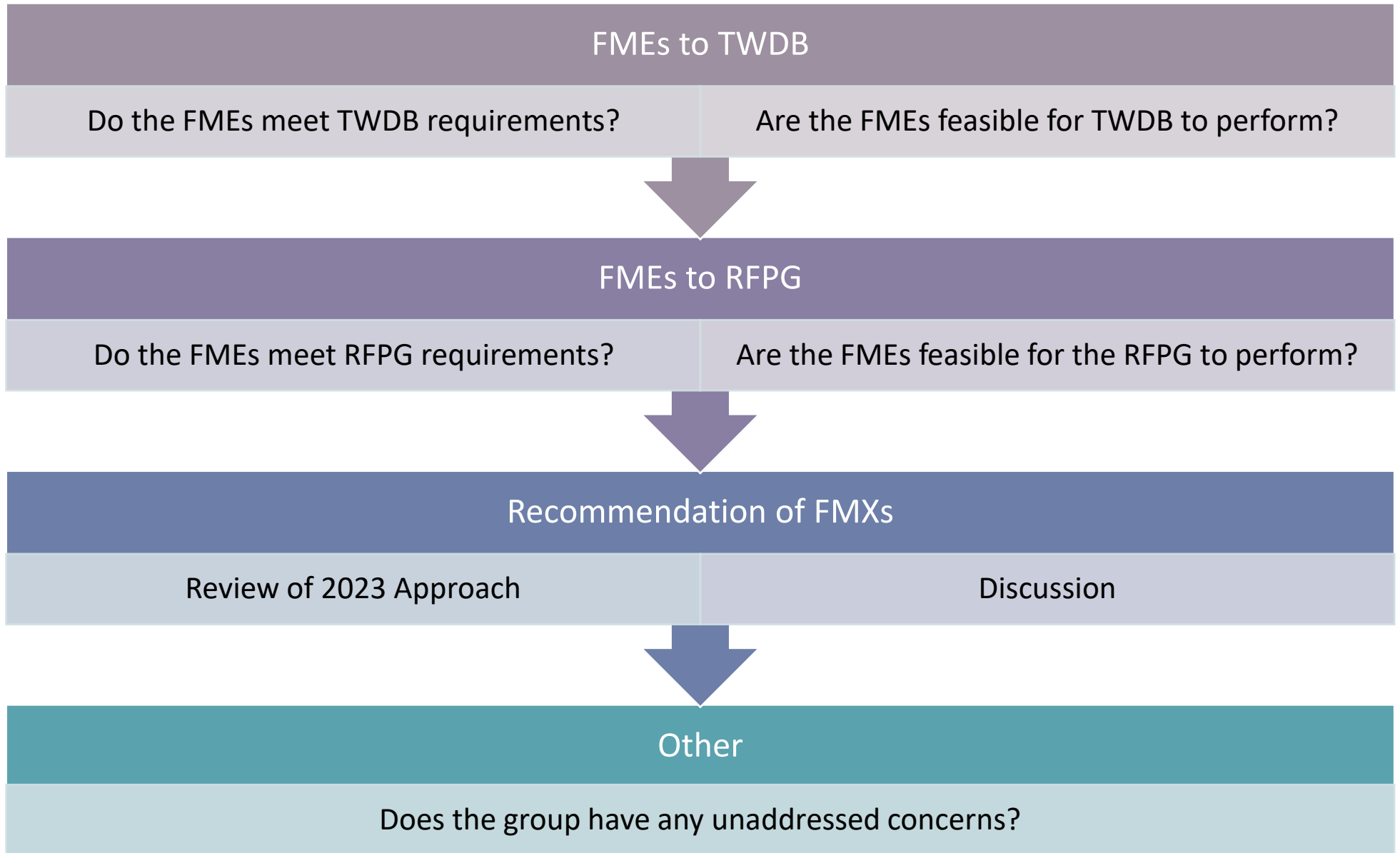


5. Public comments on agenda items



6. Consultant update

Guiding Points



Potential Options to Select FMEs to Advance

TWDB Criteria

Criteria, weights developed in the State Flood Plan

- Already developed
- Mirrors TWDB selection process for FMEs
- FME scoring not a direct indicator of strong/high-scoring FMPs

Task 12 Tiers

Criteria developed for Cycle 1, Task 12

- Already developed
- Favors FMEs with more information and communities not already in the plan
- Requires communities to have more data readily available (not SVI-friendly)

Task 3B Criteria

Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis results from Cycle 2

- Utilizes Cycle 2 data
- Targets areas with highest mitigation needs
- May isolate FMEs to a few, specific HUCs

Other Criteria

Develop criteria from scratch

- Target specific areas of concern to the RFPG
- Gives more control to the Committee and the Group
- Increased effort not specifically scoped.

TWDB Additional Criteria

Clarification on Task 5B – Recommend a List of Flood Management Evaluations to be Performed by TWDB

- These FMEs are intended for small, and/or rural communities.
- The FME list should provide a relative order of timing in which the RFPGs prefer the FMEs to be performed.
- SOW: “The nature of the sponsor/beneficiary of the identified FME study including whether, for example, the community is a smaller community without appropriate staff and resource, located in a rural area, and/or whether that entity might otherwise have difficulty in funding and overseeing the FME study itself;”
- Exhibit C: “It is expected that FMEs associated with those small and rural communities who often do not have the resources to develop, perform, or review FMEs on their own behalf.”

TWDB FME Ranking Criteria (from 2024 FIF)

- Critical facilities at risk
- Low Water Xings at risk
- Structures at risk
- Population at risk
- Length of roads at risk
- Farm & Ranch land at risk
- Number of road closures

Does not inherently lend itself to small/rural communities.



TWDB FIUP Definition of “rural”

- Certain nonprofit water supply or sewer service corporation or district or authority located outside urban area with service area population less than 50,000
- Municipality
 - Population less than 10,000 or
 - Located entirely within a county in which urban area population is less than 50,000
- County in which urban area population is less than 50,000

-Source: *2024-2025 Flood Intended Use Plan*, Texas Water Development Board, March 5, 2024

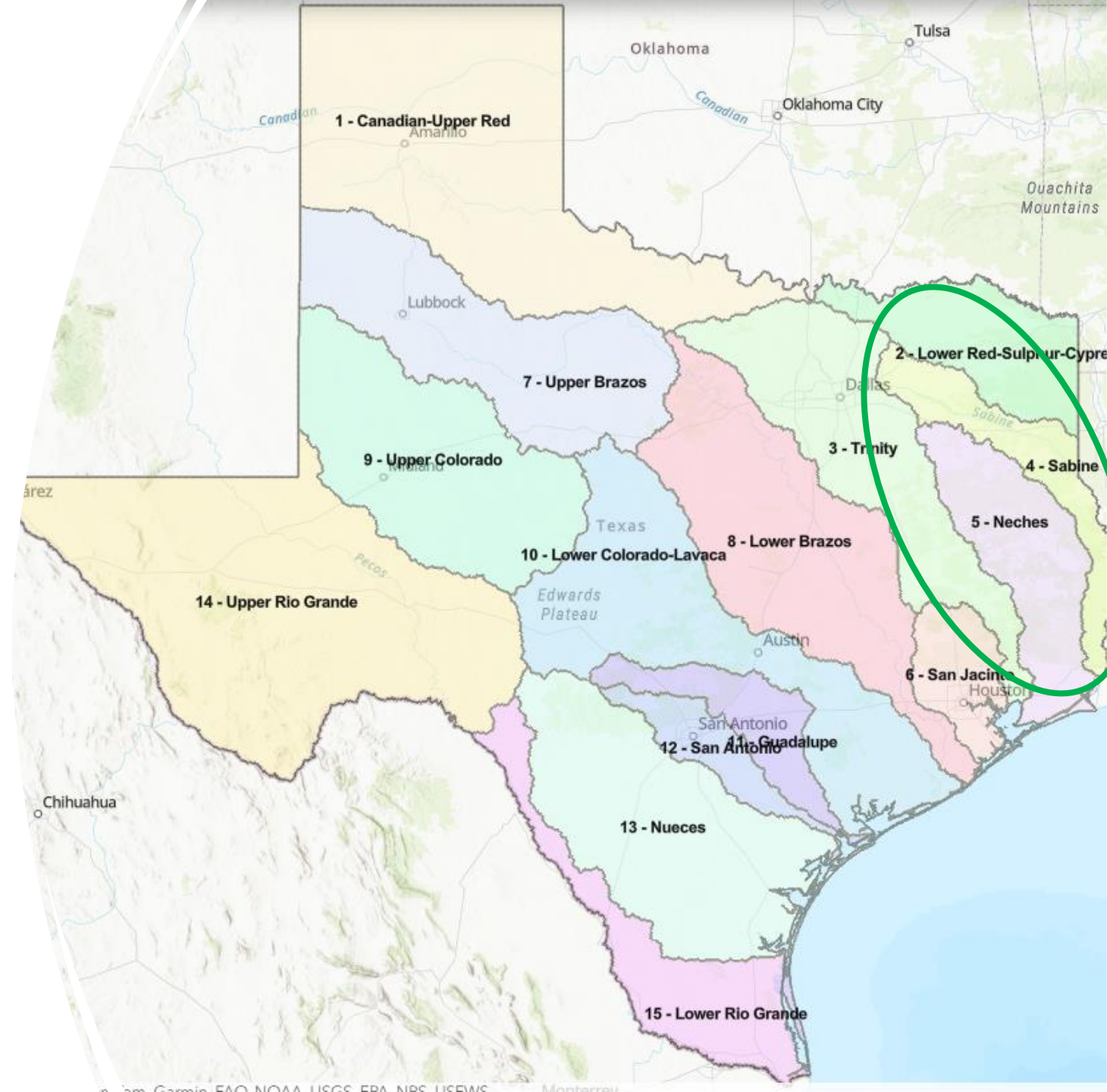
Definition of “small/rural”

- Four other regions have defined “small/rural” with some amount of certainty
 - Region data provided has NOT necessarily been voted upon by their respective RFPG
- Most regions (including ones not listed here) are referencing TWDB FIUP as the guidance for “small/rural” definitions.



Definition of “small/rural”

- Region 4 – Sabine
 - Rural Municipality
 - Population of 10k or less
 - OR
 - Located in a county without an urban center
- Rural County
 - Urban area population less than or equal to 50k



Definition of “small/rural”

- Region 8 – Lower Brazos
 - Rural Municipality
 - Population of 10k or less
 - OR
 - Located within a rural county (municipality population less than 50k)
- Rural County
 - No [incorporated municipality] with a population of more than 50k
- OR
- An unincorporated population less than 50k



Definition of “small/rural”

- Region 9 – Upper Colorado
 - Rural Municipality
 - Population of 10k or less
 - OR
 - Located within a county in which no urban area has a population greater than 50k
- Rural County
 - No urban center has a population of more than 50k
- OR
- The County is an applicant for a study or project located in an unincorporated community/ies with a population of 10k or less per community



Definition of “small/rural”

- Region 12 – San Antonio
 - Rural Municipality
 - Population of **50k** or less
 - OR
 - Located within a county in which no urban area has a population greater than 50k
- Rural County
 - No urban center has a population of more than **100k**
- Any Applicant
 - That demonstrates to the board that they are rural
 - The area to be served by the project is rural



Small/Rural Definitions from Prev Meeting

Method 1

- Cities with a population less than 10k
- Counties where no city has a population greater than 50k

Method 2

- Cities with a population less than 10k
- Counties where all non-rural population is less than 50k

Method 3

- Cities with a population less than 10k
- Cities completely contained within a rural county
- Counties where all non-rural population is less than 50k

Rank	FME ID	FME Name	FME Sponsor
1	03-51-0000000516	Kaufman County Countywide Drainage Study - Phase 2	Kaufman County
2	03-51-0000000153	Liberty County Re-canalization	Liberty County
3	03-51-0000000085	Leon County DMP	Leon County
4	03-51-0000000467	Floodplain Evaluation of Kings Branch and Farmers Branch	Westworth Village
5	03-51-0000000081	Freestone County DMP	Freestone County, Fairfield, Streetman, Teague, Wortham
6	03-51-0000000148	Houston County dike for critical facilities	Houston County
7	03-51-0000000078	Anderson County DMP	Anderson County
8	03-51-0000000079	Cooke County DMP	Cooke County
9	03-51-0000000082	Houston County DMP	Houston County
10	03-51-0000000089	Polk County DMP	Polk County, Livingston, Goodrich, Onalaska, Seven Oaks, Corrigan
11	03-51-0000000157	Polk County Road and Drainage Improvements	Polk County

Method #1

- **CITY:**
City population is less than 10k
- **COUNTY:**
County does not contain a city with a population > 50k

Rank	FME ID	FME Name	FME Sponsor
	03-51-0000000516	Kaufman County Countywide Drainage Study - Phase 2	Kaufman County
1	03-51-0000000153	Liberty County Re-canalization	Liberty County
2	03-51-0000000085	Leon County DMP	Leon County
3	03-51-0000000467	Floodplain Evaluation of Kings Branch and Farmers Branch	Westworth Village
4	03-51-0000000081	Freestone County DMP	Freestone County, Fairfield, Streetman, Teague, Wortham
5	03-51-0000000148	Houston County dike for critical facilities	Houston County
6	03-51-0000000078	Anderson County DMP	Anderson County
7	03-51-0000000079	Cooke County DMP	Cooke County
8	03-51-0000000082	Houston County DMP	Houston County
9	03-51-0000000089	Polk County DMP	Polk County, Livingston, Goodrich, Onalaska, Seven Oaks, Corrigan
10	03-51-0000000157	Polk County Road and Drainage Improvements	Polk County

Method #2

- **CITY:**
City population is less than 10k
- **COUNTY:**
Non-rural cities within a county do not contain a total population > 50k

Rank	FME ID	FME Name	FME Sponsor
	03-51-0000000516	Kaufman County Countywide Drainage Study - Phase 2	Kaufman County
1	03-51-0000000153	Liberty County Re-canalization	Liberty County
2	03-51-0000000085	Leon County DMP	Leon County
3	03-51-0000000467	Floodplain Evaluation of Kings Branch and Farmers Branch	Westworth Village
4	03-51-0000000081	Freestone County DMP	Freestone County, Fairfield, Streetman, Teague, Wortham
5	03-51-0000000148	Houston County dike for critical facilities	Houston County
6	03-51-0000000078	Anderson County DMP	Anderson County
7	03-51-0000000079	Cooke County DMP	Cooke County
8	03-51-0000000082	Houston County DMP	Houston County
9	03-51-0000000089	Polk County DMP	Polk County, Livingston, Goodrich, Onalaska, Seven Oaks, Corrigan
10	03-51-0000000157	Polk County Road and Drainage Improvements	Polk County

Method #3

- **CITY:**
City population is less than 10k OR contained entirely within rural county
- **COUNTY:**
Non-rural cities within a county do not contain a total population > 50k

Discussion: Drainage Master Plans

Issue:

A typical drainage master plan scope will be beyond TWDB's goal of creating FMPs.

Potential Solution: Revise the scope.

Include



- 2D ROM Modeling
- 50%, 25%, 10%, 1%, and 0.2% Events
- Identification of problem areas (5-6)
- Identification of FMPs (~2)
- Report

Exclude



- Survey
- Historical storm events
- CIP List or Prioritization
- Drainage Criteria Review/Revision

A hand is shown holding a glowing, translucent orb. The orb is surrounded by various white line-art icons including a camera, a lightbulb, a question mark, a clock, a smartphone, a magnifying glass, a hand, a laptop, a speech bubble, and an '@' symbol. The background is a soft, light blue gradient.

**Consider
recommending list of
FMEs for TWDB to
perform**

*(Formal approval will be
considered at Feb. RFPG Mtg.)*

Task 4C Guidelines & Goals

Exhibit C, Texas Water Development Board:

Goals:

“The goal for this task is for RFPGs to perform a subset of the potential FMEs identified in Task 4A and, in doing so, identify and evaluate additional FMPs that could be recommended under Task 5A.”

Additional Guidance: (excerpt)

“While the RFPGs have flexibility in determining which identified FMEs should be performed under Task 4C, they should follow all requirements outlined under Tasks 4A and 5A, respectively. RFPGs may choose to consider emergency need, social vulnerability, available RFPG resources, and the likelihood of identifying feasible FMPs in the regional flood plan.”

Submittal Requirements: (excerpt)

- “4. A list of the FMEs, as approved by the RFPG, that were performed to identify potential FMPs and/or FMSs under Task 4C utilizing the template below (Table 15).
5. Outcomes of FMEs that were performed to identify potential FMPs and/or FMSs under Task 4C.
6. List of FMPs and FMSs that are identified as a result of performing FMEs under Task 4C.”



RFPG Rank				TWDB Rank
Rank	FME ID	FME Name	Sponsor	
1	03-51-0000000528	Upper Trinity Basin Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) Project Identification and Prioritization	North Central Texas Council of Governments	
2	03-51-0000000517	Phase #2 of Stormwater Master Plan	Denton	
3	03-51-0000000519	Mill Creek Drainage Relief System - Upper-Middle Improvements	Dallas	
4	03-51-0000000516	Kaufman County Countywide Drainage Study - Phase 2	Kaufman County	1
5	03-51-0000000153	Liberty County Re-canalization	Liberty County	2
6	03-51-0000000376	Project 14 – Ridgeway Circle and Ridgeway Drive System	Richardson	
7	03-51-0000000554	Ellis County Drainage Master Plan	Ellis County	
8	03-51-0000000467	Floodplain Evaluation of Kings Branch and Farmers Branch	Westworth Village	4
9	03-51-0000000426	Woody Branch Floodplain Management Study	Dallas	
10	03-51-0000000358	City of Irving DMP	Irving	
11	03-51-0000000461	Cooper Creek Drainage Study	Denton	
12	03-51-0000000085	Leon County DMP	Leon County	3
13	03-51-0000000434	Coombs Creek Bridge @ Colorado	Dallas	
14	03-51-0000000428	Lower Five Mile Creek Management Plan	Dallas	
15	03-51-0000000436	Coombs Creek Culvert @ Hampton	Dallas	
16	03-51-0000000081	Freestone County DMP	Freestone County, Fairfield, Streetman, Teague, Wortham	
17	03-51-0000000392	Arlington Johnson Creek - JC-2 at Pioneer Parkway and Center Street Buyout	Arlington	
18	03-51-0000000148	Houston County dike for critical facilities	Houston County	
19	03-51-0000000079	Cooke County DMP	Cooke County	8
20	03-51-0000000429	Coombs Creek Bridge @ Plymouth	Dallas	

Discussion: Recommendation Approach

Issue:

Do any changes need to be made to the 2023 Cycle's approach to recommending FMXs?

2023 Approach:

- ✓ Include all eligible FMXs
- ✓ Must support a Goal (Task 3C)
- ✓ 1% or smaller recurrence interval investigated/addressed
- ✓ No maintenance projects
- ✓ Discrete studies/projects/solutions – no recurring actions, entire capital programs, or “conglomerate” actions
- ✓ Does not negatively impact an entity's water supply
- ✓ Does not over-allocate a water source

Reasons to not recommend an FMX:

- FME
 - Study has already been performed
 - Study already has allocated funding
 - Entity not willing to sponsor FME
- FMP
 - Adverse impacts noted or unverified
 - H&H models do not exist or are insufficient
 - Move to FME
 - Entity not willing to sponsor FMP
- FMS (theoretical)
 - Adverse impacts noted
 - Does not provide reduction to flood impacts
 - Entity is not willing to sponsor

A hand is shown holding a variety of white line-art icons against a light blue background. The icons include a camera, a lightbulb, a question mark, a smartphone, a laptop, a magnifying glass, a speech bubble, a gear, a document, a checkmark, a hand, a camera, a lightbulb, an at-sign, a question mark, a smartphone, a laptop, a magnifying glass, a speech bubble, a gear, a document, a checkmark, a hand, a camera, a lightbulb, an at-sign, and a question mark. The hand is positioned in the center, with fingers spread, as if presenting the icons.

**Consider
recommending
approach to
recommend FMXs**

*(Formal approval will be
considered at Feb. RFPG Mtg.)*



7. Public comments



8. Announcements



9. Future meeting date



10. Future agenda items



11. Adjournment