



North Central Texas Council of Governments

MEETING SUMMARY

iSWM Implementation Subcommittee integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) Program

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting Wednesday, January 29, 2024, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm: [Join the meeting now](#)

Chair: Ranjan Muttiah, City of Fort Worth
Vice Chair: Travis Attanasio, City of Burleson

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees entered their names and affiliations into the chat.

ACTION ITEMS

- Approval of October 9, 2024, Meeting Summary.** The meeting summary will be presented to the Subcommittee for approval: [Agenda](#)

Ranjan Muttiah (City of Fort Worth) inquired about updates to the iSWM drawings. Kate Zielke (NCTCOG) responded that the plan is to enter an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with UTA, with further discussion scheduled under Item #4.

Mitchell Talley (City of Mesquite) motioned to approve the meeting summary, seconded by Travis Attanasio (City of Burleson). The motion was approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- FY25 Work Program Update.** NCTCOG & Halff Associates, Inc. will provide updates on FY25 task deliverables.

Randy Petermen (Halff) discusses progress in tasks:

Task 2: The workshop will take place March 3, and more details will come.

Task 3: A virtual presentation to the American Planning Association (APA) will occur on February 19. Ranjan asks where the APA meeting will be held. Randy said it is a virtual brown bag presentation.

Task 4: No updates regarding Stormwater Quality Monitoring Program Development for Existing iSWM BMPs

Task 5: Waiting for guidance on where Halff is best utilized in this task.

Task 6: Updating website platform. Halff is holding on this task. Ranjan says Casey Cannon, NCTCOG, was working on an update and asks about progress. Kate says Casey is working on other tasks so COG will work to provide an update on this task.

Task 7: Coordinating Guidance or Training on Temporary Sediment Basins.

Task 8: Finished research and memo nearly complete. Maybe done later this week. Will summarize findings on this task after these updates.

Task 9: Finished research and wrote a memo, summarizing findings.

Randy explained that Task 8 focuses on best practices for erosion control in pipe utility crossings. The memo will outline considerations for both pre- and post-construction phases. Key points include:



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- Avoiding placements in highly erosive conditions, such as the outer bends of streams.
- Minimizing the number of crossings by consolidating them where possible.
- Ensuring adequate depth for minimum cover, based on standards from the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.
- Checking flotation potential in addition to erosion control.
- Complying with state and federal regulations to mitigate environmental impact.

To restore water quality, existing contours should be restored quickly. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) requires restoration within 14 days of construction for typical projects.

Some communities have turned temporary erosion control measures into permanent ones. The subcommittee discussed whether this practice should continue.

Ranjan Muttiah asked if the discussion included crossings for sanitary sewer lines. Randy clarified that the focus is on boring situations, but many erosion control measures also apply to exposed pipelines at stream banks. He encouraged members to reach out via email for further discussion.

Mitchell Talley emphasized that rock riprap should always be used to stabilize embankments where pipes protrude. Many embankments lack proper stabilization, leading to severe erosion and pipe joint failures.

4. **iSWM Manual Update.** The subcommittee will discuss desired updates to the iSWM Manual. (Carl Singleton and Kate Zielke – NCTCOG)

Carl Singleton and Kate Zielke (NCTCOG) said the group needed to determine what content should be updated and whether the manual could be more useful as one complete but compressed PDF. Making the document one PDF could make the document more searchable and more navigable. Also, duplication between drawings should be addressed.

Ranjan Muttiah noted that updates from the iSWM webpage could be incorporated into the manual.

Mitchell Talley mentioned that North Texas vendors have products that could be included in the drawings.

Carl Singleton asked for feedback on the manual's usability, particularly in fieldwork scenarios.

Julian Holmes (City of Mansfield) suggested merging the sections into one large PDF while retaining the ability to access smaller sections separately.

Jerry Cotter (University of Texas at Arlington) inquired about the manual's last update and noted that modern PDFs offer improved navigation features.

Kate proposed adding bookmarks and internal links for better usability.

Ranjan emphasized the need for a prioritized approach to updates, as the manual is over 15 years old. The subcommittee will determine which updates are feasible for the current year.

Kate asked whether the updates should start with drawings or both drawings and narrative sections simultaneously. The group will outline a path forward.

Mitchell raised concerns about incorrectly installed wire basket inlet raps and asked whether NCTCOG had a detailed specification available. Kate suggested reviewing the Construction Standards to verify.



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INFORMATION ITEMS

5. **ASTM/STEPP/EPA Centers of Excellence: Testing and Performance Standards.** The presentation covers testing and performance standards and their relationship with ASTM/STEPP/EPA Centers of Excellence. (Craig Fairbaugh, Regional Regulatory Manager - Contech Engineered Solutions LLC)

Craig Fairbaugh (Contech Engineered Solutions LLC) provided insights into water quality treatment systems and the verification process. Key points included:

- The BMP database is housed within ASCE/EWRI, with ongoing efforts to standardize stormwater control measures.
- Research is focused on maintenance and long-term performance, particularly for post-construction treatment systems.
- Proper data collection is essential for assessing treatment effectiveness.
- Existing protocols include Washington's TAPE and New Jersey's NJDEP/NJCAT testing standards.
- A national verification program using ASTM standards and the STEPP program is needed.
 - Craig also highlighted gaps in water quality performance verification, particularly for rain gardens, sand filters, and ponds. More resources and testing protocols are needed.

Craig described passed and in-progress standards including trash removal. Craig stated this is barely regulated in post-construction. Craig stated stormwater has been borrowing standards from other industries, and they might not be entirely applicable, so they need to be reviewed.

Craig added that he has been doing performance verification for the state of Washington and New Jersey programs. Thirty systems are verified in Washington. Two public domain systems are verified. But he said we need more systems. In the New Jersey program 34 MTDs are verified.

ASTM standards and testing protocols are one piece that needs a verification entity to ensure testing was done adequately. Needed is a national verification program that uses ASTM standards and STEPP program.

EPA Centers of Excellence for Stormwater Infrastructure Technologies provide needed research and examples of good stormwater work. Four centers were awarded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, including one at the University of Oklahoma, which will serve the Great Plains region.

Craig said there is current information that can assist with updating iSWM technical manual. The last major update to the manual was in 2014. Section 1 'Overview' does not look like it has been updated since 2014 and a lot has been learned since then. The BMP database also could use an update. The Mile High Flood District Urban Storm Drainage Criteria Manual can provide useful information.

Ranjan Muttiah asked how much maintenance cycles are incorporated into the top efficiency measures.

Craig said we do not have good faith in lab numbers yet. For field measurements, TAPE etc. are just tackling this now, and they have released some protocols for testing for maintenance. Right now, many are looking at infiltration and hydrology testing. He said it's really site dependent.

6. **New Equipment Standard Ensures Construction Workers' Safety.** OSHA issued a final rule on the personal protective equipment (PPE) standard for the construction industry. The changes clarify that equipment must fit each employee properly to protect them from workplace hazards. (Carl Singleton – NCTCOG)



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Carl Singleton shared a link to OSHA's final rule on workplace safety, emphasizing the need for properly fitting PPE for all workers.

7. **Celebrating Leadership in Development Excellence (CLIDE) Awards.** Application slides (Cassidy Campbell - NCTCOG).

Kate Zielke announced that the CLIDE awards occur biennially, and applications are being accepted from February 3 to February 28, 2025. She provided a link with additional details.

8. **iSWM Interest Survey Results.** Initially sent on 12/10/2024 and re-send on 12/17/2024. The purpose of this survey was to confirm participants' interest in iSWM and to identify topics of interest and agenda items for future meetings. (Carl Singleton – NCTCOG)

Carl Singleton presented the results of the iSWM survey, summarizing key findings and feedback from participants.

9. **Regional Public Works Program Update.** NCTCOG will provide an update on the FY25 Regional Public Works Program. (Carl Singleton – NCTCOG)

Carl Singleton mentioned the upcoming iSWM Workshop, PWC, and SPROW meetings.

10. **NCTCOG TMDL Program Update.** NCTCOG will provide an update for the FY25 TMDL Program. (TBA – NCTCOG)

Carl Singleton presented slides on upcoming Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) meetings.

11. **Integrated Transportation and Stormwater Infrastructure Study Update.** NCTCOG will describe the study and its relevance to iSWM. (Kate Zielke – NCTCOG)

Erin Blackman (NCTCOG) presented slides on the integrated TSI Study.

12. **General Information Items and Roundtable Discussion.**

Randy Peterman noted that guidance on developing regional detention is available on the iSWM webpage.

13. **Schedule for the Next Meeting.** The next meeting is scheduled for the week of April 28, 2025, in person at NCTCOG offices.

Adjournment

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Carl Singleton by phone at (817) 458-4768 or by email at csingleton@nctcog.org.

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Attendance

Habib Ahmari	UTA
Travis Attanasio	City of Burleson
DJ Brouwer	City of Terrell
Jerry Cotter	UTA
Craig Fairbaugh	Contech Engineered Solutions LLC
Kelli Greenwood	UTA
Jai-W Hayes-Jackson	NCTCOG
Julian Holmes	City of Mansfield
Katie Hunter	NCTCOG
Larissa Knapp-Scott	LJA Engineering
Mike Linder	City of Denton
Ranjan Muttiah	City of Fort Worth
Randy Peterman	Halff
Seth Robertson	Contech Engineered Solutions LLC
Jennifer Rovezzi	City of Denton
Carl Singleton	NCTCOG
Bill Smith	City of Weatherford
Mara Smith	Contech Engineered Solutions LLC
Mitchell Talley	City of Mesquite
Rich Tharp	City of White Settlement
Kate Zielke	NCTCOG