



North Central Texas Council of Governments

# SUMMARY

## Public Works Council

Thursday, February 8, 2018  
9:30 AM, William J Pitstick Board Room  
NCTCOG Offices, CPII  
616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, Texas 76011

Chair: Manny Palacios, City of Weatherford  
Vice Chair: Mike Brownlee, City of Corinth

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** The Public Works Council (PWC) Chair will welcome everyone to the meeting.

Many Palacios (City of Weatherford) led the meeting. Tamara Cook (NCTCOG) welcomed the members.

## ACTION ITEMS

2. **Meeting Summary.** The November 16, 2017 [meeting summary](#) is available online for review. Approval will be sought at the meeting.

The meeting summary was approved with no comments.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. **Public Works Construction Standards North Central Texas, Standard Drawings.** NCTCOG staff will present the survey results received in regards to the use of the Standard Drawings in the region. Staff will provide a summary of the survey feedback for the Council's consideration. Staff will request the PWC's recommendation on a process to update the Standard Drawings.

Tamara Cook (NCTCOG) reviewed survey results related to Standard Drawing usage throughout the region. NCTCOG received 46 responses, including 37 by cities. Overall, very few entities use the drawings as is; many use them as a reference or with modifications. The survey also revealed that a majority of respondents felt that most divisions were outdated. About 2/3 of respondents indicated that they would use the drawings in some way if they were updated.

Council members had several questions regarding the survey, including the distribution of city size and geography represented in the responses, how many respondents were Public Works Council participants, and how many of the cities who use the drawings are non-participants. The Council concluded that the response rate was sufficient and representative.

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The Council decided to move forward with updating the Standard Drawings, with a tentative publishing deadline of January 2020. The Council began the process of forming a subcommittee by asking for volunteers from those in attendance. The subcommittee will include expertise pertaining to each division of the Standard Drawings. The Council also suggested that there needs to be representation from the smaller cities that don't have their own drawings and rely on the Standard Drawings most heavily. The Council agreed to open the subcommittee to other related NCTCOG groups, including integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) and Regional Stormwater. Initial markup will be done by the subcommittee and then a scope of work will be determined. NCTCOG will consider the most appropriate approach to move forward, including hiring a contractor, coordinating with a university, or other developing other methods to complete the updates. This effort will probably be at least partially funded by the profits from selling digital copies of the Construction Standards. The details of this framework are subject to modification; this will be discussed again at the May 2018 meeting.

4. **19th Annual Public Works Roundup Update.** NCTCOG staff will present a list of topics for the 2018 Public Works Roundup and ask for prioritization of top picks from the PWC. The Public Works Roundup will be held in late May or early June this year. Locations are being researched.

The Council selected Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> as their preference for Public Works Roundup. The Council agreed that the Grapevine Convention Center was a successful venue and would like COG to pursue that option again for 2018. The request for sponsorship will be sent soon.

The Council voted on a selection of topics for Roundup sessions. Each attendee chose 10 from a list COG provided. COG will pursue speakers 8-10 of the most popular options. Final votes were as follows:

1. Construction Best Management Practices for Site Design (18 votes)
2. Master Drainage Planning (16 votes)  
Safely Improving Traffic Flows (16 votes)
3. Asphalt Pavement: Management and Rehabilitation of Pavement (15 votes)
4. TWDB's Texas State Flood Plan Update (14 votes)  
Urbanized Stream Corridor: Community Approach to Address Erosion (14 votes)
5. Work Zone Traffic Control (*PWC training interest*) (12 votes)  
Young Inspector Plan Review Training (*PWC training interest*) (12 votes)
6. iSWM Work Scope Update, for example, Downstream Assessment and integrated Site Design Practices Criteria (11 votes)
7. S.B. 1004 Small Cell Implementation Update (10 votes)  
SPROW/Low Impact Development (LID) Construction and Maintenance (10 votes)  
Green Infrastructure Case Studies (10 votes)  
SWPPP Training/Stormwater BMPs (10 votes)
8. Pond Dredging and Hydrographic Surveys: Best Practices for Water Planning and Management (8 votes)

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact Crysta Guzman by phone at (817) 695-9231 or by email at [CGuzman@nctcog.org](mailto:CGuzman@nctcog.org), 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.



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9. FEMA and the NFIP (7 votes)
10. Fleet Maintenance (6 votes)  
Resiliency Efforts During Hurricane Harvey (6 votes)
11. Flood Software Update (OneRain/NCTCOG joint presentation) (5 votes)  
Pipeline Safety (Gas) (*PWC training interest*) (5 votes)
12. Wastewater Treatment Plants BMPs (1 vote)

NCTCOG requested any additional suggestions. The Council expressed interest in inviting utility company representatives to have a table at the event to facilitate connections between Public Works departments and the correct contacts for utilities when rights of way issues arise. The Council also liked the idea of bringing in some interactive stations/vendors to explore during lunch and breaks. The Council mentioned the possibility of breakout sessions, but NCTCOG would have to pay for additional rooms to facilitate this.

### INFORMATION ITEMS

5. **FY 2018 Regional Public Works Program Participation.** NCTCOG staff will update the PWC on the FY 2018 cost shares.

NCTCOG is still collecting forms and sending out invoices. Cost shares will stay the same for FY19.

6. **FY 2018 Public Works Work Program Update.** NCTCOG staff will update the PWC on additional activities approved for the 2018 Work Program, including training opportunities for contractors, inspectors, and public works members. NCTCOG staff will update the Council on the PWC Subcommittees.

Tamara Cook (NCTCOG) demonstrated the Public Works Training Calendar and website and asked for feedback. The group agreed that it would be helpful to add professional association trainings even if there is cost involved.

The Council provided further direction in which training topics the COG should pursue. Several related topics were combined and the group suggested that these could serve as a topic area for the Inspectors Roundtable held by another organization. NCTCOG will reach out to its contact there to work on this. Other training needs are already fulfilled in the region: Work Zone/Traffic Safety is covered by UTA and Gas Pipe Safety is covered by 811. Final training topics selected were Construction Contracts and New Inspector Plan Review.

- **Sustainable Public Rights of Way.** NCTCOG staff will update the PWC on the activities of the SPROW Subcommittee. (Kathleen Myers)

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The SPROW education forum was held on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at the AIA Office in Dallas. There was a morning presentation session, followed by lunch and afternoon site visits led by Bud Melton of Halff Associates. Education Forum materials can be viewed [here](#) under “Past SPROW Education Forums.”

- **Public Works Construction Standards.** NCTCOG staff will update the PWC on the comments and feedback received on the *Public Works Construction Standards North Central Texas*, Fifth Edition (published November 2017).

NCTCOG staff will continue to log comments received and give updates to the group.

- **integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) Activities.** NCTCOG staff will present an update of iSWM program activities including the proposed work scope for the next year. (Derica Peters)

Standard construction details are complete and have been released. Workshops were held on October 24 and January 30. Currently, the group is conducting budget discussions, with budget approval being sought in May.

#### 7. Other Program Activities.

- **Cooperative Technical Partnership Program and the Community Rating System Users Group.** NCTCOG staff will provide an update on FEMA's Cooperative Technical Partnership Program activities and the Floodplain Administrators/Community Rating System Users Group. (Mia Brown)

Tamara Cook (NCTCOG) gave this update. CTP is closing out FY15 and working on tasks for FY16 and FY17. The Work Plan for FY18 is in draft phase. The next CRS meeting is February 27, 2018 and will cover pond dredging.

- **Public Works Emergency Response Team (PWERT).** A PWERT representative or NCTCOG staff will give an update on recent PWERT activities. (Manny Palacios)

Manny Palacios (PWERT) mentioned the Hurricane Harvey deployments from several of our member cities and what they hope to do with the funding they may receive.

- **Texas Public Works Association Update.** A TPWA representative or NCTCOG staff will update the PWC on upcoming TPWA local events and meetings. (Derek Chaney)

Tamara Cook (NCTCOG) summarized the information sent by TPWA. The next branch meeting is February 20<sup>th</sup> and the presenter will be Pond Medics. The Council suggested that events like these be put on the training calendar. The Council also suggested that NCTCOG table or present at the conference in June.

Edith Marvin (NCTCOG) updated the Council on the OneRain Software. NCTCOG is working on finalizing the contract. NCTCOG urges broad participation because more data will make the regional flood detecting more robust. The price will be approximately \$4,500 per city. Some cities with extensive existing flood gauge and rainfall data will have to pay extra to have that data converted and imported into OneRain's platform.



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### OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

8. **Future Agenda Items.** PWC Members and NCTCOG staff may suggest future agenda items.

The Council suggested a survey of the communities to forecast upcoming Public Works projects. This information would be available to contractors. It benefits contractors because they can better plan their staffing needs for the year and should also benefit cities by increasing the number of bids received. Edith Marvin (NCTCOG) suggested that AGC take the lead and NCTCOG provide support.

9. **Roundtable Topics/Other Business.** PWC members and NCTCOG staff may share additional items as time allows.

Weatherford/Western Subregion: Lots of growth and development. Weatherford is working on a downtown plan.

Grand Prairie: There is lots of development along 161 and Epic Waters has opened.

South Tarrant Subregion: 377 is open.

Dallas: Bond program is open and they are updating drainage manuals.

Lancaster: Industrial growth and associated railway.

Fort Worth: Bond election in May.

Richardson: Won a lawsuit against Oncor concerning responsibility for utility relocation fees.

Tarrant County: Texas Association of County Engineers and Road Administrators is having 1 day workshop in Waxahachie on March 29<sup>th</sup>

NCTCOG: Solid Waste Grant program call for projects ends Monday. WATER group is coordinating a Grease Trap training.

10. **Schedule for the Next PWC Meeting.** The next PWC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 10, 2018, at 9:30 a.m., in NCTCOG's Metroplex Conference Room.

11. **Adjournment.**

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Tamara Cook by phone at (817) 695-9221, or by email at [tcook@nctcog.org](mailto:tcook@nctcog.org).

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