



# REM Meeting

**February 6, 2026**

**Start Time:**

9:00AM-9:30AM: In Person Networking

9:30AM-11:30AM: Meeting

**Tittle McFadden Public Safety Center  
1187 West Main Street, Lewisville, Texas, 75067  
OR  
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

## Welcome and Introductions

**Lauren Romero, MPA, REM Chair**

**Sabrina Fierro, EM Specialist, Lewisville Emergency Management**

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## Presentations

### Resource Support Center: What the Future Holds

**Lauren Sanchez, CEM**, Regional Emergency Management Coordinator Serving Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville, Lancaster, TX

**Elliott Reep, CEM**, Emergency Management Coordinator, Carrollton, TX

**Maribel Martinez-Mejia, PhD, CEM**, Director of Emergency Preparedness, NCTCOG

**Justin Cox, CEM**, Senior Emergency Preparedness Specialist, NCTCOG

## Role:

- Coordination of regional resources
- Maintain regional situation awareness when activated through sitreps, mapping, and dashboards

## Previous RSC Exercise:

- Operation Freeze Frenzy
- Comanche Peak
- MetroX

## Key Points to Remember:

- Continue to use the Regional Resource Directory for contact information for resources.
- No STAR requests are needed for RSC.
- Regional forms and situational report templates will be developed for RSC status reports & briefing.

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## FIFA World Cup Update: Spaghetti and Meatballs

**Irish Hancock**, Emergency Management Administrator, Arlington, TX

- FIFA will be announcing basecamp locations in the near future.

- Coordination is critically important amongst all partners for planning a successful event.
- Ultra soccer fans are driven by national pride.
- Fan marches during the summer heat wave have the potential to become a serious incident.
- More people watch the World Cup than watch the Super Bowl.

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## Discussion

### Open Discussion – REM Presentation Ideas, Host Sites

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## Member Comments or Updates

### NCTCOG Updates

(Attached)

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### NWS Updates

- February is the peak month for our Severe Weather Education classes (also known as SKYWARN). We have several classes remaining in and around North Texas (schedule). Please help us promote these classes and please make plans to attend a class so you have knowledge of what we are teaching local residents about severe storms and severe weather in North Texas.
- If you have any feedback from the winter weather event in January, please pass that along to Jennifer Dunn.
- Our office will be hiring some new people in the first half of this year, so hopefully I'll have some new names and faces to share in the next few months as we onboard at least 2 entry-level meteorologists.
- **World Cup:** We continue our planning for this large event, including plans to bring in meteorologists from surrounding NWS offices to supplement our staff, allowing for more involvement with our partners. The plan is for us to be in the JOC, every day, staffing 2 shifts during the operational period. We will be part of the 9 am briefing every day. If you need something specific for your jurisdiction during this time, please reach out to me as soon as possible.
- **Hurricane Awareness Tour:** On Thursday, May 7th, we will be hosting a Hurricane Awareness Tour (HAT) stop at Meacham Airfield! This means 2–4 of the hurricane hunter planes will be here for the day and open for viewing, including the C-130 (USAF plane) and P-3 (NOAA plane). We will be following a strict schedule of events that day, so this is a highly organized event, but stay tuned for more information about this event. For a little more context, you can see this public-facing event webpage from NWS Melbourne in 2024: <https://www.weather.gov/mlb/2024HAT>
- The Storm Prediction Center (SPC) is making changes to their severe hazard grids by adding intensity groups to better define where higher end threats for strong tornadoes, large hail, and higher end damaging winds may occur. NOTE: The categorical naming, frequency, and reason for issuing Marginal, Slight, Enhanced, Moderate, and High Outlook categories will not change. You can read a little more about the hazard grid changes here: [https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf\\_2026/scn26-11\\_SPC\\_conditional-intensity.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/notification/pdf_2026/scn26-11_SPC_conditional-intensity.pdf). Look for more information from our office about these changes in the next few weeks, including options for training webinars that SPC is providing to EM and media partners.

## **TDEM Updates**

- Introduced new Volunteer Agency Liaison, Samantha Smith.
- Introduced new Regional Disaster Finance Coordinator, Julie Rowell.
- Incident Support Task Force Coordinator Victoria Garner reminded the group about the new Memorandum of Understanding for the various external partners that support state missions during disasters.

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## **TEEM Updates**

- Monthly CEM Study Cohort sessions are in progress.
- **Next meeting:** February 19 @ 12:00 PM
  - Speaker: Lauren Sanchez, CEM (Best Southwest OEM)
- **Next TEEM Social:** March 18, 2026 @ 11:30 AM
  - Rodeo & Rye, 213 E Front St, Arlington, TX
- Have new staff or interns interested in TEEM?
  - Please contact our Secretary, Maricarmen Garcia, at [mpgarcia@cityoffirving.org](mailto:mpgarcia@cityoffirving.org).

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## **EM Support Team**

- EM Support Team New Member Orientation is Monday April 13, 2026 from 1:30–3:00 PM via TEAMS. This is for anyone interested in joining the team. To join the team, you must submit a completed application and attend an Orientation. Email Lauren if you need the link and/or the application.
- EM Support Team Member Training (only open to team members) is Monday May 11, 2026 from 1:30–3:30 PM at NCTCOG. Email Lauren for the invite.
- Jurisdictions planning to request EST support for World Cup events should submit the request once available for team rostering.

### **POC:**

Lauren Sanchez; [lauren.sanchez@duncanvilletx.gov](mailto:lauren.sanchez@duncanvilletx.gov)

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## **Next Meeting**

**Friday, May 1, 2026 – Location TBD**