Region 6 - San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group October 13, 2022 9:00 AM **Hybrid Meeting**

Item 1: Call to Order

Item 2: Welcome and Roll Call

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

Item 4: Texas Water Development Board Update

Item 5: Approval of minutes

- September 8, 2022

Meeting Minutes Region 6 San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group September 8, 2022 at 9:00 AM

Hybrid Meeting | Virtual Registration: https://bit.ly/3TcU72j

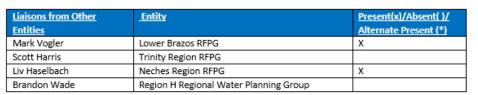
Houston Advanced Research Center: 8801 Gosling Rd., The Woodlands, TX 77381

Roll Call:

Voting Member	Interest Category	Present (x) /Absent () /
	(Executive Committee role)	Alternate Present (*)
Timothy E. Buscha	Industries (Chair)	X (In-Person)
Alia Vinson	Water Districts (Vice Chair)	X (In-Person)
Erwin Burden	Counties (Secretary)	X (In-Person)
Gene Fisseler	Public (At-Large member)	X
Matthew Barrett	River Authorities (At-Large member)	X
Elisa Macia Donovan	Agricultural Interests	
Connie Pothier	Small Business	X
Paul E. Lock	Electric Generating Utilities	X
Rachel Powers	Environmental Interests	X
Stephen Costello	Municipalities	
Dena Green	Flood Districts	*Dr. Tina Petersen
Todd Burrer	Water Utilities	X
Brian Maxwell	Coastal Communities	*Bob Kosar
Christina Quintero	Public	X
Neil Gaynor	Upper Watershed	*Stephanie Zertuche

Non-voting Member	Agency	Present(x)/Absent ()/ Alternate Present (*)
Hope Zubek	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Х
Michelle Ellis	Texas Division of Emergency Management	
Kristin Lambrecht	Texas Department of Agriculture	х
Joel Clark	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	
Karla Freyre Stripling	Texas General Land Office	Х
Megan Ingram	Texas Water Development Board	Х
Melinda Johnston	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Justin Bower	Houston-Galveston Area Council	Х
Ellie Alkhoury	Texas Department of Transportation	*Alfred Garcia
Tom Heidt	Port Houston	
Michael Turco	Harris-Galveston Subsidence District	
Brandon Wade	Region H Regional Water Planning Group	
Sally Bakko	Gulf Coast Protection District	Х
Eric Stevens	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	*Lisa Mairs

<u>Liaisons from RFPG</u>	Regional Flood Planning Group	Present(x)/Absent()/
		Alternate Present (*)
Todd Burrer	Trinity Region RFPG	
Stephen Costello	Neches Region RFPG	
Michael Turco	Lower Brazos RFPG	



Technical Consultant Team	<u>Entity</u>	Present(x)/Absent()/
<u>Members</u>		Alternate Present (*)
Cory Stull	Freese and Nichols Inc.	X (In-Person)
Maggie Puckett	Freese and Nichols Inc.	X (In-Person)
Hayes McKibben	Freese and Nichols Inc.	
Andrew Moore	Halff, Associates	
Jacob Torres	Torres & Associates	X
Evan Adrian	Torres & Associates	X
Rachel Herr	Halff, Associates	X
Mariah Najmuddin	Hollaway Environmental + Communications	X (In-Person)

Project Sponsor		Present(x)/Absent()/
Fatima Berrios	Harris County Engineering Department	Alternate Present (*) X (In-person)
Claudia Garcia	Harris County Engineering Department	X (In-person)

Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates that were present: 13 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 15: 8

Attendees**:

In Person: Mr. John Graziano (The Lovin' G, LLC), Mr. Jim Canfield (LCWCID#1), Mr. Leonard Vyoral (LCWCID#1), Mr. Keith Bille (Costello, Inc.), James Bronikowski (TWDB)

Remote:

Ashley Poe (FNI) Marcus Stuckett Shane Porter
Brian Edmondson (FNI) Morgan White (FNI) Stephan Gage
Caitlin Heller Peggy Zahlaer Susan Chadwick
Craig Maske Reem Zoun (TWDB) Terry Barr

All meeting materials were available for the public at: <u>Meetings - San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning</u> (sanjacintofloodplanning.org)

^{**}Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information on the WebEx meeting registration.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

Mr. Buscha called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome and Roll Call

Ms. Berrios took attendance. A quorum was determined to be present. It was also noted that because Ms. Zertuche was having video issues, she could not act as a voting member without being on camera display.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Registered Public Comments on Agenda Items (Limit of 3 Minutes Per Person)

Mr. Buscha opened the floor for registered public comments and the members of the public present at the meeting requested to make comments under Agenda Item No. 16.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Texas Water Development Board Update

Mr. Buscha yielded the floor to Ms. Ingram from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for updates. Ms. Ingram noted that TWDB is currently performing the technical review of the draft Regional Flood Plan. James Bronikowski was present at the meeting and noted an administrative item from the TWDB.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Approval of Meeting Minutes - August 11, 2022

Mr. Buscha opened the floor for comments on the August 11, 2022 meeting minutes. Mr. Barrett offered revisions for consideration. Ms. Vinson moved to approve the minutes, as revised. Mr. Burden seconded. Mr. Buscha called for a vote and stated the motion passed to approve the August 11 meeting minutes.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Announcement of New Alternate Members and New Non-Voting Members

Ms. Berrios stated there were no new announcements.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Liaison Reports Pertaining to Other Region(s) Progress and Status and other Related Entities:

- a. Trinity Region Mr. Burrer stated that Trinity Region is holding a public input meeting on September 8 at 6 p.m.
- b. Neches Region Mr. Costello was not available to provide an update.
- c. Lower Brazos Region Mr. Vogler provided an update that the Lower Brazos Region is aligned with the other regions.
- d. Region H Water Mr. Turco was not available to provide an update.
- e. Gulf Coast Protection District (GCPD) Ms. Bakko provided minor updates regarding the differences between the House and Senate bills related to, and the timing for applying for funding of the Texas Coastal Study. The GCPD executives are going to be traveling to Washington DC for further discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Presentation by GLO Combined River Basin Flood Study Central Region Team – Study Update and Potential Future Leveraging Opportunities

Mr. Buscha turned the floor over to Ms. White with Freese & Nichols, Inc., from the Central Region team of the General Land Office (GLO) River Basin Flood Study. Ms. White provided an overview, status, and potential future leveraging opportunities related to the regional Flood Study being performed. Ms. White offered to return at the start of the second Region 6 planning cycle, after July 2023, to coordinate ways to work together and transfer data. Discussion ensued. The group was directed to the GLO website for further information. Ms. Bakko provided an update on agenda item No. 7e.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Presentation and Update from the Technical Consultant on the Development of the Regional Flood Plan

Ms. Puckett provided an update on the draft Regional Flood Plan public comment period. Ms. Puckett announced the name of the SJRFPG Facebook page: San Jacinto Flood Planning, for the group's reference. Ms. Puckett reviewed upcoming efforts for collecting public input on the draft Regional Flood Plan and spoke about comments received thus far. Ms. Puckett updated the group regarding amending the Regional Flood Plan and about outreach to project sponsors. Ms. Puckett requested points of contact from the RFPG for any communities or groups that have contacted them for outreach. In reviewing Task 12 regarding the amended Regional Flood Plan, Ms. Puckett went over the considerations for FME prioritization. Ms. Puckett presented a draft list of prioritizations ranking criteria for FMEs. Discussion ensued. After hearing interest, Ms. Puckett offered the opportunity for the RFPG to see and comment on an updated version of the prioritization framework after revisions are incorporated.

Ms. Puckett presented the schedule and upcoming milestones of the Regional Flood Plan process noting the possibility of skipping upcoming monthly meetings to allow the consultant to focus on amending the Regional Flood Plan. Discussion ensued.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Update and Recommendation(s) from the Technical Committee; Discussion, and Possible Action from the RFPG as it Pertains to Prioritization Framework for Selecting FMEs under Task 12

Mr. Buscha yielded the floor to the Technical Committee for discussion on the prioritization framework and no comments from the committee were provided. Ms. Puckett reviewed key points from the most recent Technical Committee meeting and directed the voting members to participate in a short Mentimeter survey for FME prioritization. The survey and discussion ensued.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Approval and Certification of Administrative Expenses Incurred by the Project Sponsor for The Development of Regional Flood Plan

Mr. Buscha confirmed the Project Sponsor's administrative expenses. Ms. Vinson moved to approve the Project Sponsor expenses and Ms. Powers seconded. A vote was taken and Mr. Buscha stated the motion was passed to approve the Project Sponsor administrative expenses.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Presentation of 2022 Planning Group Key Dates and Deadlines:

- a. Upcoming Planning Schedule Milestones
- b. Next SJRFPG Planning Meeting to be held on October 13, 2022

Mr. Buscha reviewed the upcoming schedule as outlined in the meeting materials. Mr. Buscha reminded the group regarding the upcoming public input meetings for the draft Regional Flood Plan.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Update and Discussion Pertaining to In-Person RFPG Meeting Location(s)

Mr. Buscha stated that the monthly meetings would continue to be at HARC through the end of the year. Mr. Buscha stated the Project Sponsor would work with HGAC as a potential meeting location in 2023.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Reminder Regarding Planning Group Member Training on Public Information Act and Open Meetings Act

Mr. Buscha reminded the group that anyone who hasn't completed the training needs to do so and to submit records to the Project Sponsor.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: Consider Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Mr. Buscha identified the following items for the next agenda:

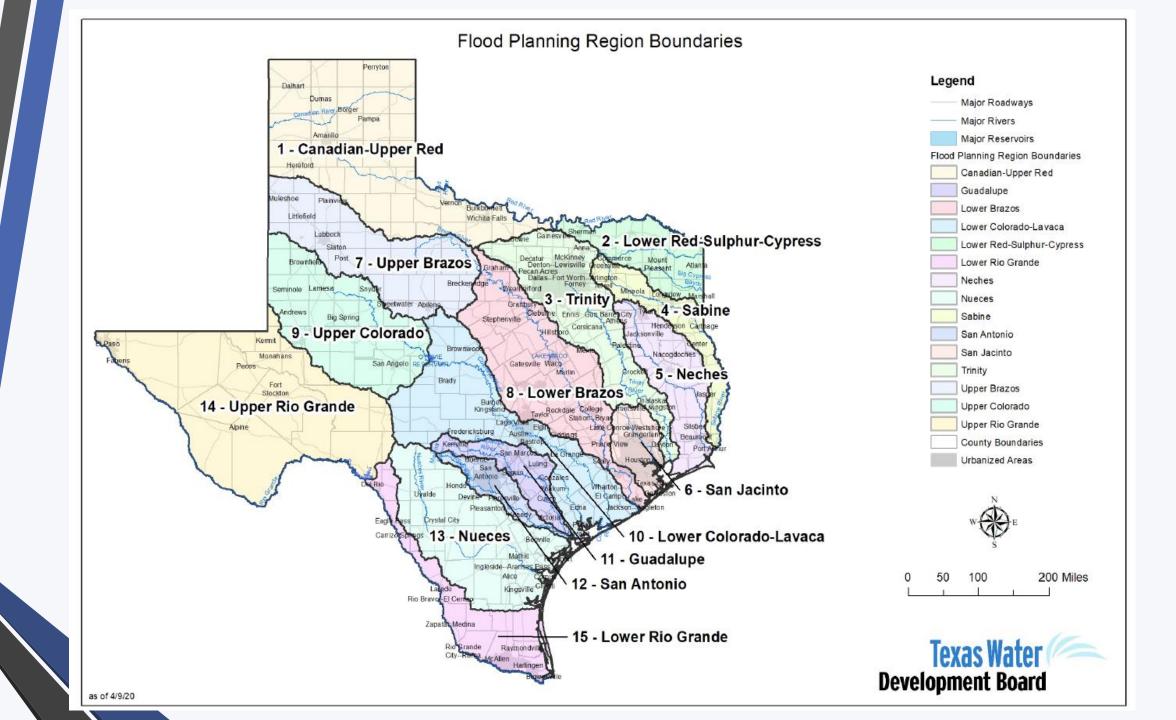
- Update from the Public Engagement Committee regarding the public input meetings. Mr. Fisseler requested a general report regarding attendance at the other Flood Planning Group meetings.
- Mr. Buscha mentioned that possible action would be needed in the next RFPG meeting regarding the Flood Districts voting member position.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: Public Comments - Limit 3 Minutes Per Person

Mr. Buscha opened the floor to public comments. Mr. Vyoral offered comments regarding retention ponds in Kingwood and funding for potential projects to acquire property for the ponds. Mr. Bower offered comments regarding GLO funds. Mr. Graziano stated suggestions for Ms. Bakko. No additional public comments were made.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17: Adjournment Mr. Buscha announced the meeting w	as adjourned at 10:58 a.m.	
Erwin Burden, Secretary		
Timothy Buscha, Chair		

Item 6: Announcement of new Alternate Members and new Non-Voting Members



Item 7:

Liaison Reports pertaining to other region(s) progress and status and other Related Entities:

- a. Trinity Region
- b. Neches Region
- c. Lower Brazos Region
- d. Region H Water
- e.Gulf Coast Protection District

Item 8:

Update from the Project Sponsor and/or Executive Committee on the solicitation process for the Flood Districts Voting Member vacancy

Item 9:

Presentation and Update from the Technical Consultant on the development of the Regional Flood Plan; discussion, and possible action from the RFPG as it pertains to the prioritization framework for FMEs under Task 12



Technical Consultant Update



Agenda



- Public Comment Period on the Draft RFP
 - Updates on Solicitation Efforts and Comment Received
 - Approval of approach to reviewing and drafting responses to comments
- Amending the First RFP
 - Outreach to Sponsors
 - Approval of prioritization framework and ranked list of FMEs
- Project Schedule through the Amended Plan

Public Review – Recent Efforts



- Email blasts sent throughout month of September
- Open-houses held 9/27 & 9/29
- Follow-up with attendees to request formal comments
- File upload option added to comment survey form

Submit Comments on the DRAFT Regional Flood Plan Please note: The comment period closes on October 29, 2022.					
First name*	Last name*				
First name*	Last name*				
City*	County*				
Email*					
Comment on the DRAFT Regional Flood Plan					
File upload Choose Files No file chosen					

Public Review – Ongoing Efforts



- Direct Outreach to Sponsors
- Update website to incorporate public meeting materials; Interactive Dashboard
- Update website to include first-cycle storymap
 - Improve accessibility of flood plan content
 - Help to onboard future RFPG members
 - Familiarize members of the public new to flood planning





Comments Received on the Draft Plan



Common themes:

- Concerns about readability of flood plan
- Concerns expressed about underrepresented areas of the region
- Questions about who qualifies as a Sponsor
- Questions about FMX prioritization
- Updates to Chapter 8 recommendations to the state

Next steps:

- Review comments and draft responses
- Approve responses at November RFPG meeting





Facilitating Review of Comments Approaches:

- Live Sharepoint Concerns w/ OMA
- 2. Static Excel Spreadsheet
 May lose comment details
 Easily organized
- 3. File Transfer of Comment
 Submissions
 Retain all comment details
 More difficult to organize; multiple
 formats

Developing Responses to Comments Approaches:

Technical Consultant to draft comment responses and

- Committee to review and approve responses for recommendation at November RFPG meeting
- 2. RFPG to review offline and provide comments to be addressed ahead of November RFPG meeting

Amended Plan – Outreach to Sponsors



- Coordinating directly with sponsors regarding comments on the Draft Plan as well as the inclusion of additional FMXs
- Coordination with sponsors that has occurred or is scheduled:
 - City of Friendswood
 - City of Houston
 - Montgomery County
 MUDs 83 & 84
 - City of Bellaire
 - Harris County
 - Harris County Flood Control District

- City of Webster
- City of Pasadena
- City of Dickinson
- City of League City
- City of Baytown
- Liberty County WCID #1

DRAFT Prioritization Ranking of FMEs



December ded Criterie	Priority Ranking						
Recommended Criteria	Low Priority (1)	Medium Priority (3)	High Priority (5)				
Level of Effort	Less than \$30,000	\$30,000 - \$100,000	\$100,000 - \$150,000				
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	1 - 2	3	Greater than 3				
Critical Facilities at risk	Less than Median	Greater than Median	Greater than Average				
Structures at risk	Less than Median	Greater than Median	Greater than Average				
Nature-Based Solutions	Does not include nature-based solutions	-	Includes nature-based solutions				
Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)	Less than 0.33	0.33 – 0.66	Greater than 0.66				
Mobility	Less than Median	Greater than Median	Greater than Average				
Population at Risk	Less than Median	Greater than Median	Greater than Average				
Unique Sponsor	FME not identified as the priority	-	Highest scoring FME or Sponsor Priority				
Subwatershed Priority (HUC10)	FME not highest scoring	-	Highest scoring FME per HUC10				

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

DRAFT Prioritization Ranking of FMEs

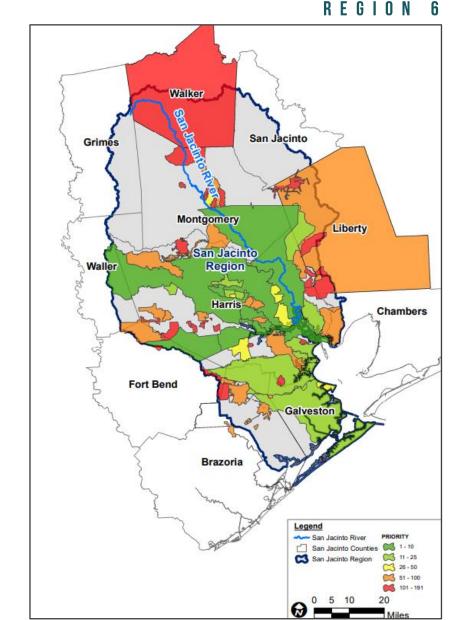


Recommended Criteria	Weighting	REI	RFPG Menti Results: Most Important Selection Cri					
necommended Criteria	Multiplier		d Menti Ne	Suits. M	USL I	Προπαπι	Selection	on Citteria
Population at Risk	1.0	1st						Population at Risk
Known Flood Risk	1.0	2nd						Known Flood Risk
Structures at risk	1.0	3rd					Structures	at Risk
Critical Facilities at risk	1.0	4th					Critical Facilitie	es at Risk
Model/Data Availability	0.7	5th	Model/Data Availability					
Subwatershed Priority (HUC10)	0.6	6th				Priority per wa	tershed/geograp	ohy
Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)	0.5	7th				SVI		
Mobility	0.3	8th				Mobility/length of i roadway	nundated	
Level of Effort	1.0	9th			Le	evel of Effort/FME C	ost	
Nature-Based Solutions	0.5	10th			In	cludes natured-bas	ed solutions	
Number of Entities Benefitted	0.2	11th		Nur	mberof	Entities Benefited		
Unique Sponsor	0.2	12th	Uni	ique Sponsor Pri	iority			

Amended Plan – Task 12

SAN JACINTO REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUI

- Distributed results of a DRAFT Prioritization
 Framework to the RFPG on 10/3
- Comments received for consideration:
 - Sponsors have indicated intent to elevate FMEs on their own
 - Large FME study areas may need additional refinement
 - Phased projects may be incorporated as a single FMP and therefore only require development of 1 BCR



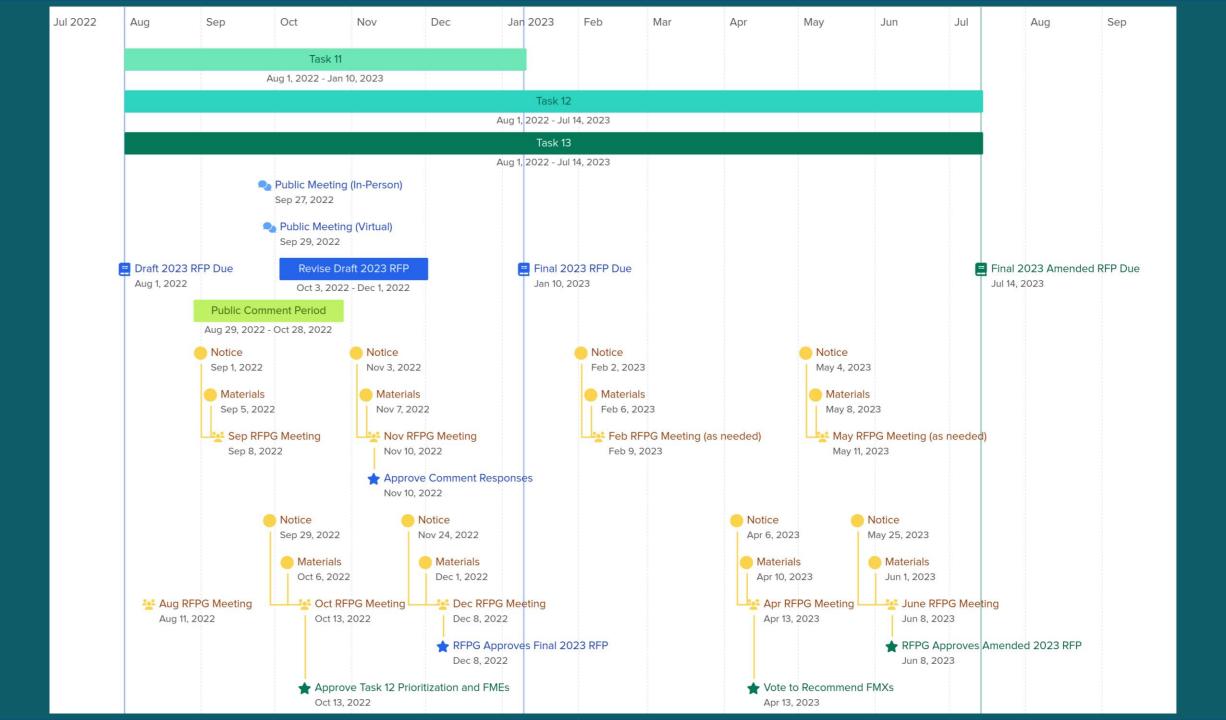
DRAFT Prioritization Ranking of FMEs



- Ranked list of FMEs provided as supplemental materials.
- Review of ranked FME list and discussion of comments or concerns.

RFPG to take action to approve the prioritization framework and authorize the Technical Consultant to proceed with executing FMEs in order of prioritization, pending receiving sponsor concurrence, until Task 12 funds are exhausted.

Vote on
Prioritization and
Ranked FME List



Item 10:

Update from the Technical Consultant and Public Engagement Committee on the outcome of the September Public Open House style meetings



Public Engagement Meeting Format Recap

Two Meetings

- One In-Person Meetings
- One Virtual Meeting

Format

Open-house style (in-person and virtual)

Accommodations

- Live Interpretation
- Translated Meeting Notices/Materials







Overview of Comments

- Concerns expressed about the readability of the draft plan
- Concerns expressed about specific locations were not represented in the FMXs.
- Questions about how to get projects into the plan if a Sponsor is not identified
- Questions about who qualifies as a Sponsor
- Questions about the prioritization of FMXs





Highlights

- Conversations with the public were more engaged than during previous meetings
- Intro video created added value and additional context for the project and meeting
- Participants traveled to the public meeting from outside of Harris County
- Total of 36 participants





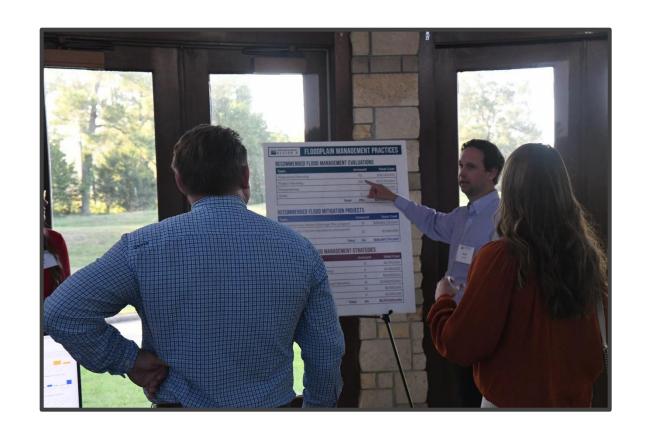
Future Public Engagement Ideas

Important Considerations

- No required public engagement activities per the TWDB scope of work until the second cycle
- Limited scope and budget

Opportunities

- Greater flexibility in engagement format and purpose
- Target specific communities or stakeholder groups



Item 11:

Approval and Certification of Administrative Expenses incurred by the Project Sponsor for the development of Regional Flood Plan

Administrative Expenses Incurred by Project Sponsor for 8/13/2022 – 9/23/2022

Name	From	То	Hours Worked	Total Salary	Social Security	Group Insurance	Workers Comp	Unemployment Ins	Retirement	Total
F. Berrios	8/13/2022	8/26/2022	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F. Berrios	8/27/2022	9/9/2022	6.00	208.86	15.98	47.28	1.84	0.21	32.79	306.96
F. Berrios	9/10/2022	9/23/2022	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
C. Garcia	8/13/2022	8/26/2022	9.75	271.73	20.79	76.83	2.39	0.27	42.66	414.67
C. Garcia	8/27/2022	9/9/2022	11.25	313.54	23.99	88.65	2.76	0.31	49.23	478.48
C. Garcia	9/10/2022	9/23/2022	9.75	271.73	20.79	76.83	2.39	0.27	42.66	414.67
			Totals	1,065.86	81.55	289.59	9.38	1.06	167.34	1,614.78

Item 12:

Presentation of 2022 Planning Group Key Dates and Deadlines:

- a. Upcoming Planning Schedule Milestones
- b. Next RFPG Planning Meeting to be held on November 10, 2022

Item 13: Update and Discussion Pertaining to In-Person RFPG Meeting Location(s) Item 14:
Reminder Regarding Planning
Group Member Training on Public
Information Act and Open Meetings
Act

Item 15: Consider Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Item 16: Public Comments – Limit 3 Minutes per Person

Item 17: Adjournment