Region 6 - San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group Technical Committee Meeting September 2, 2022 1:00 p.m. Hybrid Meeting

Item 1: Call to Order

Item 2:

Welcome and Roll Call

Item 3:

Registered Public Comments on Agenda Items (limit of 3 minutes per person)

Item 4:

Approval of minutes – March 31, 2022

San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group Technical Committee Meeting Minutes March 31, 2022 | 10:00 AM

Hybrid Meeting | Virtual Registration: https://bit.ly/3IFROhX Flood Control District – 9900 Northwest Fwy., Houston, TX 77092 – Rm. 100

Roll Call:

Committee Member	Interest Category	Present / Alternate Present
Elisa Macia Donovan (Chair)	Agricultural	X (In-Person)
Neil Gaynor (Secretary)	Upper Watershed	X
OPEN	Flood Districts	
Stephen Costello (Vice Chair)	Municipalities	X
Bob Kosar	Coastal Communities	X

Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 4 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 5:3

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Voting: Flood Districts Alternate - Dena Green (FCD)

Non-Voting:

In-Person: Claudia Garcia (HCED), Fatima Berrios (HCED)

Remote:

Amber Thibodeaux John Graziano
Andrew Moore (Halff) Maggie Puckett (FNI)
Casey Christman Megan Ingram (TWDB)
Cory Stull (FNI) Peggy Zahler

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Dena Green (FCD) Rachel Herr (Halff)
Dude Hall Rebecca Andrews
Evan Adrian (Torres & Associates) Stephan gage
Hayes McKibben (FNI) Susan Chadwick
Jacob Torres (Torres & Associates) W. Ross Hosket

All meeting materials are available for the public at: Flood Planning Group Meeting Schedule | Texas Water Development Board

^{**}Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the Webex meeting.



AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

Ms. Donovan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome and Roll Call

Dr. Gaynor took roll call, and a quorum was determined to be present.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Registered Public Comments on Agenda Items (limit of 3 minutes per person)

Ms. Donovan opened the floor for registered public comments. Ms. Berrios stated that there were none.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Approval of minutes – February 03, 2022

Ms. Donovan opened the floor for meeting minutes approval. Dr. Gaynor opened the floor for comments and brought up a minor revision to the minutes. Dr. Gaynor moved to approve the minutes contingent on that correction and Mr. Costello seconded. After a vote was taken, Ms. Donovan announced the motion carried to approve the February 3 meeting minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion on Technical Approach for conducting the Needs Analysis (Task 4A) for potential recommendation to the San Jacinto RFPG

Mr. Moore, with Halff, discussed Task 4A (Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis) in detail, to gain consensus. Discussion ensued regarding the following list:

- 1a. Area most prone to flooding (existing)
- Area most prone to flooding (future)
- Floodplain Management, Land Use, Infrastructure
- 3. Adequacy of Floodplain Maps
- 4. Adequacy of Floodplain Models
- Emergency Need
- Existing Modeling Analysis and Mitigation Plans
- Identified Flood Mitigation Projects
- 8. Documentation of Historical Storms
- Implemented Flood Mitigation Projects
- Other Factors (SVI)

The Technical Committee discussed to score and prioritize areas, per the list.

Ms. Donovan announced a 6-minute recess, to reconvene at 11:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Discussion on Minimum Standards to recommend or adopt in the regional flood plan (Task 3A) for potential recommendation to the San Jacinto RFPG

Mr. Stull facilitated discussion on Task 3A Floodplain Management Practices. Ms. Puckett went through the evaluation of floodplain management practices referencing the goals, as related to Task 3A. Ms. Puckett stated the task was split in two sub-tasks including evaluation and recommendation or adopting flood management practices. Ms. Puckett described that adopting meant local entities must meet minimum standards. Ms. Puckett stated that the Technical Consultant's recommended approach for the first planning cycle is a moderate level of flood management practices and to identify those below the moderate level. Discussion and brainstorming ensued.



Mr. Stull and Ms. Donovan opened the floor for public comment before the committee reached consensus. A member of the public offered comments. Ms. Berrios read a (previously submitted) public comment. Ms. Donovan recapped the Technical Committee's consensus to recommend the list of minimum standards after revising certain verbiage. Discussion ensued. Ms. Puckett reviewed the next steps to include revising the list, to refine, and to review the goals, and to present the draft list to the RFPG in April; not for voting just for consideration for continued discussion. Mr. Stull suggested to make a broad recommendation from the Technical Committee to the RFPG. Discussion ensued.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Next Key Milestones and Important Dates

Ms. Puckett updated the RFPG on the upcoming schedule: Chapter 3 wouldn't have final vote to adopt or recommend until the May meeting. Prior to that we have opportunity to draft the majority of chapter 3. 10 major task items with associated chapters will be forthcoming, per Mr. Stull. Ms. Puckett concluded by reminding the Committee that major votes will be reviewed at the April RFPG meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Consider Agenda Items for the next Technical Committee Meeting

Ms. Donovan asked for additional items to be considered in the next agenda and none were heard.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Public Comments – limit 3 minutes per person

Ms. Donovan opened the floor to public comments. Ms. Berrios stated that no additional requests were made for public comments.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Adjourn

Ms. Donovan moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:41 p.m.

Neil Gaynor, Secretary				
Elisa Donovan, Chair				

Additional public comments in chat:

From Susan Chadwick to everyone: 12:25 PM

I guess we would like to see more focus on addressing the causes of flooding and what individuals and communities can do, in addition to the focus on reducing flood damage.

From John to everyone: 12:28 PM

No, the money for the land is not important. It forces eminent domain on those of us who have had property for generations

Item 5:

Discussion on prioritization framework for selecting FMEs to conduct under Task 12 for potential recommendation to the RFPG



Technical Consultant Update: Task 12



Task 12: Perform FMEs for Additional FMPs



Objective:

- "Perform" identified FMEs to recommend additional FMPs
 - Evaluate flood risks in areas with limited data
 - Evaluate flood risk reduction solutions
 - Determination of Benefit Cost Ratios

Requirements:

- RFPG must approve list of FMEs to be performed and any additional FMPs to be evaluated and recommended
- Must adhere to Task 4B/5 requirements
- Revise and re-submit relevant data deliverables and RFP chapters
- Results/recommendations to be included in the Amended Regional Flood Plan (due 7/14/23)

Task 12: Perform FMEs for Additional FMPs



Recap of FMEs:

- FMEs evaluate, at a minimum, the 1% AEP storm event
- FMEs support the goals adopted by the RFPG
- Minimal overlap between FMEs and ongoing studies

Summary of FMEs included in RFP:

- 32% of FMEs only require a Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) calculation
- 6% of FMEs require an update to Atlas 14 rainfall
- 29% of FMEs are categorized as "further study" of an area
- 26% of FMEs are large scale analyses (i.e., watershed studies, master drainage plans)



Need for a Prioritization Framework





Limited Budget (\$375,000)



Limited Schedule



Significant number of FMEs to evaluate (374)



Wide array of sponsors; Need for a transparent process



Approach to Prioritization





Approach Selecting Prioritization Criteria based on *Desired Outcomes* of Task 12:

- Maximize number of FMPs
- Increase number of unique sponsors with FMPs recommended in the plan
- Maximize flood risk reduction
- Full coverage of FMP benefit area

The RFPG ultimately directs the work conducted under Task 12. The Technical Consultant team can help craft criteria to balance the desired outcomes of Task 12.

Considerations for FME Prioritization



- Sponsor concurrence*
- Level-of-effort (cost) to perform FME relative to available budget*
- H&H model/project data availability*
- FMEs in areas of High Known Flood Risk (Task 4A)
- Critical facilities at risk
- Structures and populations at risk
- High risk and exposure at low water crossings
- Number of Entities Benefitted by FME
- Unique Sponsors

^{*}Critical Item for FME selection

DRAFT Prioritization Ranking of FMEs



Recommended Criteria	Priority Ranking			
	Low Priority (1)	Medium Priority (3)	High Priority (5)	
Level of Effort	Significant Effort outside of budget constraints (>\$150k)	Moderate Effort and may be slightly outside of budget constraints (\$150k-\$50k)	Reasonable Effort based on budget/schedule (<\$50k)	
Model/Data Availability	No model/project data available	Some project data readily available	Necessary models and project data readily available	
Known Flood Risk	Low Known Flood Risk	Medium Known Flood Risk	High Known Flood Risk	
Number of Entities Benefitted	NA	1-3	>3	
Critical Facilities at risk	Less than Average	Above Average	Greater than Average + One Standard Deviation	
Structures at risk	Less than Average	Above Average	Greater than Average + One Standard Deviation	
Population at risk	Less than Average	Above Average	Greater than Average + One Standard Deviation	
Unique Sponsor	Another FME has higher priority for Sponsor based on other criteria	NA	Highest priority FME of Unique Sponsor based on other criteria	

NOTE: If sponsor concurrence is not received, FME may not be considered.

Task 12: MENTI Survey



MENTI Survey

Mentimeter

What is the desired outcome of Task 12? Maximize...

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    1st Reduction in flood risk and exposure
    2nd Sponsor Involvement
    3rd FMP Benefit Coverage
    4th Number of FMPs
    5th Other
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Mentimeter

Which selection critieria are most important to consider?

Level of Effort/FME Cost Model/Data Availability 2nd Known Flood Risk 3rd Number of Entities 4th Benefited Critical Facilities at Risk 5th Structures at Risk 6th Population at Risk 7th Unique Sponsor Priority 8th Other 9th

Mentimeter

What is the preferred distribution of FME types?

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1st All BCAs

2nd BCAs + Few Moderate sized FMEs

3rd 1 or 2 Large FMEs

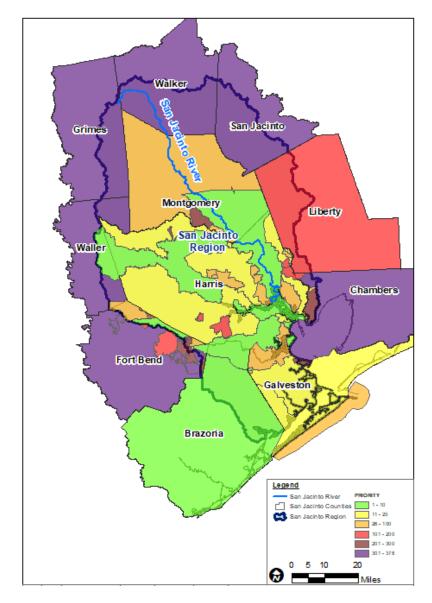
4th Other
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Task 12: Discussion of Draft Prioritization



Summary of Top 10 Highest Priority FMEs (Based on **DRAFT** Prioritization)

- Total Level of Effort: \$910,000
 - One FME has a Level of Effort of \$610,000
- 7 Unique Sponsors
- 30 Unique Entities
- 4 Further Studies
- 2 BCR Analyses
- 3 Proposed Studies
- 1 Watershed Study (High Level of Effort)



Task 12: Perform FMEs for Additional FMPs



Task 12 Next Steps:

- Refine Prioritization Framework based on Discussion and Mentimeter Survey
- Develop DRAFT list of Prioritized FMEs for distribution to Technical Committee
- Conduct outreach effort to Sponsors for confirmation of FMEs and additional data
- Develop Final List of Prioritized FMEs for recommendation of approval at the RFPG meeting in October

Item 6:

Next Key Milestones and Important Dates

Item 7:

Consider Agenda Items for the next Technical Committee Meeting

Item 8: Public Comments – limit 3 minutes per person

Item 9: Adjourn