

## North Central Texas Council of Governments

# SUMMARY

Flood Management Task Force  
Friday, August 18, 2023  
9:30 AM, Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

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**Meeting ID: 246 678 284 216**

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**Or call in (audio only)**

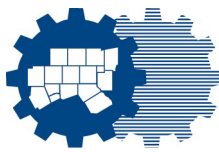
**+1 903-508-4574**

**Phone Conference ID: 597 522 328#**

1. **Welcome and introductions.**

### DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION/ACTION ITEMS

2. **Meeting Summary.** The May 19, 2023, meeting summary is [available online](#) for review. [Noe Villarreal motions to approve May Meeting Summary.](#) [Lisa Biggs seconds the motion.](#) [Motion is approved.](#)
3. **FY 2023 Trinity River COMMON VISION Work Program Activities Discussion.**
  - a. **NFIP and CDC Model Consolidation Team.** USACE staff will update the FMTF on scopes of work and next steps related to the consolidated NFIP-CDC model and maintenance process. (Matt Lepinski)  
[There are two ongoing studies regarding model consolidation.](#)
    1. [USACE is coordinating with FEMA. The FEMA model has gone out for preliminary review and will hopefully become the new regulatory model soon. Similar models and projects have gone through CDC process and are approved but some are not yet constructed. FEMA will only include those that have gone through LOMAR. This is the first ever consolidated model for this region. This is an innovative program with communities agreeing to higher standards. It is available for download at the CDC website. USACE will continue to make updates.](#)
    2. [Currently working on creating future flows and extending the model downstream of the mainstem to the East fork. The study is ongoing and USACE is working to get the hydrology done. Currently working through different funding challenges. The expectation is to complete it in 2024. The model can be downloaded via the consolidated model link.](#)



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- b. **Floodplain Development when NFIP-CDC Model isn't Available.** Plan moving forward expanding CDC Model to communities not currently in the COMMON VISION footprint. (Matt Lepinski)

NCTCOG is getting questions from downstream and upstream communities that want to join COMMON VISION; these communities would not have access to a consolidated model. We are looking into how we can help manage floodplain development in these communities. Looking to the Task Force for input so that we can provide consistent guidance to communities. Example: Seagoville has joined COMMON VISION but only has access to the preliminary FEMA model and regulatory effective model. Guidance could be included in the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the CDC Manual. Suggests one approach could be to defer to NFIP standards; for LOMRs they would have to use the effective model, but FEMA may also require the preliminary model. This wouldn't address future flows or scenarios.

Jerry Cotter states there are communities expressing interest that aren't on the Trinity River. This is the only regional Stormwater Management plan out there. Suggests considering thinking about what else the program can offer that offers value to those communities.

Lisa Biggs suggests those communities interested in joining can start regulating by doing valley storage calculations to make sure they are not having impacts. Communities could have their own fully developed flows that they require and use in meantime until there is a CDC Model for their community.

Matt Lepinski shares that consultants are asking if they are expected to develop future developed flows. Asks if that is too much of a burden to put on individual consultants and if it should come from community level.

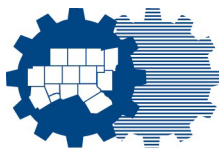
Lisa Biggs states Fort Worth requires that of developers; they need to consider fully developed hydrology and they are creating it. Fort Worth would like to have more consistent hydrology throughout the city. Would like to see this everywhere for communities to use so they don't have to create it. For major streams like the Elm Fork, having flows already available would be helpful. Larger watersheds are a burden on developers and consultants. Lisa will talk to Matt regarding adding language to the manual.

Craig Ottman suggests using the 500-year flow as proxy for standard project flow to carry out CDC criteria for valley storage until they get future flows in place. This would mean communities wouldn't have to ask engineers to develop future flows, but they must consider valley storage in their design.

Matt Lepinski says it is like what Harris County is doing. Communities could start with FEMA's model as base line and build on that with additional studies. Suggests a project that would take the foundation model to create a consolidated model.

- c. **Update the CDC Manual to the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition.** The NFIP-CDC Model Consolidation Team will share progress on updates to the CDC Manual. (Lisa Biggs)

Lisa Biggs gave the update on the status of the CDC Manual. We had hoped to have the manual ready to review but have a few items to finish up. Once



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completed, NCTCOG will compile the documents and send to the Task Force for review. The goal is to have it completed before the TFMA Technical Summit in September so people can ask questions. Currently working on a document that she can hand out to people who are asking her questions regarding CDC and consolidated model. Lisa will send it to Jai-W so he can distribute it to the group; communities can make changes to the document. Lisa will be giving a presentation on consolidated model and update to manual at the CRS Users Group meeting in October. When the manual is completed, the team will get back together to discuss training regarding the changes. Lisa serves as the Regional Director for TFMA Region 4 and is considering doing lunch and learns.

- d. **Steering Committee Membership.** The FMTF members and NCTCOG staff will discuss updates to the Trinity Common Vision Steering Committee membership, in advance of the September 20th Steering Committee meeting. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)
- e. **East Fork/Denton Creek Update.** NCTCOG staff will update FMTF on the initiatives to bring additional communities into the Common Vision program. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)

NCTCOG is doing outreach for East Fork and Denton Creek communities. We have received interest from Ellis County and the City of Mesquite. We have also met with the City of Weatherford because they have been attending the Flood Management Task Force meetings.

- f. **Voting Item: FY 2023 Trinity River Common Vision Work Program.** NCTCOG staff will present the final draft of our FY 2024 Work Program and cost share budget and seek approval from the Flood Management Task Force, including a recommendation of approval to the Trinity River Common Vision Steering Committee. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)

Jai-W Hayes-Jackson overviewed the changes to the FY2024 Trinity River COMMON VISION Work Program. Language was updated in the work program to remove the OneRain name since there is an RFP out to secure vendors for Flood Warning Systems. The current RFP closes August 29. The other update was a new item to include updating community acreage using the FIRM. The last update was using standard project flows from 1995. Acreage determines cost share, but there will not be an increase to the cost shares for the upcoming Fiscal Year.

Noe Villarreal motions to approve the FY2024 Work Program to be recommended to the Steering Committee. Lee Jeffrey seconds the motion. Motion is approved.

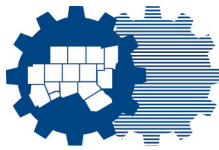
Jai-W asked if there were any updates to the Flood Management Task Force Roster or the Steering Committee Roster.

Cole Baker will represent the City of Coppell.

Steve Parker has retired from the City of Dallas.

Joseph Jackson reached out to the new judge's office (Tim O'Hare) but has not heard back.

Jai-W informed the Task Force that Steering Committee Members can send someone on their behalf; sometimes Task Force members sit in for elected officials.



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### Steering Committee roster

- g. **Update on Flood Warning Systems.** NCTCOG staff will give updates on efforts related to the RFP for the Flood Warning Systems. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)  
The OneRain contract will expire in the next few months. NCTCOG is working to secure new vendors for flood warning software. There will not be a lapse in service. There are new items that were added to the current RFP compared with the previous contract regarding hardware and hardware maintenance and additional related services. Jai-W Hayes-Jackson asked for volunteers to sit on a scoring committee to select vendors. Craig Ottman volunteers. Jai-W will be sending follow up emails to recruit more.

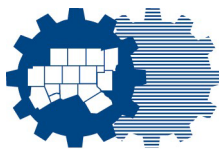
### INFORMATION ITEMS

#### 4. Other Program Related Efforts

- a. **28th Annual FEMA NFIP L0273 Course and CFM Exam.** The FEMA NFIP L0273 Course will be held December 4 – 7, with the exam taking place December 8. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)  
This year, the exam will be completely digital for the first time. Exam takers will have to provide their own computers. NCTCOG received approval from FEMA to host L0273; the goal is to open early registration to the Flood Management Task Force the week after the meeting. Registration will then be open to the public in early September.
- b. **Trinity Reservoir Operations Study Pre-Brief.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has secured funds to study Dam Operations Alternatives on the Trinity multi-purpose reservoirs. USACE will provide a comprehensive overview of the Trinity Operations Study (TOS). (Maxwell Strickler)  
Maxwell Strickler is the lead engineer in the Water Management section with the USACE Fort Worth District. The Trinity Operations Study has a \$400,000 special budget to study reservoirs that are multi-purpose. The scope is still under development. USACE reached out to stakeholders to get their ideas on how they could improve their operations and received great feedback. USACE is looking for stakeholders to help the project team in developing scope, modeling, and analysis. Using stream gauges downstream from USACE dams is one idea to collect data. The group is considering investigating seasonal rule curves and environmental low flow analysis FIRO analysis / water supply resiliency. It's a relatively low budget study so USACE will need to pick what study tasks have the most stakeholder support.

Sue Alvarez asks if the study will look at concurrent overflow and discharge scenarios like the study in May 2015.

Jerry Cotter states the dams are operated as a system and cannot change the operation of a single dam without looking at the effect on entire system. USACE has runoff models for each dam but also one that ties all the dams together and looks at what is going on concurrently. That technology was fully robust right before the 2015 flooding. \$400,000 will get us started but it is a complex topic. All



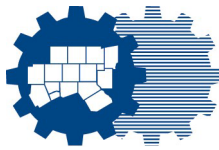
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the stakeholders need to be considered. USACE will request more funds to continue the study. There are similar efforts; Sustainable Rivers work has started. We can improve releases of dams to create better environmental conditions downstream. This includes looking at forecast for operations adaptive management. Looking into how we can continue to improve technology that allows us to use dams better. We do have real time digital precipitation models and improved data that allows us to predict weather forecasts for Texas better. But investments in improving weather forecasts are not sufficient. This is important for the region because the population has reached 8 million and is heading to 15 million.

- c. **North Texas Floodplain Administrators/CRS Users Group.** NCTCOG will share updates for the next CRS Users Group Meeting. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)  
The agenda will include updates on CDC manual, FEMA risk rating 2.0, available funding for 2D modeling, Green Infrastructure and Nature Based Solutions.
- d. **Trinity River Paddling Trail.** NCTCOG will provide an update on the designation of the Trinity River in Dallas-Fort Worth as a National Water Trail and efforts to enhance the trail and maintain the National Park Service designation. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)  
Jai-W Hayes-Jackson provided updates on the Trinity River Paddling Trail. The next meeting will take place August 29.
- e. **Integration of Transportation and Stormwater Planning.** NCTCOG staff will provide an update on the scope and funding for the Integration of Transportation and Stormwater Planning Project. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)  
Jai-W Hayes-Jackson provided updates on the current progress of the TSI study. Kate Zielke adds that she and Matt Lepinski will present at the TFMA Summit in Denton.
- f. **Cooperating Technical Partnership.** NCTCOG staff will provide an update on the CTP projects that are ongoing. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)  
Jai-W Hayes-Jackson shares that NCTCOG is wrapping up the Catherine Branch Risk Mapping and the Upper West Fork Discovery grants this fiscal year.
- g. **Integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) Program.** An update on iSWM activities will be provided by NCTCOG staff. (Casey Cannon)  
Jai-W Hayes-Jackson provided an update on the deliverables for the iSWM work program.
- h. **CDC Applications.** NCTCOG staff will share CDC applications received since the last FMTF meeting and invite members to share any upcoming CDC applications. (Jai-W Hayes-Jackson)  
Jai-W Hayes-Jackson is working to remove Qntrl accounts of no-longer active participants. He is addressing issues of active participants' accounts being deactivated. The consolidated model is now available on the CDC website. There were issues uploading it onto the website. If anyone cannot get from website, reach out to Jai-W and he will send the model via FTP.

## OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact NCTCOG's Title VI Coordinator by email at [Title-VI-Coordinator@nctcog.org](mailto:Title-VI-Coordinator@nctcog.org) 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.



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5. **Roundtable Topics/Other Business.** The FMTF members and NCTCOG staff may share additional items as time allows.

Trinity River Authority – Glen Clingenpeel informed the group that the Region 3 Floodplain plan and others regional plans were adopted July 25 by TWDB.

Jai-W Hayes-Jackson introduces Sue Alvarez as NCTCOG’s new Environment and Development Director. Please let Sue know if you are facing challenges or issues.

Stephanie Griffin provided an update for the TFMA Technical Summit September 12-15 in Denton. The Embassy Suites by Hilton are filling up fast. There will be a new format; the conference will be all day Wednesday and Thursday with workshops on Tuesday and Friday.

6. **Schedule for the Next Meeting.** The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday, November 17, 2023, at 9:30 AM Meeting format TBD.

Jai-W Hayes-Jackson gave a reminder regarding the date of Steering Committee meeting, September 20<sup>th</sup>.

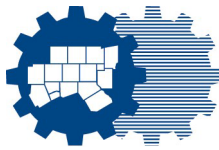
Jai-W inquires if the group would like to have some meetings in person. Ryan Harrell suggests making meetings in-person every other meeting. Jerry Cotter informs the group that USACE has gone from 100% virtual to hybrid in office part of time. A lot of other companies and consultants are also doing hybrid. Suggests there is some value to seeing each other occasionally. Encourages some in person meetings.

7. **Adjournment.**

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Jai-W Hayes-Jackson by phone at (817) 695-9212, or by email at [JHayes-Jackson@nctcog.org](mailto:JHayes-Jackson@nctcog.org). Thank you.

Participants List	
Bosulu Lokulutu	AECOM
Lee Jeffrey	City of Arlington
Cole Baker	City of Coppell
Tam Vu	City of Dallas
Lisa Biggs	City of Fort Worth
Benjamin Thompson	City of Fort Worth
Barry Fulfer	City of Grand Prairie
Ryan Harrell	City of Grand Prairie
Garry Fennell	City of Irving
Noe Villarreal	Dallas County
Stephen Belknap	Denton County
Jacob Lesue	Dewberry
Joshua Spencer	Guest
Stephanie Griffin	Halff
Angela Davidson	Halff
Colin Blankenship	HDR Inc.
Rodrigo Vizcaino	HDR Inc.

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Kelly Wells	Jacobs
Paul Robinson	Jacobs Engineering
Brian Gross	Langan
Larissa Knapp-Scott	LJA Engineering
Jai-W Hayes-Jackson	NCTCOG
Kate Zielke	NCTCOG
Susan Alvarez	NCTCOG
Casey Cannon	NCTCOG
Matthew Pebworth	O'Brien Engineering
Bryan Manderscheid	O'Brien Engineering
Joseph Jackson	Tarrant County
Heather Firn	TRA
Webster Mangham	TRA
Glenn Clingenpeel	TRA
Rachel Ickert	TRWD
Zach Huff	TRWD
Craig Ottman	TRWD
Matt Lepinski	USACE
Jerry Cotter USACE	USACE
Max Strickler	USACE
Kelly Dillard	Walter P Moore

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