



North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

Trinity River COMMON VISION Steering Committee
Thursday, September 12, 2019
9:30 AM, Tejas Conference Room
NCTCOG Offices, CPIII
600 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, TX 76011

1. **Welcome and introductions** (Mia Brown)

The meeting began with introductions of all present.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. **Presentation on COMMON VISION**

- a. Overview of COMMON VISION and the Corridor Development Certificate (CDC) Program (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown presented an overview of the Trinity COMMON VISION program history and the goals of the program.

3. **COMMON VISION Work Program Overview and Activities Update.** NCTCOG staff will provide an overview and update of the listed activities of the Trinity River COMMON VISION Program:

- a. CDC Permitting Update (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown told the committee that 10 CDC applications were received during the fiscal year. This brings the total applications since the beginning of the program to 216.

- b. NCTCOG hosting of the 24th annual FEMA 4-day National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) course (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown let the Committee know that this year NCTCOG would host the FEMA 4-day National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) course for the 24th year in a row, and that registration for COMMON VISION communities opened last week.

- c. Elected Officials Seminar and Community Rating System (CRS) Meeting (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave the Committee a recap of the Combined Elected Officials Floodplain Seminar/CRS Users Group that was held July 18, 2019. The topics were base level engineering, updates from the 86th Texas Legislature, floodplain benchmarking in North Central Texas communities, and a demonstration by Texas

A&M AgriLife Extension of the Community Health and Resource Management (CHARM) interactive tool.

- d. FY 19 Flood Management Task Force (FMTF) Work Program Results
 - i. NFIP/CDC Model Consolidation Team (Stephanie Griffin and Mia Brown)

Stephanie Griffin from Grand Prairie gave the update on the activities of the NFIP/CDC Model Consolidation Team, for which she is the team chair. The team is working on drafting the technical memo. The memo will be presented to FMTF in November, with a request for approval in January. The final document will be brought to the Steering Committee in September 2020. Mia Brown told the Committee that NCTCOG staff will be setting up a CDC model repository website in the upcoming year with the additional goal of providing a streamlined application process that is completely tracked online, pending approval of the FY20 work program. She also said that following completion of the report, an update of the CDC Manual to a 5th edition will be needed in FY21.

- ii. East Fork Trinity Community Integration (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave an overview of the effort for East Fork Trinity communities to voluntarily join the Trinity Common Vision program. There were four community interest meetings from April 2016 to January 2017. The Trinity Common Vision Steering Committee voted to approve the continued pursuit of the East Fork Integration in September 2017. On June 22, 2018, a meeting was held for the communities to discuss a draft resolution and program requirements. On September 19, 2018, a training on the CDC Manual and application process was held in Mesquite. On May 1, 2019, Dallas County hosted a meeting in Wilmer for the community staff and on August 7, 2019, Balch Springs hosted a meeting in conjunction with Dallas County for the East Fork elected officials. The City of Seagoville officially joined Trinity Common Vision in August 2019. NCTCOG staff will continue outreach to the communities related to the benefits of the program and signing the resolution.

- iii. Process Improvements for LOMR Submissions (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown told the Committee that FEMA Region 6 staff had been attending FMTF meetings to help come up with short and long-term solutions to issues voiced by the FMTF, namely LOMR processing times and communication between FEMA and the communities.

- iv. Administrative Coordination for the Regional Flood Warning Software Platform (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown informed the Committee that the North Texas SHARE cooperative contract for OneRain's Contrail software has been available for just over a year, and the gauges can be viewed and data downloaded at www.flooddatantx.com. The FMTF wanted a software that works with their communities' warning hardware in the field, could be on a shared platform so that they can view each other's data, and would be available at a lower



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cost on a cooperative contract. The City of McKinney and Tarrant Regional Water District are currently on the contract, and the City of Frisco is evaluating prices and options. Denton County and Dallas County are interested.

ACTION ITEMS

4. **Summary of 2018 Common Vision Steering Committee Meeting** (Mia Brown)

James Gossie, Denton County, motioned to approve the summary as written and Joe Trammell, Tarrant County, seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved the summary.

5. **Approval of FY20 Trinity River COMMON VISION Work Program.** The Flood Management Task Force (FMTF) met June 21st and assisted NCTCOG with the selection of work program items presented for the upcoming fiscal year. The FMTF then approved the work program composition on August 9th and recommended Trinity River COMMON VISION Steering Committee approval. (Mia Brown)

Councilman Lee Kleinman, City of Dallas, motioned to approve the work program with the addition of language to the OneRain portion of the Ongoing Support Activities. The additional language was related to display of additional gauges and desired functionality changes during the contract renewal process. Leah King, Tarrant Regional Water District Board Member, seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved the FY20 Trinity River COMMON VISION Work Program with the noted changes.

PRESENTATION ITEMS

6. **Related Activities Update.** An update will be provided on related topics outside of this work program to include:

a. Trinity River National Recreation Trail Update (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown noted to the Committee that the Trinity Nature Conservancy (TNC) presented to the Steering Committee in 2018 on their effort to obtain National Park Service designation for the Trinity River through the DFW Metroplex as a National Recreation Trail (NRT). TNC received the Conservation Wrangler designation by Texan by Nature this year for their efforts. NRT Designation is anticipated to be official in June 2020. The TNC is working with communities on signage and possible additional launches.

b. Participation in FEMA's Cooperating Technical Partnership (CTP) Program and North Texas CRS Users Group (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave an overview of the Cooperating Technical Partners grant funded by FEMA and NCTCOG's role and history as a partner. She then gave updates on NCTCOG's ongoing projects. Discovery in the East Fork and flood risk identification projects in Tarrant County and Cleburne have just completed. Discovery in the Richland-Chambers watershed is currently underway, as well as flood risk identification studies in the cities of Benbrook (Stream CF-5), Weatherford (Town Creek), and Parker County (Marys Creek). NCTCOG is anticipating award of FY19 projects from FEMA within the next week for flood risk identification studies in Denton County (Harriet Creek) and on Waxahachie Creek through Midlothian, Waxahachie, and Ellis County, which will begin next calendar year.

c. Integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) Update (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave an overview of the iSWM program and its membership, as well as the certification program. Six communities are iSWM Silver Certified (Fort Worth, Grand Prairie, Denton, Frisco, Kennedale, and Irving), and more communities are seeking certification. The iSWM Implementation Subcommittee is currently working on technical assistance meetings for entities that want to pursue iSWM certification, a compilation of information on the certification process, an update to the Stormwater Inspector Training class materials, iSWM designation implementation workshops, and an implementation strategy for incorporating NOAA Atlas 14 rainfall data into the iSWM Technical Manual.

d. NOAA Atlas 14 Release (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown told the Committee that Jerry Cotter, Chief of Water Resources with USACE Fort Worth District, presented to the Committee in 2018 on the release of NOAA Atlas 14 rainfall data. Mia mentioned that the non-regulatory data is now available online, and that communities can use it for updating their design manuals if they desire.

e. Upcoming Funding Opportunities for Flood-Related Projects (Mia Brown)

i. State Flood Plan and Senate Bills 7/8

Mia Brown informed the Committee that the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) released the State Flood Assessment in December 2018 to the 86th Texas Legislature. During the legislative session, Senate Bills 7 and 8 were passed and signed into law, providing guidance for the creation of a State Flood Plan and creating the Texas Infrastructure Resiliency Fund. Mia emphasized that now is the time for communities to create a list of shovel-ready projects and that NCTCOG would keep them up to date on developments with the flood plan process.



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ii. CDBG-DR Funds for Texas

Mia Brown let the Committee know that \$4.3 billion has been set aside for the State of Texas from CDBG-DR funds for mitigation. All NCTCOG counties except Collin, Hunt, and Rockwall are eligible for these funds. Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) is charged with creating a state action plan for the funds, to be completed by February 3, 2020. There will be a 45-day public comment period prior to submission of the plan. Four public meetings will be held – two before and two after the public comment period. The application period is anticipated to open in May 2020.

f. 16-County Watershed Management Initiative (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave the Committee the background and purpose of the initiative. A roundtable was held March 14th, 2017, with the county floodplain administrators, who came up with a menu of 13 regionally recommended watershed management standards. NCTCOG staff presented legislation from the 77th Regular Texas Legislative Session that amended the Texas Water Code that gives counties authority to enforce these standards. A forum was held July 12th, 2017, with county floodplain administrators and district attorneys to discuss the legislation. The NCTCOG Executive Board endorsed the initiative in October 2017. Dallas, Denton, and Kaufman Counties have each partially or fully adopted the standards. NCTCOG staff are currently working with other counties to address their questions as they consider adopting from the menu of standards.

g. Transportation-Stormwater Initiative Update (Jerry Cotter)

Jerry Cotter, Chief of Water Resources with USACE Fort Worth District, gave a presentation on an initiative for integrated planning of regional transportation and stormwater management. While still under development, the goal of the effort is to focus on the western portion of the NCTCOG region and integrate stormwater planning with transportation planning to get ahead of growth coming to that area. This will involve tasks such as inventory of stormwater management structures, land inventory and site-specific design considerations, and plans to offset future transportation and indirect development impacts. The effort will be led by NCTCOG in partnership with numerous federal, state, regional agencies/special districts, and other interest groups as well as the communities in the project area.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- 7. Roundtable Topics/Other Business.** The Steering Committee and NCTCOG staff may share additional items as time allows.

Councilman Lee Kleinman of Dallas said that construction of the Mill Creek Tunnel is complete.

Councilwoman Sheri Capehart of Arlington said that the Rush Creek home buyouts resulted in a dog park. She also reiterated the need for public education on flood-related issues.

Craig Ottman of Tarrant Regional Water District said that staff are meeting to talk about a public education process that could be replicated across the region.

Joe Trammell of Tarrant County said that they are excited about the Transportation-Stormwater Initiative.

James Gossie of Denton County also expressed interest in the results of the Transportation-Stormwater Initiative, hoping that one thing it can help address is car fatalities.

Lissa Shepard of Dallas County stated that they are excited about the updated detailed mapping of the East Fork Trinity River.

- 8. Adjournment.**

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Mia Brown by phone at (817) 695-9227, or by email at MBBrown@nctcog.org.

Thank you.



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Member Sign-in Sheet

Contact	Signature	Agency
Sheri Capehart		City of Arlington
Jerry Cotter	<i>Jerry Cotter</i>	USACE
Edward Cary William III		Trinity River Authority
Rudy Durham		City of Lewisville
Mike Eastland		NCTCOG
Vacant		City of Grand Prairie
Robert Dye		City of Farmers Branch
Kelly Allen Gray	<i>Kelly Allen Gray</i>	City of Fort Worth
Lee Kleinman	<i>Lee M. Kleinman</i>	City of Dallas
Wm. David Palmer		City of Irving
Leah King	<i>Leah King</i>	Tarrant Regional Water District
Kevin Falconer		City of Carrollton
Bobbie Mitchell		Denton County
John Wiley Price		Dallas County
Gary Roden		City of Coppell
Manuel Razo		Texas Water Development Board
B. Glen Whitley	<i>Joe L. Trammel for B. Glen Whitley</i>	Tarrant County
Ronald Wanhanen		FEMA Region 6



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Guest Sign-in Sheet

Guest Name	Agency
SIDNEY KELLY	CITY OF ARLINGTON
James Gossel	Denton County
Jeff Kelly	City of Lewisville
CRAIG OTTMAN	TRWD
Stephanie Griffin	Grand Prairie
Adam Ray	Jones/Carter
Web Mangham	TRA