

SUMMARY

Flood Management Task Force
Friday, August 21, 2026
9:30 AM, 616 Six Flags Drive
Arlington TX 76011
Transportation Council Room (CenterPoint II)



1. Welcome and Introductions.

- City of Arlington – Lee Jeffrey
- City of Dallas – Tam Vu
- City of Dallas – Raheel Khan
- City of Fort Worth – Lisa Biggs
- City of Grand Prairie – S.J. Tapia
- City of Irving – Garry Fennell
- City of Southlake – Mayor Shawn McCaskill
- City of Southlake – Pritam Deshmukh
- City of Southlake – Jeff Ginn
- Dallas County – Lissa Shepard
- Denton County – Stephen Belknap
- Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) – Craig Ottman
- Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) – Olivia Whittaker
- Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) – Michelle Wood-Ramirez
- Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) – Zach Huff
- Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) – Victoria Bailey
- Texas Floodplain Management Association (TFMA)/Halff – Stephanie Griffin
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Vincent Geracci

ACTION ITEMS

2. **Voting Item: Meeting Summary Approval.** The May 15, 2026, draft meeting summary is [available online](#) for review. (Emilie Fryksater, CFM, NCTCOG)

No corrections were proposed to the May 15, 2026, Meeting Summary. A motion to approve was made by Lisa Biggs (City of Fort Worth) and seconded by Lissa Shepard (Dallas County). The motion was approved.

3. **Combined Floodplain Seminar for Elected Officials and Trinity River COMMON VISION Steering Committee Meeting.** Will be held on September 3, 2026, from 1 to 3 p.m. (Emilie Fryksater)

Emilie Fryksater (NCTCOG) reminded members that the combined meeting will be held Thursday, September 3, 2026, from 1 to 3 PM in the William Pitstick Conference Room. The agenda will include presentations from regional partners and consideration of the FY 2027 Work Plan and budget. Members were asked to verify Steering Committee representatives and elected-official contact information.

- a. **Voting Item: FY 2027 Work Plan Approval.** The FMTF will vote to recommend the [FY 2027 work plan](#) to the COMMON VISION Steering Committee.

Emilie Fryksater (NCTCOG) reviewed revisions to the proposed FY 2027 COMMON VISION Work Program. Changes included consolidation of overlapping ongoing support tasks;

streamlined language for FEMA NFIP training; removal of the completed Model Consolidation Committee task; prioritization of the Fifth Edition CDC Manual; distinct tasks for CDC Mapper development and East Fork/Denton Creek expansion; a NCTCOG-led review of floodplain acreage; and a new annual activity summary. FY 2027 member cost shares will remain unchanged, although adjustments may be considered for FY 2028. Lee Jeffrey (Arlington) moved to recommend the FY 2027 Work Plan and budget to the Steering Committee. Lisa Biggs (Fort Worth) seconded the motion, which carried without opposition.

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. **L0273 Managing Floodplain Development Through the NFIP Course and CFM Exam.** (Emilie Fryksater)

Emilie Fryksater (NCTCOG) reported that the September 21–24 FEMA L0273 course had reached its 30-participant capacity. Staff continues following up with prospective registrants and identifying alternates in case of withdrawals. The TFMA-proctored Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) Exam, scheduled for September 25, had also reached capacity, and exam registration had closed.

PRESENTATIONS

5. **Stormwater Integrated Flood Forecasting Tool (SWIFFT).** (Claire Pollard, CFM, Dewberry)

Claire Pollard (Dewberry) introduced SWIFFT, a regional forecasting initiative designed to identify roadways at risk of flooding before inundation occurs. Covering the 12-county metropolitan planning area, the tool will combine weather forecasts, stream observations, hydrologic modeling, and inundation mapping to support advance warning and roadway response. Potential applications include informing emergency managers, distributing alerts to navigation services, and identifying recurrent flooding locations for mitigation planning.

Claire described a two-year development process involving exploration, co-design, validation, and adoption, guided by an advisory council of local, state, and national stakeholders. NCTCOG is expected to assume ownership following the project period, anticipated to conclude in March 2028.

Dr. Seth Lawler (Dewberry) discussed the technical approach, including integration of existing regional models and data sources, adaptable interfaces, open-source development, and continuous assessment of forecast performance. Members discussed incorporating local gauges and roadway cameras, modeling different flow and downstream conditions, and validating predictions against observed flooding. Lisa Biggs (Fort Worth) emphasized the value of camera observations; Lee Jeffrey (Arlington) asked about the inundation-map library; Vincent Geracci (USACE) raised hydrologic modeling questions; and Craig Ottman (TRWD) asked about antecedent conditions in rural watersheds. Dewberry described retrospective modeling and recurring performance evaluations. The presenters clarified that SWIFFT would provide information to roadway agencies and navigation platforms, not itself implement road closures.

For further information, please review the Meeting Slides located here:

https://www.nctcog.org/getContentAsset/82922253-73fd-461e-a87e-0e0778e43dae/dfc3d011-8f63-43f6-9ed8-4b444333a1d0/8-21-26_FMTF-Slides_FINAL.pdf?language=en-US.

6. **Texas Disaster Information System (TDIS) Workshop.** An interactive presentation by the Institute for a Disaster Resilient Texas (IDRT) demonstrating TDIS products. (Federico Antolini, PhD, IDRT – Texas A&M University)

Dr. Federico Antolini (Institute for a Disaster Resilient Texas) led an interactive demonstration of TDIS resources for accessing disaster-risk data, mapping products, and decision-support information. Attendees followed along using their own devices. Discussion addressed the integration of regional hydrologic and hydraulic models, including TSI study models, and the metadata requirements for incorporating additional model formats.

Dr. Antolini demonstrated the Risk Assessment Mapping Portal (RAMP), which provides city- and county-scale hazard information to support hazard mitigation planning. Features included hazard and exposure layers, critical facilities, demographic and risk summaries, downloadable datasets, and exportable maps. He noted that the platform is intended to make planning resources accessible to jurisdictions with varying levels of GIS capacity.

The workshop also examined flood-risk mapping tools intended to help floodplain administrators communicate risk to residents and other stakeholders. Participants discussed differences between effective FEMA floodplain maps and supplemental flood-risk datasets, regulatory versus nonregulatory applications, and ways to improve the interpretation of inundation maps. Vincent Geracci (USACE) suggested displaying water-surface elevations or flood depths when selecting mapped locations. Lisa Biggs (Fort Worth) emphasized that finished-floor elevation determinations may require precision to one-tenth of a foot. Dr. Antolini acknowledged technical limitations in displaying high-resolution raster values online and discussed possible improvements to depth visualization, legends, and map exports.

Further information on the TDIS platform and resources, including hyperlinks to the discussed tools, can be accessed via the Meeting slides located here:

https://www.nctcog.org/getContentAsset/82922253-73fd-461e-a87e-0e0778e43dae/dfc3d011-8f63-43f6-9ed8-4b444333a1d0/8-21-26_FMTF-Slides_FINAL.pdf?language=en-US.

The following handouts were provided during the workshop—

- TDIS Info Sheet
 - https://www.nctcog.org/getContentAsset/c8df12c7-79de-4fff-b104-f0a41fd5dc38/dfc3d011-8f63-43f6-9ed8-4b444333a1d0/1_TDIS_Info_sheet.pdf?language=en-US
- Data Model and Query (DMQT) Tool
 - https://www.nctcog.org/getContentAsset/65dff983-1941-4d4f-827d-0c721ddbfb9d/dfc3d011-8f63-43f6-9ed8-4b444333a1d0/2_DMQT_Info_Sheet.pdf?language=en-US
- Measuring, Mapping, & Managing Flood Risk (M3FR) Catalog User Guide
 - https://www.nctcog.org/getContentAsset/a7e3e363-46ac-4248-9e19-c85332e780b5/dfc3d011-8f63-43f6-9ed8-4b444333a1d0/3_M3FR_Catalog_User_Guide.pdf?language=en-US
- Buyers Aware Handout
 - https://www.nctcog.org/getContentAsset/e769b7a7-fce3-41c0-a403-7cc1c4825ea2/dfc3d011-8f63-43f6-9ed8-4b444333a1d0/4_Buyers_Aware.pdf?language=en-US

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

7. Open Discussion/Other Business. A short opportunity for open discussion as time allows.

The scheduled roundtable was deferred due to the length of the workshop. Emilie Fryksater (NCTCOG) invited suggestions for future workshops and presenters and indicated that presentation materials and contacts would be made available with the meeting resources.

8. **Upcoming Meeting.** The next Flood Management Task Force meeting will be held on Friday, November 20th. The meeting will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

9. **Adjournment.**

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Emilie Fryksater by phone at (817) 695-9110, or by email at efryksater@nctcog.org. Thank you.

Attendance List	
Lee Jeffrey	City of Arlington
Tam Vu	City of Dallas
Raheel Khan	City of Dallas
Lisa Biggs	City of Fort Worth
S.J. Tapia	City of Grand Prairie
Gary Fennell	City of Irving
Mayor Shawn McCaskill	City of Southlake
Pritam Deshmukh	City of Southlake
Jeff Ginn	City of Southlake
Lissa Shepard	Dallas County
Stephen Belknap	Denton County
Craig Ottman	Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD)
Olivia Whittaker	TRWD
Michelle Wood-Ramirez	TRWD
Zach Huff	TRWD
Victoria Bailey	TRWD
Stephanie Griffin	Texas Floodplain Management Association (TFMA)/Halff
Scott Rushing	Halff
Vincent Geracci	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
Charles Crook	Charles Crook Consulting, Inc.
Cyle Cox	Charles Crook Consulting, Inc.
Jeremy Dixon	Freese and Nichols
Jacob Lesue	McAdams
Claire Pollard	Dewberry
Seth Lawler	Dewberry
Susan Alvarez	NCTCOG
Erin Blackman	NCTCOG
Christi Upton	NCTCOG
Emilie Fryksater	NCTCOG
Jeff Neal	NCTCOG
Nathan Drozd	NCTCOG