



North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

Trinity River COMMON VISION Steering Committee
Thursday, September 15, 2016
9:30 AM, Metroplex Conference Room
NCTCOG Offices, CPII
616 Six Flags Drive, Arlington, TX 76011

1. **Welcome and introductions** (Mia Brown)

The meeting began at 9:30 a.m. with introductions of all present. Mia informed the Steering Committee of the passing of committee member Michael Cronin, representing the Trinity River Authority, and thanked Christina Crain, Vice President of the TRA Board of Directors, for filling his vacancy.

DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION/ACTION ITEMS

2. **Summary of 2015 Common Vision Steering Committee Meeting** (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave a brief description of the 2015 Steering Committee meeting. A motion to approve the draft summary was carried.

3. **Presentation on COMMON VISION**

a. Overview of COMMON VISION (Kenny Haferkamp)

Kenny Haferkamp presented an overview of the Trinity COMMON VISION program history and the goals of the program.

b. Corridor Development Certificate (CDC) Program (Jerry Cotter, USACE)

Jerry Cotter presented an overview of the importance and successes of the CDC program and an outline of the process.

c. FEMA/USACE Consolidated Regulatory Model Update (Jerry Cotter, USACE)

Jerry Cotter gave an overview of the partnership with FEMA to produce a consolidated model, and an explanation of the process to build the model as well as the advantages a consolidated model would provide.

4. **COMMON VISION Work Program Overview and Activities Update.** NCTCOG staff will provide an overview and update of the listed activities of the Trinity River COMMON VISION Program:

a. Interactive GIS map of CDC Applications (Brian Geck)

Brian Geck gave a demonstration of the interactive GIS map of CDC applications for the Committee.

b. NCTCOG hosting of the 21st annual FEMA 4-day National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) course (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave an overview of the NFIP course offered at NCTCOG in December 2015. She also gave an update on the Floodplain 101 course hosted at NCTCOG in August 2016, and noted that the CFM Exam held in conjunction with the course gave Texas its 2000th CFM.

c. Elected Officials Seminar and Community Rating System (CRS) Meeting (Mia Brown)

The combined Elected Officials Seminar and Community Rating System meeting was held August 31st and had a record 80 registrants, about half of whom were elected officials. The topics discussed at the elected officials' portion were stormwater outreach to citizens, the TFMA FloodEd Program, and dam operations.

d. FY 16 Flood Management Task Force (FMTF) Work Program Products: May-June 2015 Flood Report and COMMON VISION Promotional Brochures (Mia Brown)

i. The May-June 2015 flood report, still in the draft phase and slated to be finalized in the near future, is an informational report produced at the request of the FMTF which documents the events leading up to the flood event and the effects the flood had on the North Central Texas region. It closes with current efforts being done to lessen flood impacts, and it is the intention of the document to also be a tool in that regard.

ii. The other work product, also still in draft phase but to be finalized in the next few months, are the three Trinity Common Vision promotional brochures, one each written for the public, community leaders, and developers. The goal of the brochures is to educate the specified audiences on the Common Vision program, the process as it relates to them, and how it benefits the member communities.

e. Marys Creek and East Fork Trinity Watershed Initiatives (Edith Marvin)

Edith Marvin gave an overview of the Marys Creek and East Fork Initiatives.

The Tarrant Regional Water District recognized increasing flows coming out of the Marys Creek watershed, and requested NCTCOG work with the counties to see what help can be provided to regulate these flows, potentially with higher standards. Recent legislation has enabled counties to enforce higher standards,



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and NCTCOG is currently working to help counties obtain the information and resources needed to enforce their individually desired level of floodplain development standards.

At the request of Dallas County, NCTCOG has met with several communities in the East Fork Trinity watershed to gauge the desire to voluntarily participate in the Corridor Development Certificate program. Meetings with Kaufman and Ellis counties will follow. Development is increasing in the watershed and it is expected to be one of the most highly developed areas in the Metroplex in the near future. The majority of the watershed is mapped by FEMA as Zone A, and studying the East Fork would be another one of the next steps to this process.

5. **Approval of FY 17 Trinity River COMMON VISION Work Program.** The Flood Management Task Force (FMTF) met June 10th and assisted NCTCOG with the selection of work program items presented for the upcoming fiscal year. The FMTF then approved the work program composition on August 19th and recommended Trinity River COMMON VISION Steering Committee approval. (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown described the FY 17 work program and the special items the FMTF recommended for approval by the Common Vision Steering Committee, which are additional trainings beyond the four day NFIP L-273 course and a common flood warning software compatible with existing rain and stream gauges in the region. A motion to approve the work program was carried.

6. **Related Activities Update.** An update will be provided on related topics outside of this work program to include:
 - a. Participation in FEMA's Cooperating Technical Partnership (CTP) Program and North Texas CRS Users Group (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave a summary of the Community Rating System (CRS) program and the bi-monthly CRS Users Group meetings held at NCTCOG that have the goal of helping communities in the region increase their CRS points and provide bigger flood insurance discounts to their residents. At the time of the Steering Committee meeting, the next CRS meeting had not been scheduled.

Mia Brown also gave an overview of the Cooperating Technical Partners grant program funded by FEMA and NCTCOG's role as a regional partner. She then described the ongoing projects NCTCOG has currently. Base level engineering is ongoing in the Cedar and Denton watershed Discovery projects, and Discovery meetings will be scheduled to talk to communities to determine their flood risk areas so that they can be prioritized to be studied in more detail. Two flood risk identification projects are in progress in the Lynchburg Creek and West Irving Creek watersheds. NCTCOG is currently finalizing grant paperwork for the East Fork Watershed Discovery Project and three flood risk identification projects in Tarrant County, North Richland Hills, and Cleburne.

b. Floodplain Management Higher Standards in Texas (Jessica Baker)

Jessica Baker, TFMA President, gave an overview about TFMA, current outreach, the CFM program, floodplain training, partnerships, higher standards, the status of the CRS program in Texas, the results of the TFMA Higher Standards Survey, and state funding for the Texas FloodEd program which included Texas Flood Awareness Week from May 23-27, 2016.

c. Integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) Update (Derica Peters)

Derica Peters gave an overview of the iSWM program and its membership, as well as the certification program. There are currently two communities that are iSWM certified and more communities are seeking certification. The Subcommittee is currently in the process of selecting a new consultant.

7. **Trash Free Waters Presentation.** Cody Whittenburg, chair of the Trash Free Waters Program in the Trinity River Watershed and Environmental Manager for the City of Fort Worth will give a presentation on the Trash Free Waters initiative.

Betsi Chatham, speaking for Cody Whittenburg, gave a presentation on the Trash Free Waters Program at the City of Fort Worth. She described the Adopt-A-Spot Trinity River Basin Online Mapping Tool which is slated to be launched December 2016.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

8. **Roundtable Topics/Other Business.** The Steering Committee and NCTCOG staff may share additional items as time allows.

Dallas City Councilman Lee Kleinman expressed his appreciation of upstream communities' efforts toward lessening flood impacts.

Mike Segner of the Texas Water Development Board commented that increased state funding allowed them to fill many vacant positions.

Tarrant Regional Water District noted they are holding a Trash Bash event September 17.

Arlington City Councilwoman Sheri Capehart mentioned that the city implemented an additional fee for stormwater management.

Grand Prairie City Councilman Richard Fregoe expressed his happiness that Grand Prairie participates in regional efforts. He also mentioned that the city has implemented a buyout program for erosion issues and has received hazard mitigation grants for low water crossings.

Farmers Branch City Councilman Harold Froelich emphasized the need for all cities to think about how they affect those downstream of them, and that more people should be involved.

Marc Bentley of Farmers Branch mentioned that they have implemented a stormwater fee.



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Denton County Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell mentioned that they continue to implement their stormwater management program.

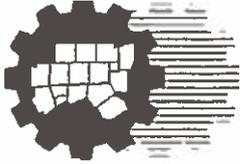
Trinity River Authority Board Vice President Christina Crain noted that the Joint Board Staff Strategic Planning Retreat is working on a new plan for 2018 for work on existing and new deliverables.

The Trinity River Kayak Company emphasized the need for improved river access for the public.

9. **Adjournment.**

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Mia Brown by phone at (817) 695-9227, or by email at MBBrown@nctcog.org.

Thank you.



Trinity River COMMON VISION Steering Committee

9:30 a.m., Thursday, September 15, 2016
Metroplex Conference Room

Member Sign-in Sheet

Contact	Signature	Agency
Sheri Capehart		City of Arlington
Rudy Durham		City of Lewisville
Richard Fregoe		City of Grand Prairie
Harold Froehlich		City of Farmers Branch
Kelly Allen Gray		City of Fort Worth
Lee Kleinman		City of Dallas
Brad LaMorgese		City of Irving
Marty Leonard		Tarrant Regional Water District
Matthew Marchant		City of Carrollton
Christina Melton Crain		The Trinity River Authority of Texas
Bobbie Bobby Mitchell		Denton County
John Wiley Price		Dallas County
Gary Roden		City of Coppell
B. Glen Whitley		Tarrant County

