North Central Texas Council of Governments

MEETING SUMMARY
iSWM Implementation Subcommittee

Tuesday, October 14, 2025
1:30 p.m., Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Chair: Ranjan Muttiah, City of Fort Worth
Vice Chair: Travis Attanasio, City of Burleson

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

ACTION ITEMS

2. **Approval of July 15, 2025, Meeting Summary.** The meeting summary will be presented to the Subcommittee for approval: Summary. (Katie Hunter, NCTCOG)

    Motion to approve: Grace Darling
    Second: Travis Attanasio
    Motion passed.

3. **Approval of Implementation Documentation Review Period Extension-** Initial review period extended to 60 days (formerly 30). (Katie Hunter, NCTCOG)

    Motion to approve: Grace Darling
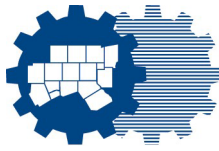   Second: Travis Attanasio
    Motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. **Recent Advances in SWMM** - Mitch Heineman, Principal Developer of CDM Smith's NetSTORM Software for Precipitation Frequency Analysis.

    Mitch Heineman (CDM Smith) discussed an overview of SWMM (Stormwater Management Model), the timeline of the program, the SWMM 5.2 features, and best practices for utilization. The SWMM, initially developed in the 1970s, is a dynamic urban rainfall-runoff simulation model. In the early 2000's, the EPA took over the development of the SWMM.

    Version 5.2, published in 2021-2022, simulates streets, catch basins, affinity law-complaint pumps, additional control role options, and additional API (Application Programming Interface) functions. The EPA SWMM is free to download. Version 5.3 is paused due to EPA staffing turnover and layoffs. Mitch shared some best practices for SWMM utilization through his own experiences.

    Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) stated to the speaker, that the subcommittee is considering updating the iSWM manual since the current iSWM section on modeling is small. He continued to state there is a need to capture BMPs in the iSWM manual to help equip smaller communities with this technical expertise. Grace Darling (Arlington Conservation Council) asked if Heineman has seen a change in rainfall recently attributed to climate change and if so, what further changes that would render the current models obsolete. Mitch Heineman (CDM Smith) demonstrated data depicting big events don't constitute a trend – while there are some changes, they are not huge.

5.   **Sticky Dot Exercise Results and Discussion.** The subcommittee will review results from previous sticky dot exercise and discuss goals moving forward.

Katie Hunter (NCTCOG) reminded the group that the July committee meeting involved a sticky dot exercise to rank work program priorities. The below results were presented to the group:

Short Term Goals
1. Website Usability and Navigation
2. Incorrect or Misleading Information
3. Lack of Standardization in BMPs
4. Difficulty in Plan Review and Communication
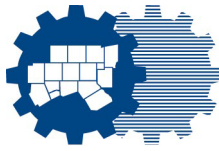
Long Term Goals
1. Proprietary BMPs Not Included
2. Modernize the Program
3. Workforce Experience Gap
4. Absence of Detailed Operational Maintenance and Inspection Forms

Katie Hunter (NCTCOG) asked the group if the above results accurately reflect the subcommittees priorities, and if so, what actionable items can be developed for each short-term goal.

Katie Hunter (NCTCOG) elaborated that NCTCOG uses Kentico for most agency webpages, but the iSWM webpage involves code, necessitating the need for the agency's IT department. With that in mind, she offered the option to migrate the iSWM webpage to Kentico for easier editing access. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) stated the NCTCOG can decide on the webpage editing application, and to inform the subcommittee of the decision. He mentioned that the iSWM manual files on the website are large, and the subcommittee should consider breaking out individual sections. Grace Darling (Arlington Conservation Council) asked for case studies to help non-engineers understand the significance of iSWM. Randy Peterman (Halff) mentioned that the group should rethink how the content is organized on the website. He shared that case studies already exist, but the organization/presentation of the content may be why some people cannot locate it on the website. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) stated that an overhaul of the website is a large undertaking, and to consider breaking up the scope into manageable pieces, possibly over multiple fiscal years. Katie Hunter (NCTOG) offered to send a survey to gather more feedback on website issues and improvements. Randy Peterman (Halff) suggested structuring the survey in the form of specific suggestions, rather than open ended questions.

Katie Hunter (NCTCOG) asked the group for actionable items for the Incorrect and Misleading Information goal. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) stated the group typically corrects issues as soon as they are discovered. He mentions the group should be cognizant of not putting incorrect information on the website.

Katie Hunter (NCTCOG) asked the group for actionable items for the Lack of Standardization of BMPs goal. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) added that most BMPs are vendor specific and should follow the manufacturer's instructions. He mentions there is sometimes a gap between the contractor and vendor that creates confusion. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Forth Worth) mentioned standardization of BMPs may resolve this confusion in the iSWM.

Katie Hunter (NCTCOG) asked the group for actionable items for Difficulty in Plan Review and Communication goal. Randy Peterman (Halff) mentioned that sedimentation basins were discussed in a previous panel, and some guidance on this BMP may be beneficial.

Katie Hunter (NCTCOG) stated the PWC (Public Works Council) has approved the FY26 Work Program. She states she will send out a survey soon to define the short- and long-term goal actionable items. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) mentioned that during the next meeting, the group could develop a scope and level of effort for all the goals. Randy Peterman (Halff) mentioned some of the goals were left vague (specifically the modernization goal), and the idea is to build off the sticky dot exercise and the priorities of the group. He elaborates that a scope is helpful if everyone agrees on which goal to work on. Randy Peterman (Halff) believes the modernization goal should be kept vague at this stage of planning. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) states the iSWM webpage modifications will require an extensive amount of work, and there can be a more dedicated effort for this goal down the road. He continues to mention that there are implications for iSWM, since it's a local community resource [referencing Task 6: Updates to iSWM Website]. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) advised to push this discussion to the next meeting, but for everyone to think about how Task 6 and 7 [referencing Website Updates and Modernization goals] are envisioned. Randy Peterman (Halff) agreed and advised committee members to bring specific ideas to the next meeting. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) advised committee members to reach out to municipalities to understand how they utilize iSWM as a resource.

INFORMATION ITEMS

6. **Regional Public Works Program Update.** NCTCOG will provide an update on the FY25/26 Regional Public Works Program.

    Crysta Guzman (NCTCOG) introduces herself and Madisson Dunn (NCTCOG) as the new Public Works Council (PWC) planners. Crysta Guzman (NCTCOG) mentions the 2025 Public Works Roundup was held on September 4, 2025, with significant attendance. She states the Roundup presentations are posted online. Crysta Guzman (NCTCOG) states the 2026 Public Works Roundup is tentatively scheduled for August 20, 2026. She mentioned the PWC website is updated with all FY26 resources, and the next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2025, virtually from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

7. **NCTCOG TMDL Program Update.** NCTCOG will provide an update for the FY25/26 TMDL Program.
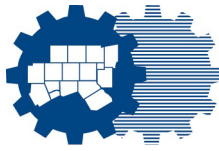
    Katie Hunter (NCTCOG) informed the subcommittee that there is a virtual meeting scheduled on November 3, 2025, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. to discuss TMDL implementation plan strategies and updates. She mentioned the I-plan is available on the NCTCOG website, and to reach out to Planner Joy Douglas for more information.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNTABLE DISCUSSIOM

8. **Upcoming Events and Conferences**

    The Dry Weather Field Screening Workshop is scheduled for October 20, 2025, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Tarrant County Resource Connection – Magnolia Room. Registration for the event is available online at: https://www.addevent.com/event/Ys26749620.

There are two SW3P Plan Review and Field Inspector Courses scheduled for November. The Plan Reviewer course is scheduled for November 13, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Field Inspector course is scheduled for November 14, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Registration for both events is available online at: https://form.jotform.com/251893891180163

The University of Arlington (UTA) is conducting research about the current state of practice, identification of advancement opportunities, and obstacles of nature-based solutions. If interested in participating in the research survey, the form is available online at: https://www.nctcog.org/getmedia/c52ada26-81bb-4beb-8d0d-68d6e5090ce7/UtilitySurveyFlyer_July2025.pdf?ext=.pdf

The TSI Model Development and Floodplain Ordinance Workshop is scheduled for January 29, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., virtually and in-person (Transportation Council Room, Centerpoint Building II). More information is available online at http://www.nctcog.org/TSI

9. **Upcoming NCTCOG Meetings**

Water Resources Council Meeting: October 15, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.
Regional Stormwater Management Coordinating Committee Meeting: November 12, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.
Public Works Council Meeting: November 20, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.
Trinity River Common Vision Flood Management Task Force Meeting: November 21, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.
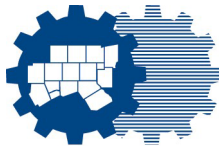
11. **Future Agenda Items and Schedule for the Next iSWM Meeting (January 13, 2026)**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. in person at Centerpoint II, Tejas Conference Room. Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) added if any committee members have speakers or presenters to offer, it would be helpful for future meetings. Grace Darling (Arlington Conservation Council) mentioned communication of iSWM information to City Councils as a future agenda item.

12. **Roundtable Discussion**

Randy Peterman (Halff) mentioned the CRS (Community Rating System) credits communities with specific BMPs with insurance incentives. He mentioned there may be an opportunity to make a reference document, or a reference in the existing iSWM manual, regarding the correlation between the CRS program accreditation and the iSWM program. He elaborated that it may be useful to show the direct results of floodplain management.

ADJOURNMENT

Attendance

Katie Hunter	NCTCOG
Crysta Guzman	NCTCOG
Madisson Dunn	NCTCOG
Ranjan Muttiah	City of Fort Worth
Jermey Hogg	City of Hurst
Stephanie Griffin	Halff
Travis Attanasio	City of Burleson
Mitchell Heineman	CDM Smith
Nolan Cummings	HNTB
Edgar Salazar	City of Arlington
Grace Darling	Arlington Conservation Council
Mike Linder	City of Denton
Maggie Freeman	LAN
Raheel Khan	City of Dallas
Randy Peterman	Halff
Kelly Roark	Denton County Development Services
Sam Sarker	Halff
Cameron Anderson	City of Dallas
Zizo Abdelaziz	Contech
Jessica Veach	CDM Smith
Duane Hengst	City of Hurst