



North Central Texas Council of Governments

# SUMMARY

Trinity River COMMON VISION Steering Committee  
Thursday, September 14, 2017  
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 with introductions of all present.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 2. Presentation on COMMON VISION

- a. Overview of COMMON VISION and the Corridor Development Certificate (CDC) Program (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown presented an overview of the Trinity COMMON VISION program history and the goals of the program.

- b. FEMA/USACE Consolidated Regulatory Model Update (Jerry Cotter)

Jerry Cotter gave an overview of the partnership with FEMA to produce a consolidated model, the advantages a consolidated model would provide, and an update on the creation of the Consolidated Model Team.

### 3. 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. CDC permitting and changes to the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition CDC Manual (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown told the committee that 15 CDC applications were received during the fiscal year. This is more than twice the applications in the prior year, and brings the total applications since the beginning of the program to 195. She also informed them that Michael Danella, USACE, clarified some language regarding valley storage in Section 2.1 of the 4th Edition CDC Manual, but did not make any changes to the requirements or process of the CDC.

- b. NCTCOG hosting of the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual FEMA 4-day National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) course (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown let the Committee know that this year NCTCOG would host the FEMA 4-day National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) course for the 22<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, and that registration for COMMON VISION communities opened this week.

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

Mia Brown gave the Committee a recap of the Combined Elected Officials Floodplain Seminar/CRS Users Group that was held August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017. The topics for elected officials were “What is NCTCOG Doing to Help Your Communities with Floodplain Issues” and “Texas Water Development Board Resources for Communities.” The CRS Users Group portion of the meeting covered the NFIP reauthorization and the changes to the 2017 CRS Manual.

- d. FY 17 Flood Management Task Force (FMTF) Work Program Products: Common Flood Warning Software and Additional Training Opportunities (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown updated the Committee on progress made with additional technical activities on the FY 17 work program. Mia explained the purpose of the common flood warning software. The procurement process is coming to a close now that scores are compiled from the two proposals received and the Administrative Department is working to create a master contract for services. Mia also let the Committee know that the Flood Management Task Force requested additional training for floodproofing mitigation techniques and substantial damage concerns, both of which would be taught by FEMA Region 6 staff. The trainings were scheduled for September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017, but have been postponed due to disaster response for Hurricane Harvey. They will be rescheduled when FEMA staff become available.

- e. Proposal for NCTCOG to become a LOMR Delegate (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown explained to the Committee that the City of Grand Prairie had heard about the FEMA LOMR Review Partners Pilot Program and asked the Flood Management Task Force (FMTF) and NCTCOG to look into it. Mia gave an overview of the pilot program and the presentations that the FMTF received regarding the program and current review procedures in FEMA Region 6. FEMA is considering whether to continue or end the program with a decision expected sometime in 2018, and in the meantime NCTCOG staff are looking into concerns with the LOMR submission process.

- f. East Fork Trinity Watershed Initiatives (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown told the Committee that Dallas County had requested that NCTCOG staff approach East Fork Trinity Watershed communities about voluntarily joining the COMMON VISION program. The FMTF approved of this effort, and NCTCOG staff met with eight cities and Kaufman County about joining. Each community was receptive and wanted to learn more about joining. Mia said that, pending the Committee’s approval later in the agenda, NCTCOG staff would continue the effort.



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Jerry Cotter, USACE, emphasized the importance of the effort and informed the Committee that FEMA will fund 100% of the cost of the mapping study for the East Fork Trinity from Lake Ray Hubbard Dam to the confluence with the main stem of the Trinity River.

### ACTION ITEMS

4. **Summary of 2016 Common Vision Steering Committee Meeting** (Mia Brown)

A motion to approve the summary as presented was carried.

5. **Approval of NCTCOG Staff to Pursue the Addition of Voluntary Communities in the East Fork Trinity to the Trinity Common Vision Program.** The Flood Management Task Force has requested that NCTCOG staff approach cities and counties along the East Fork Trinity regarding voluntary participation in the Common Vision program. NCTCOG staff will seek approval for these activities from the Steering Committee. (Mia Brown)

A motion to approve NCTCOG staff activities related to East Fork Trinity watershed communities voluntarily joining the COMMON VISION program was carried.

6. **Approval of FY 18 Trinity River COMMON VISION Work Program.** The Flood Management Task Force (FMTF) met June 10<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> and recommended Trinity River COMMON VISION Steering Committee approval. (Mia Brown)

A motion to approve the FY18 Trinity COMMON VISION Work Program as approved by the Flood Management Task Force was carried.

### PRESENTATION ITEMS

7. **Related Activities Update.** An update will be provided on related topics outside of this work program to include:

a. 16-County Watershed Management Initiative (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave the Committee the background and purpose of the initiative. A roundtable was held March 14th, 2017, with the county floodplain administrators, who came up with a menu of 13 regionally recommended watershed management standards. NCTCOG staff presented legislation from the 77 regular Texas Legislative Session that amended the Texas Water Code that gives counties authority to enforce these standards. A forum was held July 12th, 2017, with county floodplain administrators and district attorneys to discuss the legislation. NCTCOG staff are currently working with counties individually on an as-needed basis to address their questions or concerns. NCTCOG staff will seek a resolution

endorsing this effort from the NCTCOG Executive Board this fall. The Denton County Commissioners Court passed a resolution endorsing this effort in August.

- b. Participation in FEMA's Cooperating Technical Partnership (CTP) Program and North Texas CRS Users Group (Mia Brown)

Mia Brown gave an overview of the Cooperating Technical Partners grant funded by FEMA and NCTCOG's role and history as a partner. She then gave updates on the ongoing projects NCTCOG has currently. Discovery in the Cedar and Denton watersheds and two flood risk identification projects on Lynchburg and Irving Creeks are wrapping up. NCTCOG will be starting Discovery in the East Fork Watershed and flood risk identification projects on Silver Creek and McAnear Creek soon. NCTCOG has completed grant applications for a Discovery in the Richland-Chambers watershed as well as two flood risk projects on Town Creek in Weatherford and Stream CF-5 in Benbrook. These applications were approved and NCTCOG expects to receive the award for these projects this fall.

- c. Integrated Stormwater Management (iSWM) Update (Edith Marvin)

Edith Marvin gave an overview of the iSWM program and its membership, as well as the certification program. Five communities are iSWM Silver Certified (Fort Worth, Grand Prairie, Denton, Frisco, Kennedale), and more communities are seeking certification. The Subcommittee has selected a new consultant, Halff Associates.

- d. Texas Water Development Board Flood Protection Planning Grant (Edith Marvin)

Edith Marvin informed the Committee that NCTCOG received grant funds from the Texas Water Development Board to install flood warning systems at a low water crossing location in McKinney.

- e. Pilot Project for Regional Detention in North Central Texas (Edith Marvin)

Edith Marvin discussed the need to get ahead of development coming to currently undeveloped areas of the NCTCOG region. NCTCOG is working with the USACE to identify funding to study high priority watersheds such as Marys Creek.

- f. Floodplain Management Higher Standards in Texas (Jessica Baker)

Jessica Baker, Past President of TFMA, explained the purpose and goals of the association. She mentioned the higher standards survey that they send statewide every year, and emphasized the importance of higher floodplain standards, especially in light of the devastation caused by Hurricane Harvey.

- g. NOAA Atlas 14 Update (Jerry Cotter)

Jerry Cotter, USACE, gave the Committee an update on the NOAA Atlas 14 effort, and emphasized that one of the biggest reasons the effort is important is that the new data can guide how to design infrastructure to lessen impacts of major flooding.



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- 8. Presentation of the TFMA 2017 John Ivey Higher Standards Award.** Jessica Baker, Past President of the Texas Floodplain Management Association, will present the 2017 John Ivey Higher Standards Award to the Trinity Common Vision Partners.

Jessica Baker, Past President of TFMA, presented the 2017 John Ivey Higher Standards Award to each partner of the Trinity COMMON VISION program.

### OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

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

Arlington City Councilwoman Sheri Capehart gave an update on the construction of the new Texas Rangers ballpark, Texas Live, and two new hotels near Johnson Creek, and the efforts to work with the contractor in regards to the creek.

Jessica Baker of TFMA told the Committee that members of TFMA would be receiving an email that day regarding a mutual aid program for communities impacted by Hurricane Harvey. The email will request assistance of any floodplain administrators who are able to travel to the Texas coast to help floodplain administrators of that area.

Garry Fennel of Irving described channel improvements made during the State Highway 183 project.

Clair Davis of Fort Worth mentioned that they were working with TxDOT on an improvement project.

Stephanie Griffin of Grand Prairie mentioned that they were working on the Wildlife North development, and that development would be coming soon to State Highway 161.

Lissa Shephard and Alberta Blair of Dallas County said that the county is working on a mobility study. They have also created an Unincorporated Department to work more with floodplain issues. They also have a CDC permit in process for improvements to the Dallas Hunting and Fishing Club.

Rachel Ickert of Tarrant Regional Water District mentioned that their Trash Bash will be September 16th.

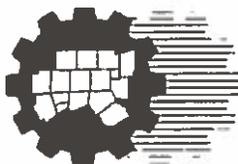
Alex Frasier of Groundwork Dallas introduced himself to the group.

- 10. 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](mailto:MBBrown@nctcog.org).

Thank you.

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# Trinity River COMMON VISION Steering Committee

9:30 a.m., Thursday, September 14, 2017  
Metroplex Conference Room

## Member Sign-in Sheet

Contact	Signature	Agency
Sheri Capehart	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	City of Arlington
Jerry Cotter	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	USACE
Christina Melton Crain	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	Trinity River Authority
Rudy Durham	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	City of Lewisville
Mike Eastland		NCTCOG
Richard Fregoe	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	City of Grand Prairie
Robert Dye		City of Farmers Branch
Kelly Allen Gray	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	City of Fort Worth
Lee Kleinman		City of Dallas
Wm. David Palmer	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	City of Irving <i>Alternat</i>
Leah King	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	Tarrant Regional Water District
Kevin Falconer		City of Carrollton
Bobbie Mitchell	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	Denton County
John Wiley Price		Dallas County
Gary Roden	<i>[Handwritten Signature]</i>	City of Coppell
Michael Segner		Texas Water Development Board
B. Glen Whitley		Tarrant County
Ronald Wanhanen		FEMA Region 6

