



**Regional Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (REPAC)
Teams Meeting Notes
March 12, 2021 / 1:30 p.m.**

Meeting Reminders

NCTCOG Staff

Opening Remarks

Welcome

Chairs

Roll Call

NCTCOG Staff

Approval of Notes from the October 6, 2020 Meeting

Committee Members

- Quorum was not met. October 6, 2020, meeting notes will be approved at the next REPAC meeting.

Discussion Items

FY20 Homeland Security Grant Update

NCTCOG Staff

- FY20 grant projects are currently active.
- COG staff are currently working to reach out to working group chairs to establish deliverables for projects containing contracts. We are already 6 months into the projects and meetings will be scheduled to get the projects going to meet the period of performance deadlines.
- Due to the ongoing response operations, we understand the difficulties with attending working group meetings. However, to ensure the SHSP programs continuity, it is essential to maintain regular participation amongst the working group members.

Cybersecurity Working Group

NCTCOG Staff

- The Cybersecurity Working Group is struggling to maintain regular participation from regional jurisdictions.
- Recent cyber attacks not only affected multiple jurisdictions across the state of Texas, but also across the US. There have been past cyber attacks in the region that are still working to get back to normal.
- DHS has placed increased importance on the identification of cyber security capability gaps.
- The Cyber Security Working Group is putting together an RFP for a contractor to facilitate the creation of an incident response recovery template that consist of a consolidated list of standards and a maturity model for jurisdictions.
- Let Candice know if your IT department would like to be added to the cyber listserv.

HSGD Program Changes

- On February 19th, DHS released the “Notice of Funding” opportunity for the Homeland Security Grant program.
- Program changes are as follows:
 - o Enhancing Cyber Security requires 7.5% of our overall allocation.

- Enhancing the protection of soft targets/crowded places changed from 7.5% to 5% of our overall allocation.
- Enhancing information and intelligence sharing and cooperation with federal agencies, including DHS was reduced to 5% of our overall allocation.
- Addressing emerging threats was reduced to 5%.
- Combating Domestic Violent Extremism (DVE) was set at 7.5% of our overall allocation.
- EPPC was provided this information during the EPPC Sub-committee Funding meeting.
- Based on the discussion with the OOG, we feel strongly that the Fusion and Public Education projects submitted would qualify to be moved to the Domestic Violent Extremism National priority area with minor adjustments.
- What is Domestic Violent Extremism:
 - Open source analysis of misinformation campaigns, targeted violence and threats to life.
 - Sharing and leveraging intelligence and information, including open-source analysis
 - Execution and management of threat assessment programs to identify, evaluate and analyze indicators and behaviours indicative of domestic violent extremists.
 - Training and awareness programs (through social media, suspicious activity reporting [SAR] indicators and behaviours) to help prevent radicalization.
 - This also applies to the UASI side of projects.
 - Any projects submitted under Fusion, Intel, or DBE must remain separate.

FY21 SHSP Timeline and Path Forward

- Project scoring results from the REPAC Scoring Meeting is posted in the power point presentation.
- On March 15th, the OOG will batch the applications back to the COG (already received).
- For prioritization and funding based on the EPPC Funding Sub-committee, recommendations which will then be submitted back to the OOG by March 31st.
- We expect the OOG to make some adjustments to our projects due to the national priorities changes.
- The project funding amounts will be released once the OOG has finalized the funding allocations at a later date. After Action Review Committee Meeting Sign-up
- Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 1:30 – 3:30 PM
 - Please sign-up via the link posted in the chat.
 - The link will also be sent out via email after today's meeting.
 - Cody Powell had a question about project priorities criteria.
 - Doug Bass found some information on the DHS website regarding the National Terrorism Advisory System that was very good. It was dated January 27, 2021.

THIRA/RIP/SPR Update

- COG staff successfully completed the Regional Implementation Plan (RIP) and the Stakeholder Preparedness Report (SPR) with the assistance of regional partners, no updates were made to the THIRA this year due to DHS' move to the three year updates.
- These documents will be maintained by the COG and are available upon request.

Regional Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack Grant Update

- No updates were available.

COVID-19 Vaccination Efforts

- No updates were available.

NCTCOG Updates

NCTCOG Staff

- Vaccination sites – will continue to get busy in the near future.
- Anna Piaseka left COG/Emergency Preparedness to take a job with Denton County.
- Chase Wheeler wants to know where we are with the T&E projects.
 - o Marcie Bruner – We will need to have a meeting to decide what T&E trainings you want to have.
- COG building re-opening – we are currently still closed to the public. We will have more information on the re-opening in a couple of months. All meetings will continue to be virtual.
- REPAC meeting will continue to be virtual until further notice.

Committee/Public Comment

- As stated, all of the counties and cities are busy with vaccinations.
 - o If you need some assistance with vaccination clinics, the Emergency Operations Centers are there for you.
- DSOs are due March 21st – the Texas State Assessment tool is available this year.
- The Public Assessment State of Texas Assistance Tool (pSTAT) is out there for your use this year.
- There is an opportunity for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding for the winter storms.
 - o The application period will be open from May 10, 2021 through September 7, 2021.
 - o David will forward additional information to Candice and Braydon for distribution.
- DVE project – Tarrant and Dallas counties will do a combination training and exercise event to cover the requirement.
 - o Seeking places to host large crowds.
 - o Will be bringing in a contractor to do a workshop sometime next March.

Upcoming Events

April 8, 2021	Emergency Management Working Group meeting
April 15, 2021	Cyber Security Working Group meeting
May 13-14, 2021	Texas Volunteer Management Conference (Virtual)
May 20, 2021	EPPC meeting
August 30–September 2, 2021	National Homeland Security Conference (Las Vegas)

Next Meeting
TBD