



# Coordination in Modeling

FEMA & North Central Council of Governments  
Flood Risk Task Force Meeting  
August 10, 2018



**FEMA**

# Goal of this Discussion

- ▶ **To identify pain points and issues related to model preparation & maintenance at multiple levels of government**
- ▶ **Step One.** Identify Issues
- ▶ **Step Two.** Assess responsibilities and requirements
- ▶ **Step Three.** Suggestions for immediate implementation  
(Short Term Solutions possible with current resources)
- ▶ **Step Four.** Suggestions/requirements collection  
(Define current limitations and resource constraints to support team solution for longer term)
- ▶ **Step Five.** Plan, Coordinate, Implement

# The Reality of the Situation

## EXPECTATION

**44 CFR 60.3**

Communities have  
floodplain regulations

**Part 65**

Updates are being  
submitted by  
community as  
development occurs

**FIRMs are up to  
date**

## BUT...

**DEVELOPMENT** is  
occurring more rapidly  
than communities may  
be able to study.

**PROJECTS** are  
being completed,  
coordination is not  
always occurring.

**COMMUNITY  
STAFF** have more to  
do than floodplain  
management.

## REALITY

Majority of the  
Nation's FIRMs  
are in need of  
update.

If the map is  
**WRONG** or **OUT  
OF DATE** it is still  
**EFFECTIVE.**

# Map Maintenance – The MINIMUM Rules

## Code of Federal Regulations requires:

- Submittal of local updates when construction alters **water surface elevation**, **floodplain** or **floodway**
- **Due process is required prior to modeling becoming effective**
- **Effective can only include current existing conditions**

## Also...

- **Identifies local community as permitting authority, decision maker**
- **Local community can be more restrictive & have higher standards**
- **Local community can adopt prior to effective**



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# LOMR Delegation



## State of North Carolina

- Early watershed update implementation
- Interest in ownership & maintenance
- Floodplain management & development groups have worked closely to develop a series of trainings & manuals to support this program



## State of Alabama

- Second wave of State LOMR delegates
- Established program, trained up staff
- Currently working to transition LOMRs back to FEMA



## Harris County Flood Control District (2009)

- Works locally with industry & development to maintain models
- Various coordination meetings with FEMA on front end & continuous to date
- Coordinates local reviews for 33 communities
- M3 system built/paid for by HCFCD
- Submits watersheds and updates once construction is complete or phase reaches a beneficial point (watch for in/out/in scenarios) for incorporation to FIRM
- Acts as FEMA's Model Storage for effective modeling



## San Antonio River Authority (2012)

- Model check out system deployed and in use
- More coordination with FEMA HQ than with FEMA Region
- Updates generally smaller scale, CTP work generates larger updates

SOLUTION

