



North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

10:00 AM, WebEx Conference

[Link to Join Meeting](#)

1-415-655-0002, Access code: 661 797 693

Chair: Duy Vu, City of Cedar Hill

Vice Chair: Elijah Dorminy, City of Irving

1. **Welcome and Introductions.**
2. **Meeting Summary.** The [March 4, 2020 meeting summary](#) is available online for your review.
3. **FY2021 Work Program Discussion.** NCTCOG will present the draft FY21 Work Program for review and discussion. NCTCOG will also request feedback on an informal structure document for WATER.

NCTCOG sent an email containing the [FY2021 WATER Cost Share Budget](#) on February 11, and the [draft FY2021 Work Program](#) in the meeting reminder sent on May 28. The meeting presentation can be accessed [here](#) to view major changes and adjustments made to the FY2020 Work Program. Members were asked to share any feedback and approve the draft FY2021 Work Program.

NCTCOG will begin accepting commitments for FY2021 in late July or early August 2020.

4. **Program Outcomes/Successes.** NCTCOG will request feedback from attendees on how to best measure the program outcomes and expectations for members (i.e. social media/web engagements, trends in SSO's in participating cities, emission reductions associated with grease collected during the Holiday Grease Roundup, etc.).

Members were asked to share what metrics they would like to see recorded and collected in the annual Work Program Summary that could be utilized as benchmarks and to further the program. Ashley Carlisle, City of Southlake, suggested continuing and expanding upon the data collected from the annual Holiday Grease Roundup. Ashley mentioned that data from the total gallons of grease collected and the accompanying decrease in emissions is a useful tool in encouraging the public to participate in collection events. She also stated that it would be useful, especially for smaller cities, to have Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) data to analyze trends and patterns.

5. **Promotional Activities Update.** NCTCOG will provide an update on promotional activities and provide analytics from the Defend Your Drains website and social media. Additionally, NCTCOG will provide an update on the Proper Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste educational explainer video.

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NCTCOG shared recent analytics for the Defend Your Drains North Texas social media pages. The Proper Disposal of Medications and Proper Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste explainer videos are complete and can be found on [NCTCOG's YouTube channel](#). Since March 2020, NCTCOG has focused their social media efforts on emphasizing what is and is not acceptable to flush due to COVID-19 and the associated shortage of toilet paper. NCTCOG will begin work on the next educational video that will show the life cycle of water – from water treatment to tap and back to water treatment.

6. **Wastewater Operations and COVID-19.** NCTCOG and attendees will discuss impacts to wastewater operations stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Carlisle stated that the City of Southlake's operations were greatly impacted after several employees tested positive for COVID-19. The city had to shift to emergency operations only for a couple of weeks, which consisted of cross-training employees and shifting stations to cover wastewater operations.

Elijah Dorminy, City of Irving, stated that the week after spring break, the city went down to one crew in many departments. As of April 1, crews have been reinstated, but are now working split shifts.

7. **General Updates.** NCTCOG will provide general updates on relevant programs and events.

The Grease Interceptor Inspector Workshop has been further put on hold because of COVID-19 impacts. NCTCOG will continue to work on offering the course but will not be able to host in-person training events until external meetings are reinstated.

The Public Education Task Force will be meeting July 15, 2020 at 9:30 AM via Uber Conference. The link to join and further details can be found online [here](#).

8. **Roundtable.** The group will share what is happening in their communities.

Lorrie Reeves, City of Garland, told the group about "Hopin," a virtual conference platform used to showcase local vendors and business owners. Hopin was recently featured at the Garland Chamber of Commerce's Annual Business Expo.

Elijah Dorminy, City of Irving, said that City Council is scheduled to meet in late July to vote on the proposed FOG ordinance changes. Among these changes are a requirement for sample points on new facilities and updated fees in the Industrial Pretreatment program, a new minimum size of 500 gallons for grease traps, and a 24-hour requirement for private properties to stop, repair, and clean up sanitary sewer overflows. He also mentioned that the city is now accepting liquid waste hauler manifests electronically through Linko's Pumpout Manifest (POM) Portal.

Ms. Carlisle shared that the City of Southlake has developed a virtual inspection process that is being used to assist establishments seeking food permits and/or for follow-up with businesses that have had continuing issues related to COVID-19 restrictions.

9. **Schedule for the Next WATER Meeting.** The next WATER meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2020 at 10:00 AM and the location is to be determined. A call-in option will be provided.

10. **Adjournment.**