

SUMMARY

TSI Technical Advisory Group Meeting
Monday, May 6, 2024
10 AM – 11:30 AM, Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams



https://teams.microsoft.com/join/19%3ameeting_YTk1N2QzYzgtMDQyMC00N2U4LTgyODQtOTNiZTU4ZTFhYTI0%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%222f5e7ebc-22b0-4fbe-934c-aabddb4e29b1%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22fef9df7e-b27d-4225-9db6-9edfd4cbfb51%22%7d

Meeting ID: 221 603 197 828
Passcode: HcJMoB
Dial-in by phone
+1 903-508-4574
Phone conference ID: 192 985 808#

I. **Introductions**

Jai-W Hayes-Jackson (NCTCOG) welcomed the Technical Advisory group and new attendees. A brief overview of the agenda and presenters was given before starting the updates.

II. **Recap of February 5th Meeting**

Jai-W Hayes-Jackson reviewed the meeting notes from the October 23rd meeting and the associated action items.

III. **Update on Current Project Progress**

A progress report of work completed since the last meeting was presented. Since the February meeting the project team has selected an H&H consultant, finished drafting the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, and started planning meetings for community visits.

IV. **Technical Advisory Group Discussion Items**

a. Education and Outreach

i. Community Stakeholder Engagement Update (Kate Zielke)

Kate Zielke shared with the Technical Advisory Group that the study team has finished drafting the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and that it will soon be available on the TSI website. The study team is prioritizing outreach to communities by equity, flood risk, and growth as well as participation in the NFIP. Kate also gave an overview of the data the team used to prioritize communities. The team looked at a NOAA storm event database and growth throughout the entire North Texas Region. NCTCOG researched where communities detailed flood mitigation in their flood ordinances, building ordinances, or subdivision ordinances.

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NCTCOG has begun to reach out to communities for site visits and requests any communities interested in participating to reach out and request a site visit.

ii. ULI and Developer Outreach Update (Kate Zielke)

Kate Zielke updated the group on the progress made with the Urban Land Institute. NCTCOG will meet with ULI regarding developer and real estate outreach. Kate shared more on meetings that have been had with developers who voiced their concerns on the consistency of requirements, FIRMs, and incentives for GSI. Developers are sensitive to any recommendations or policies that raise the cost of housing. Ultimately, they were supportive of creating a developer advisory committee. Kate requested suggestions for developers' contacts or anyone with experience working with developers.

iii. StoryMaps Demonstration (Matt Lepinski)

Matt Lepinski demonstrated how the project StoryMaps website will function. The team has revised the website to showcase the history and context of the study. Previously, responses to flooding have been reactive such as storing and channeling water. There are interactive tools on the website that will show the increase of impervious surfaces and charts showing peak flows due to urbanization. The "What We're Doing" section of the website also has an interactive map, and the "Results and Resources" section has all the data that is available from this study. This includes the WHA, BLE data, and Flood Decision Support Tool. Matt asked the group if there were any recommendations.

Mayor Amanda Black shares that the City of Paradise has issues with erosion and failure of stabilization in stormwater ditches, which are not draining right. This is a problem because of the ability of home builders to pass the responsibility of establishing vegetation and stabilization onto the homeowner. There is a TCEQ guideline that allows them to do this, but it's not a realistic expectation. Mayor Black expressed the need for a development ordinance that requires home builders to be responsible for stabilization.

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Susan Alvarez asked if these developers are developing multiple lots at once or one-by-one. Mayor Amanda Black states it is multiple lots at once. Susan shared that under the construction state general permit, it is required that there be immediate stabilization. Mayor Black agrees, but the developer puts the onus of adding vegetation groundcover on homeowners and if the developer doesn't do it immediately, it fails to get done.

Chad Davis stated that Wise County has been experiencing an issue with consultants using rainfall intensities that are not consistent with TRWD, NRCS, or TxDOT. Chad also states that counties do not have zoning authority. Kate Zielke stated we will address what authority counties do have with a County-Focused Workshop. Chad Davis shared that Wise County has had a development rule and a Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance that requires a 0.0 change in Water Surface Elevation at the boundaries of the proposed developments. Matt Lepinski suggested that developers rely on varying rainfall data sources. He highlighted that the TSI study aids in determining which data should be utilized, refining existing datasets, thereby eliminating guesswork. This consolidated data can be readily adopted by cities, reducing the necessity for further studies.

b. Data and Technical Topics

i. Update on H&H Pilot Study and Optimization (Matt Lepinski)

Matt Lepinski reiterated that the study is trying to simplify what data should be used. Currently the H&H team is taking the lessons learned from the first pilot study and applying them to the Eagle Mountain study. The next step is to prioritize where the study team should prioritize the H&H efforts. The flow data feeds into the hydraulic information that feeds into H&H models. The team will develop an SOP to enhance BLE data. 2D has more information in the lower portion of the study area. In the upper portion of the study, mostly 1D data is available. The team is also looking at what stormwater infrastructure will be able to include the data within the model for comparisons. This will also be able to be shared on the Story Map.

Mayor Amanda Black stated that an H&H study was done recently for the City of Paradise because of flooding from new development. The study showed that 20-year of 15-year events were sometimes

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higher than for 100-year events. Their ordinance specifies 100-year events, but that's not what they get during spring storms. Matt Lepinski shared that the USACE does regional studies across the area, and in Mineral Wells, they saw some smaller events produced significant flooding. Jerry Cotter stated it doesn't sound right that 10-year events would produce higher elevations than 100-year events and that the TSI study will revisit those estimates, and if something is off the team will do some comparisons and report to the cities which data is more accurate. New data and technology are available for this study and merits reexamining these numbers.

ii. CDC Expansion Scope (Matt Lepinski)

Matt Lepinski shared the plan to expand the Corridor Development Certificate (CDC) Program. The CDC looks at future models and regulates to the future model. This program has been successful at keeping flooding at current levels. Growth in the TSI study area is causing undeveloped flows to flow into the developed areas and the Metroplex, causing more runoff. Currently all communities that are participating are connected to the mainstem. Rural areas may have tributaries that eventually flow into Trinity River or an area lake, but it is hard to do a continuous model like the one being done with CDC. The team is developing a scope on how to expand the scope of the CDC and will continue to look at how to expand the program.

c. Policy

i. Water Rights Webinar Update (Erin Blackman)

Erin Blackman shared an update on Water Rights/ GSI webinar. NCTCOG has confirmed speakers from Westwood and AgriLife and are working on confirming speakers from TCEQ and the City of Fort Worth speakers. This workshop is expected to take place in June 2024.

d. Environmental

i. Environmental Planning Update (Aaron Hoff/Michelle Wood-Ramirez)

Aaron Hoff shared an update on outreach to Soil Conservation Districts. TRWD is conducting outreach to the Soil Conservation Districts in the West study area and outside the study area and has set up meetings targeted at conservation easements. There was interest in the modeling being done as well as curiosity on population growth. So far, they have met with Navarro County,

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downstream from study, and are scheduled to meet with Archer County, upstream of the study area. A meeting with the Parker Stormwater Conservation district is also upcoming.

V. **Next Steps**

a. Technical Advisory Group Survey Review

Jai-W Hayes-Jackson shared that there were only 4 responses to survey. A modified survey will be posted including multiple choice questions and less open-ended questions.