
The Hurricane Harvey Long-Term Economic Recovery Workshops



April 5, 2018 – June 1, 2018

**U.S. Economic
Development Administration**



Robert Peche, Field Coordinator
Economic Recovery Support Function FEMA DR-4332

“The workshop spotlighted the reason why EDA plays a key role in our region’s recovery from natural disasters — helping our communities get quick answers about specific projects that will help them become more resilient and restore their local economies. EDA leads the way on convening the entire spectrum of State and Federal funding partners. We had a fantastic turnout — from small towns and rural counties to major cities and our largest counties.”

Chuck Wemple, Chief Executive Officer
Houston-Galveston Area Council

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This document was written by the US Economic Development Administration (EDA) Austin Regional Office describing an activity of the Economic Recovery Support Function for Hurricane Harvey.

HURRICANE HARVEY BACKGROUND

Hurricane Harvey hit Texas as a category 4 storm on August 25, 2017. It drenched more than 40 counties on or near the coast with up to 48-60 inches of rain over five days as it moved north-east. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration states that Harvey was “the most significant tropical cyclone rainfall event” in U.S. history in both its extent and sheer amount of rainfall. Winds in excess of 130 mph caused significant damage in certain areas, 300,000 structures were flooded and as many as half a million vehicles were submerged. Current estimates place the total damage from Hurricane Harvey at \$125 billionⁱ, making it the second costliest hurricane in U.S. history.

The presidential disaster declaration — which determines which counties qualify for federal assistance for recovery based on damage estimates — was made on August 25 and includes 39 counties for individual assistance (where monetary and housing assistance are given directly to individuals in need) and 47 counties for public assistance (funding given to local governments to help with covering response and recovery costs and repairs to public infrastructure).

The impacted region is approximately 300 miles long and 100 miles wide and includes urban metropolitan areas, agricultural communities, retirement communities and tourism-dependent coastal areasⁱⁱ. More than half of the most-heavily impacted counties were economically distressed prior to Harvey.



Figure 1: Flooding in Port Arthur, Texas. Nearly 60,000 people in the city were affected by Hurricane Harvey.

Under the [National Disaster Recovery Framework](#), the US Department of Commerce (DOC) is the lead federal agency responsible for coordinating the economic recovery of a disaster impacted region (Economic Recovery Support Function, or ERSF). EDA administers this role on behalf of DOC. In the wake of Hurricane Harvey, the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) activated the ERSF, calling upon EDA to deploy to the Joint Field Office (JFO) to help restore the region to a state of health and to develop new economic opportunities. One of the key activities of the ERSF team is the development of the Recovery Support Strategy’s (RSS), a roadmap of recommendations to assist the State in rebuilding in a more resilient way. Under EDA’s leadership, the ERSF identified RSS four primary needs under the RSS:

1. Greater organizational capacity is needed to assess and address business restoration and job retention challenges post disaster.
2. Remote coastal communities dependent on seasonal economies have experienced catastrophic economic disruption.
3. Agricultural industries across the impact zone experienced significant direct losses and supply chain interruptions.
4. Vulnerabilities analyses are needed to lay the foundation for initiatives to integrate and enhance economic resilience strategies.

With the extensive size of the impact area, the diversity of the regions and the wide range of issues that needed to be addressed, the Economic Recovery Support Function (ERSF) pursued a strategy to connect local stakeholders directly with state and federal agency representatives.

U.S. Department of the Interior	U.S. Economic Development Administration
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STATE PARTNERS

Texas General Land Office	Texas Division of Emergency Management
Texas Water Development Board	Texas Railroad Commission
Texas Workforce Commission	Texas Department of State Health Services
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Texas Department of Agriculture

TARGET AUDIENCES

The target audience for the workshops included elected officials, civic leaders, government administrators, economic developers, business leaders, university extension services, emergency managers and other community and non-profit leaders.

WORKSHOP SERIES DESIGN AND FORMAT

All eight workshops were jointly developed by the Economic RSF and a Council of Government (COG). Workshops varied from 3-8 hours in length according to the COGs' preferences. The format for each of the workshops revolved around small group breakout sessions or world café-style rotations designed to provide local stakeholders with maximal face-to-face conversations with agency representatives and minimal PowerPoint presentations. These intimate conversations allowed community leaders to discuss with state and federal assistance providers how to solve specific local problems and secure resources most appropriate to their needs.

At the beginning of each event, state and federal partners introduced themselves and provided brief overviews of their resources and programs. These introductions were followed by 30-60 minute breakout sessions with participating agencies.

State and federal agencies sharing similar program areas or implementation responsibilities were frequently paired together at breakout sessions. Paired agencies included the U.S. Department of Labor and the Texas Workforce Commission (Displaced Worker Grants); U.S. Department of Agriculture and Texas Department of Agriculture; and U.S. Housing & Urban Development and the Texas General Land Office (Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery grants).

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Date	Workshop	Location
April 5, 2018	Deep East Texas Council of Governments	Jasper, Texas
April 20, 2018	Capital Area Council of Governments	Austin, Texas
May 1, 2018	Brazos Valley Council of Governments	Navasota, Texas
May 4, 2018	Alamo Area Council of Governments	San Antonio, Texas
May 9, 2018	South East Texas Regional Planning Commission	Beaumont, Texas
May 22, 2018	Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission	Victoria, Texas
May 23, 2018	Coastal Bend Council of Governments	Corpus Christi, Texas
June 1, 2018	Houston-Galveston Area Council	Houston, Texas

WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

The Economic Recovery workshops focused on giving attendees the opportunity to form relationships with state and federal agency representatives. They provided participants information on recovery programs and helped to prepare stakeholders to take the next steps in their recovery process. In post-workshop evaluations, attendees indicated the workshops were valuable for expanding and strengthening relationships with federal and state agencies, and for increasing their access to resources. The Economic Recovery Support Function believes these workshops will continue to provide benefit in the months to come as local constituents draw on these relationships to develop and support recovery activities. To summarize:

- The workshops collectively served more than 300 community leaders from the public, private and nonprofit sectors across the impacted areas.
- The workshops shared information with impacted regions on programs totaling more than \$6.4 billion in state and federal funding.
- Participants met face-to-face with representatives from more than a dozen state and federal agencies at a single workshop — reducing the problem of “meeting fatigue” (from separate, piecemeal events), engaged on issues of high interest, and secured contact information for follow-up.
- Participants learned about agency programs and resources applicable to them to help them with their recovery.
- Federal and state agency officials learned about other agency programs — opening the way for leveraging multiple funding sources to assist stakeholders with projects.
- The workshops kickstarted the process of forming long-term relationships between community stakeholders and state and federal agencies that can assist them in future disaster events.

THE WORKSHOPS COLLECTIVELY SERVED 300+ COMMUNITY LEADERS FROM THE PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND NONPROFIT SECTORS THROUGHOUT THE IMPACTED

The following section provides an overview of each workshop, including workshop agenda, flow, federal agencies represented, and local attendees. Other disaster-impacted regions across the nation may benefit from these templates for planning their own disaster recovery events.

DEEP EAST TEXAS COG WORKSHOP: APRIL 5, 2018, JASPER

AGENDA

8:00 Registration - coffee & donuts

**8:30 Open & Welcome (Lonnie Hunt, DETCOG executive director)
Speed Round with Federal and State Agencies**

Representatives of 10 to 12 agencies will each present a 5-minute overview of programs to assist local governments and communities, and answer the question, "Why should I be interested in this program?"

9:30 10-minute break

9:40 *Small Group Breakout Sessions

- **Texas General Land Office / U.S. Housing & Urban Development**
- **Texas Division of Emergency Management**
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture / Texas Department of Agriculture**
- **Texas Water Development Board**
- **Federal Reserve Bank**

10:20 10-minute break

10:30 *Small Group Breakout Sessions

- **U.S. Small Business Administration**
- **Texas Division of Emergency Management**
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture / Texas Department of Agriculture**
- **Texas Workforce Commission / U.S. Department of Labor**
- **FEMA Philanthropic**

11:10 10-minute break

11:20 *Small Group Breakout Sessions

- **U.S. Small Business Administration**
- **Texas General Land Office / U.S. Housing & Urban Development**
- **Texas Water Development Board**
- **Texas Workforce Commission / U.S. Department of Labor**
- **U.S. Economic Development Administration**

12:00 Wrap-Up Session & Lunch (provided)

12:15 National Parks Breakout Session

1:00 Adjourn

SUMMARY

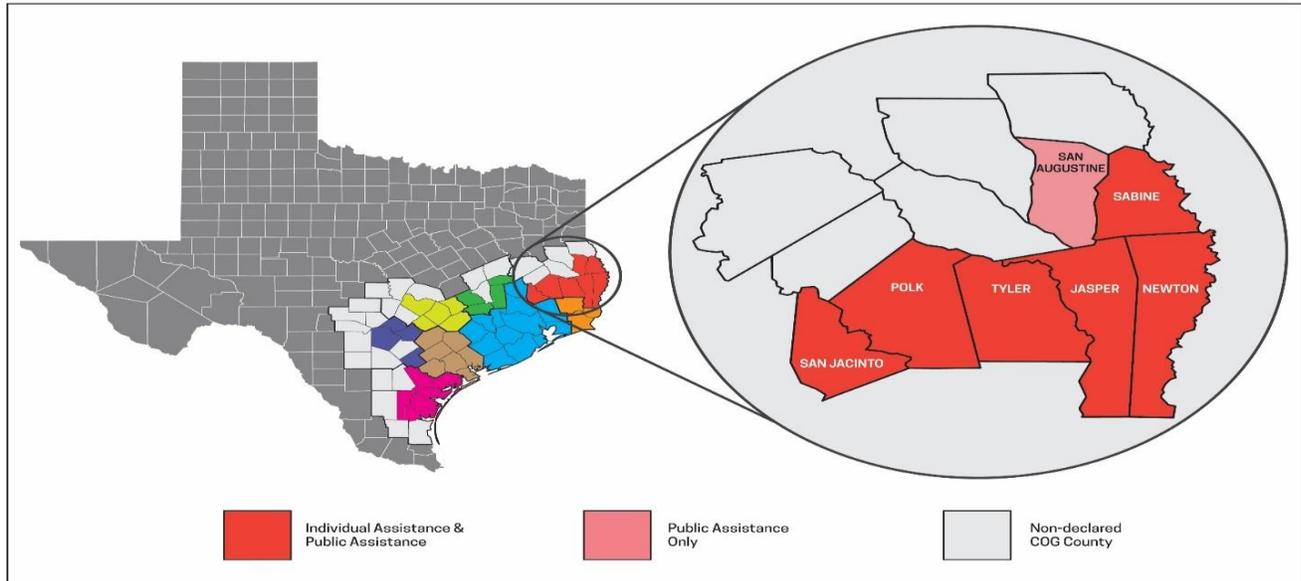


Figure 3: The Deep East Texas Council of Governments' declared counties. Counties declared Public Assistance-only are typically not as heavily impacted as Individual Assistance-declared counties. [Map sources: See endnote iii]

The Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG) long-term economic recovery workshop was held at the Jasper County Annex in Jasper, Texas, on April 5, 2018. DETCOG executive director Lonnie Hunt opened the day and introduced the state and federal partners, who, in turn, presented the programs and resources they had available to address identified issues. Following the opening session, participants chose breakout groups to attend during each of the three main breakout sessions. DETCOG requested this format to maximize the time and interests of the stakeholders. The National Parks Service also held an impromptu breakout session near the end of the workshop due to a high level of interest stemming from the opening session.

The sessions provided an opportunity for local stakeholders to gain an understanding of the programs available, ask questions, share contact information and establish relationships with state and federal officials.

**THE WORKSHOP
"EXCEEDED ALL MY
EXPECTATIONS. THERE
WAS EXCELLENT
INTERACTION BETWEEN
THE ATTENDEES AND THE
PRESENTERS. EVERYONE I
TALKED TO HAD A
POSITIVE EXPERIENCE."**

**LONNIE HUNT
DETCOG EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR**



Figure 4: DETCOG Executive Director Lonnie Hunt (mic, front right) introduces the state and federal agency representatives.

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

The Deep East Texas workshop was attended by approximately 60 representatives from six Harvey-impacted counties (Jasper, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Jacinto, Tyler), 10 cities (Crockett, Grapeland, Huxley, Ivanhoe, City of Jasper, Livingston, Lufkin, Nacogdoches, Point Blank, Zavalla), and five neighboring counties (Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Shelby). Twenty-three representatives from eight federal agencies and six state and local agencies engaged in rotating roundtable discussions regarding economic development projects, available resources, and related strategies to enhance recovery and resilience.



Figure 5 [Top Left]: Texas Water Development Board's Scott Galaway leads a breakout group covering TWDB's loan and grant resources for water and sewer projects.

Figure 6 [Top Right]: Federal Reserve Bank's Kevin Dancy leads a breakout group covering Opportunity Zones and the Community Reinvestment Act's implications for disaster areas.



Figure 7: Texas Department of Agriculture's Kristin Lambrecht discusses TDA's Community Development Block Grant programs with stakeholders from Deep East Texas.

CAPITAL AREA COG WORKSHOP: APRIL 20, 2018, AUSTIN



Figure 8: State and federal agency representatives introduce themselves during the speed around of the Capital Area COG's long-term economic recovery workshop on April 20, 2018 in Austin.

AGENDA

- 8:00 Registration**
- 8:30 Open & Welcome**
Speed Round with Federal Agencies
The speed rounds will provide 5-minute overview of programs to assist local governments and communities, and answer the question, "Why should I be interested in this program?"
- 9:10 Break**
- 9:20 Group breakout sessions with federal agency representatives of the SBA, EDA, USDA Rural Development, and FEMA**
- 10:00 Break**
- 10:10 Speed Round with federal agencies — Round 2**
- 11:50 Group breakout sessions with federal agency representatives of Department of Labor, HUD, and EPA**
- 12:30 Working lunch in conjunction with state agency speed round**
- 1:10 Group breakout sessions with state agency representatives of the General Land Office, Department of Agriculture, Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Water Development Board, and the Texas Division of Emergency Management**
- 2:00 Wrap-up questions and closing remarks**

SUMMARY

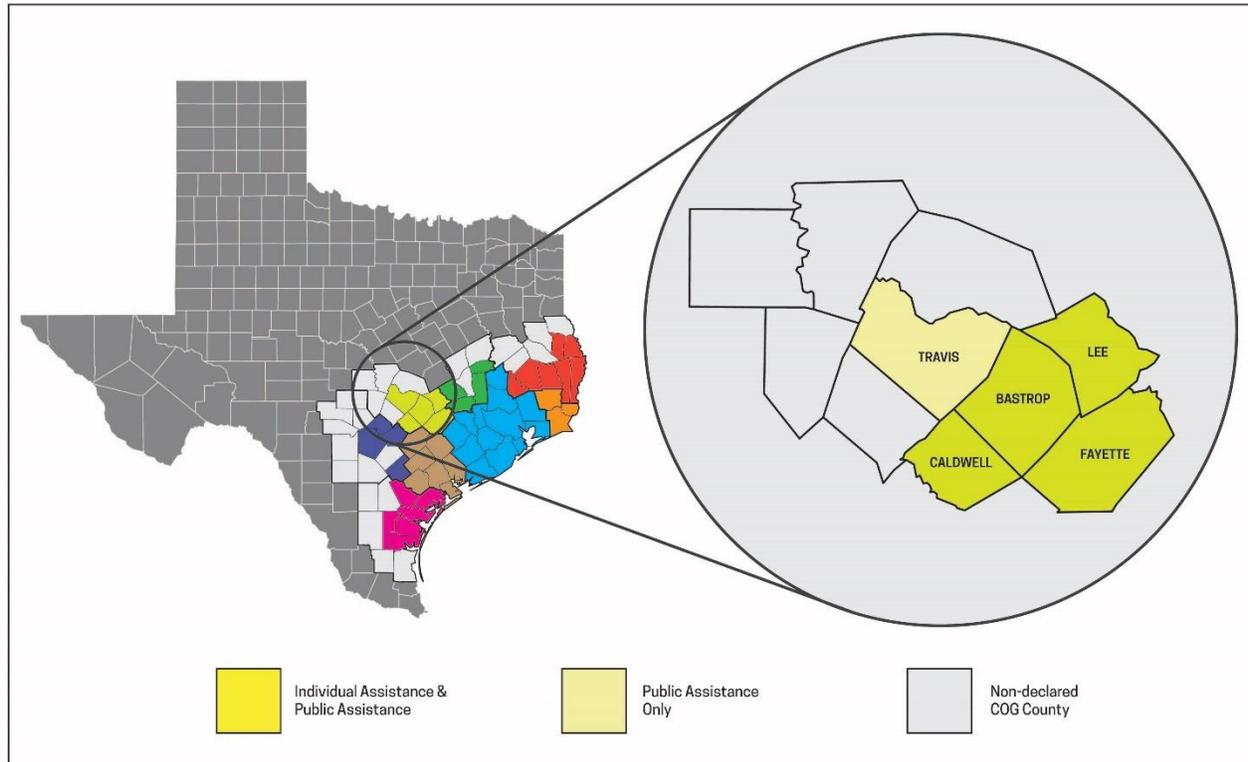


Figure 9: The Capital Area COG's affected counties. The outlying rural areas south of Austin took the primary hit and attendance at the workshop reflected that. [Map sources: See endnote iii]

An inland COG, the Capital Area was one of the least-impacted COGs among the eight affected by Hurricane Harvey. Nonetheless, attendance numbers were solid and reflected the rural character of the four disaster declared counties south of Austin.

As one of the liveliest workshops, Capital COG Executive Director Betty Voights opened the program and set the stage for the day's events by introducing state and federal partners throughout the morning which was then followed by roundtable discussions in the single-room venue.



Figure 10 [LEFT]: EDA's Robert Peche and HUD's Alberto Solorzano visit with stakeholders at the workshop in Austin.



Figure 11: Texas Workforce Commission's Michael Britt discusses the state's Dislocated Worker Grants available for Harvey recovery.

The energetic Capital Area COG workshop was a good reminder that the size and setup of the venue can play an important role in the design and outcome of these events.

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

The workshop was attended by approximately 30 representatives of four Harvey-impacted counties (Bastrop, Caldwell, Fayette, Lee), three cities (La Grange, San Marcos, Smithville), and one neighboring county (Hays), along with 30 representatives of six federal agencies and nine state and local agencies.



Figure 12: Willis Gainer with the U.S. Department of the Interior discusses National Parks Service programs available to communities with Capital Area COG stakeholders.



Figure 13: Texas General Land Office representatives help with questions about Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery.

BRAZOS VALLEY COG WORKSHOP: MAY 1, 2018, NAVASOTA

AGENDA

8:30 Registration/Check in

8:45 Welcome to Navasota and Bravos Valley
Tom Wilkinson, BVCOG Executive Director
Bert Miller, Mayor, City of Navasota
Congressman Kevin Brady, TX-08

9:10 Structure and Focus of the Day's Sessions
Robert Peche, EDR, Southern Texas and Economic RSF Coordinator

9:15 Federal and state panel presentations

Moderator: Robert Peche, Economic Development Administration
U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development: Terri Chenoweth & Elizabeth Sherrod
Texas Department of Agriculture: Michelle Bobo
Texas Workforce Commission: Michael Britt
U.S. Small Business Administration, SBDC: Bridget Ross (PVAMU SBDC)
Texas General Land Office: Cynthia Hudson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Karen Peycke, Alex Nunez
Texas Water Development Board: Scott Galaway
Texas Railroad Commission: Ashley Correll
US DOI, National Parks Service: Gibran Lule-Hurtado
Texas Division of Emergency Management: Chris Broussard
FEMA Philanthropic Advisor: Jackie Covington
FEMA Community Planning & Capacity Building: Richard Hildreth

10:30 Break

10:45 Speed-Meeting Discussion Round
Federal and state partners will rotate around the tables to engage in discussions with meeting participants.

12:00 Sustainability and Resilience: Minimizing Future Flooding and Increasing Groundwater Recharge

1:00 Speed-meeting Discussion Round
Federal and state partners will rotate around the tables to engage in discussions with meeting participants.

3:15 Closing Remarks

SUMMARY

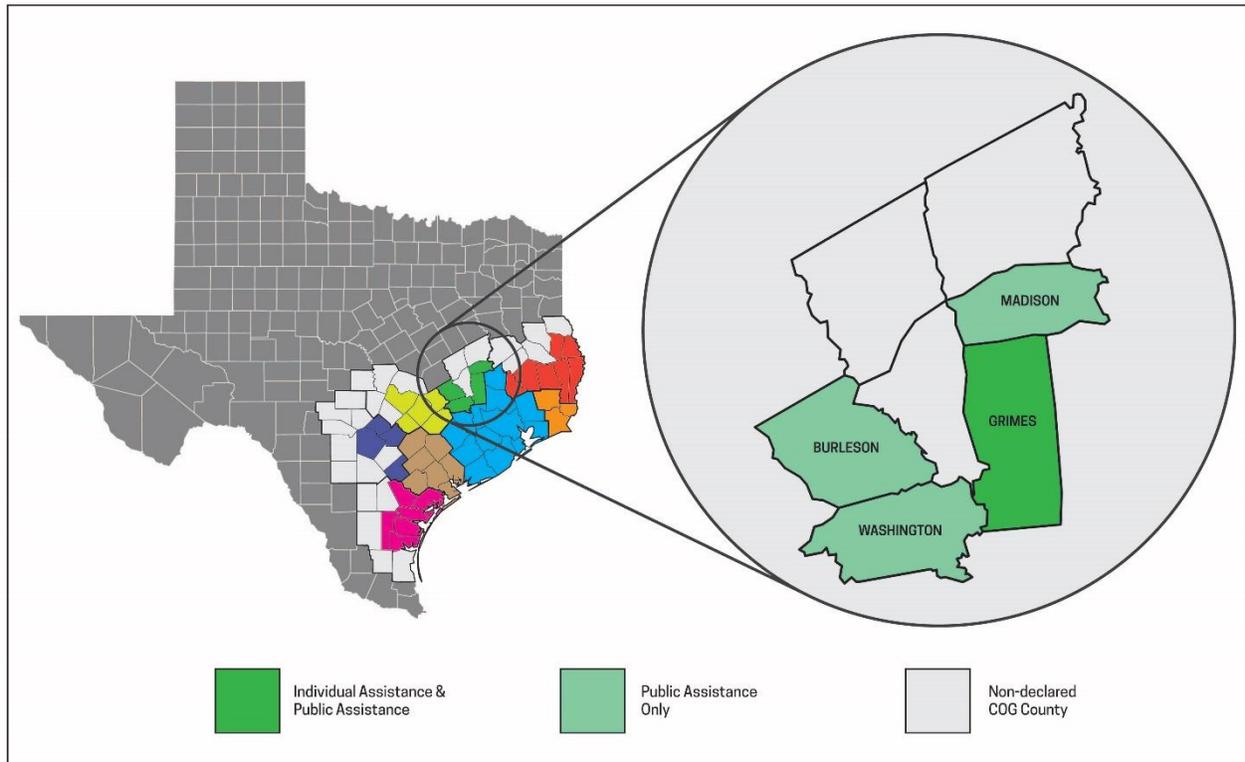


Figure 14: The Brazos Valley COG's affected counties. BVCOG, along with the Alamo Area COG, only had one county declared for Individual Assistance. [Map sources: See endnote iii]

The Brazos Valley COG (BVCOG) hosted an Economic Recovery and Preparedness Workshop in Navasota for stakeholders in the region. BVCOG Executive Direction Tom Wilkinson and Navasota Mayor Bert Miller welcomed the participants to the workshop, and Congressman Kevin Brady (TX-08) followed with remarks about Congress' response to Hurricane Harvey and an invitation to provide feedback.

Economic RSF Field Coordinator Robert Peche provided an overview of the format for the day's brief presentations and roundtable discussions that allowed all participants to engage directly with federal and state partners.

EPA's Bryan Hummel gave a lunch presentation about "Sustainability and Resilience: Minimizing Future Flooding and Increasing Groundwater Recharge," designed to spark new ideas as community representatives considered preparedness and resiliency opportunities.

Following a working lunch, roundtable discussions continued before closing for the day. Through the course of the breakout sessions, community representatives asked questions about how federal and state resources could support their recovery projects. Some discussions focused on eligibility criteria,



Figure 15: Congressman Kevin Brady (TX-08) welcomes participants to the workshop and invites feedback on Congress's response to Harvey.

timelines, and match funding, as well as prioritizing projects and incorporating resiliency into their plans.

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

The workshop was attended by approximately 40 representatives of Harvey-impacted Grimes County, six cities and four neighboring counties. Twenty-five representatives of six federal agencies and seven state and local agencies engaged in rotating roundtable discussions with participants about economic development projects, available resources, and related strategies to enhance recovery and resilience.



Figure 16: Local, regional, and federal partners network prior to the workshop.



Figure 17: Representatives from the EPA and Texas Railroad Commission discuss programs and resources with local stakeholders.

ALAMO AREA COG WORKSHOP: MAY 1, 2018, SAN ANTONIO

AGENDA

- 8:30 Registration/Check in**
- 8:45 Welcome**
Stella Garcia, AACOG Senior Director of Operations
- 9:00 Welcome by Luncheon Sponsor, CPS Energy**
Kara Hill, Manager External Relations
- 9:10 Structure and Focus of the Day's Sessions**
Robert Peche, EDR, Southern Texas and Economic RSF Coordinator
- 9:15 Speed Round with Federal Agencies**

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development: Guadalupe Valdes
U.S. National Parks Service: Justin Bates
U.S. Department of Labor: Rebecca Sarmiento
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development: Alberto Solorzano
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: Alexander Nunes & Karen Peycke
FEMA Philanthropic Advisor: Jackie Covington
- 9:45 Group Breakout Sessions with Federal Agency Representatives**
- 10:30 Break**
- 11:00 Group Breakout Sessions with Federal Agency Representatives**
- 12:00 Lunch Presentations**
Sustainability and Resilience: Minimizing Future Flooding and Increasing Groundwater Recharge / Bryan H. Hummel, EPA Region 6
SARA Flood Prediction and Warning System / Erin Cavazos, San Antonio River Authority
- 1:00 State and Regional Panel Speed Round (Presentations followed by speed-meeting)**
Texas Department of Agriculture: Jami McCook
Texas Division of Emergency Management: TBD
Texas General Land Office: Cynthia Hudson
Texas Workforce Commission: Michael Britt
Texas Water Development Board: Mark Evans
- 3:15 FEMA Resources**
- 4:15 Closing Remarks**

SUMMARY

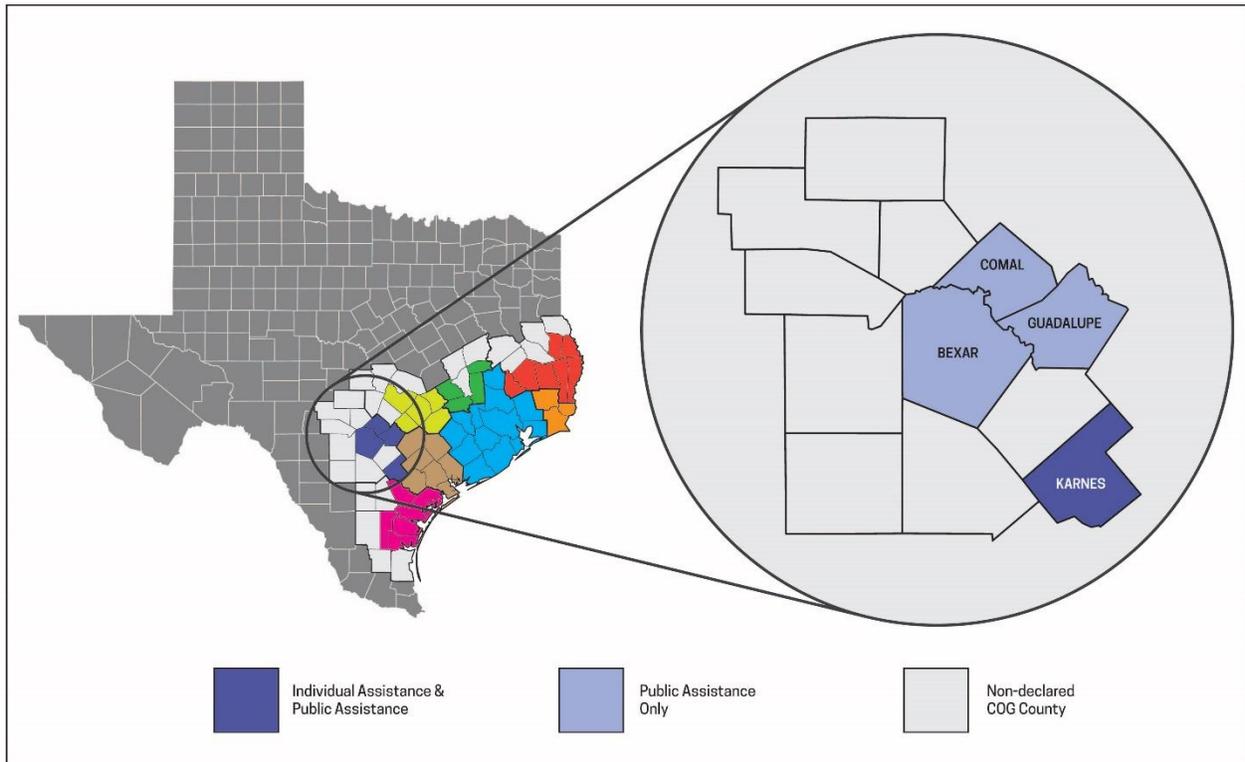


Figure 18: The Alamo Area COG's affected counties. The Alamo Area COG, which contains San Antonio (Bexar County), only had Karnes County declared for Individual Assistance. [Map sources: See endnote iii]

The Alamo Area COG (AACOG) long-term economic recovery workshop was held in San Antonio on May 4, 2018. Federal, state, and local partner agencies led small group breakout sessions with participants from public, private and nonprofit entities that covered each agency's resources and funding opportunities and engaged in problem-solving conversations about local issues.

Stella Garcia, AACOG Senior Director of Operations, opened the day with an introduction for the multi-faceted AACPO. Kara Hill, Manager of External Relations for CPS Energy (luncheon sponsor) spoke about the work the electric utility is doing to support all its customers in the area that were affected by the hurricane. Robert Peche introduced the state and federal partners, who described the types of issues their agency could assist with, and available programs and resources.

Presentations during the working lunch were by Bryan Hummel, Sustainability Advisor, EPA Region 6, on "Sustainability and Resilience – Minimizing Future Flooding and Increasing Groundwater Recharge," and by Erin Cavazos, San Antonio River Authority, who spoke on the SARA flood prediction and warning system.



Figure 19: The Alamo Area COG's Stella Garcia welcomes participants to the workshop on May 4, 2018, in San Antonio. Despite thunderstorms in the area, the workshop garnered 20 attendees from the region.

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

The workshop was attended by approximately 20 representatives from five cities (Cibolo, Converse, Floresville, Pleasanton, Stockdale) one county (Medina), 23 representatives of six federal agencies and seven state and local agencies. Participants engaged in rotating roundtable discussions on economic development projects, available resources, and related strategies to enhance recovery and resilience.



Figure 20: EDA's Robert Peche discusses the format of the day's workshop.



Figure 21: Kara Hill, Manager External Relations for CPS Energy, discusses the company's efforts during and after Hurricane Harvey to assist its affected customers in the region.

SOUTH EAST TEXAS RPC WORKSHOP: MAY 9, 2018, BEAUMONT

AGENDA

- 9:00-9:30 am** **Registration and coffee**
- 9:30-9:55 am** **Opening General Session – Lightning Round with All Agencies**
- 10:00-10:30 am** **Breakout Sessions Round 1 (Pick one 30-minute session)**
- **Texas General Land Office (GLO) & U.S. Housing & Urban Development (HUD)**
 - **Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)**
 - **Federal Reserve Bank**
 - **Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)**
 - **U.S. Dept. of Agriculture & Texas Dept. of Agriculture (USDA & TDA)**
- 10:40-11:10 am** **Breakout Sessions Round 2 (Pick one 30-minute session)**
- **FEMA Philanthropic**
 - **Texas Division of Emergency Management**
 - **Lamar University Small Business Development Center**
 - **Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)**
 - **USDA & TDA**
- 11:20 am-11:50 pm** **Breakout Sessions Round 3 (Pick one 30-minute session)**
- **GLO & HUD**
 - **U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA)**
 - **Federal Reserve Bank**
 - **Texas Water Development Board**
 - **Texas Workforce Commission**
- 11:55 am-12:30 pm** **Lightning Round 2 with All Agencies**
- **Go to two 15-minute sessions with any agency!**
- 12:30-1:15 pm** **Lunch and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) presentation on “Turning a Flooding Liability into an Agricultural and Ground-water Asset.”**
- 1:15 pm** **Closing Comments**

SUMMARY

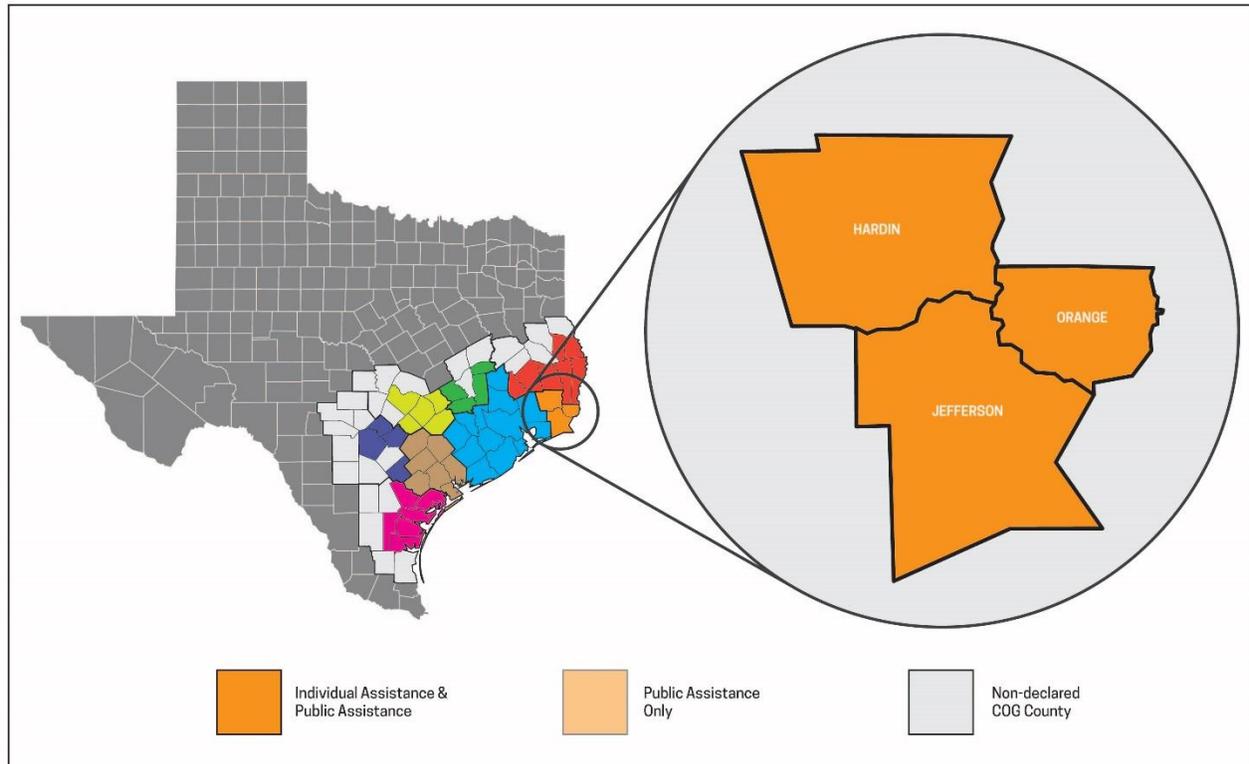


Figure 22: The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission's (SET-RPC) affected counties experienced severe damage from Hurricane Harvey, with all counties declared for individual and public assistance. [Map sources: See endnote iii]

The Economic RSF and the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SET-RPC) hosted the South-east Texas Economic Recovery Workshop at the MCM Elegante hotel in Beaumont on May 9, 2018.

Following the opening general session, participants chose breakout groups for the three breakout sessions. At the end of the primary sessions, participants had the opportunity to visit with the agencies of their choice during a shorter, accelerated breakout group.

The workshop concluded with a presentation by Bryan Hummel of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on “Sustainability and Resilience – Minimizing Future Flooding and Increasing Groundwater Re-charge.”



Figure 23: EDA's Robert Peche introduces the state and federal partners during the opening general session of the South East Texas RPC workshop.

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

The workshop was attended by approximately 75 representatives of three Harvey-impacted counties (Hardin, Jefferson, Orange), 14 cities (Beaumont, Bevil Oaks, Bridge City, Lumberton, Nederland, Orange, Pine Forest, Pinehurst, Port Arthur, Port Neches, Rose City, Silsbee, Vidor, West Orange), 22 representatives of seven federal agencies, and six state and local agencies.

GOLDEN CRESCENT RPC WORKSHOP: MAY 22, 2018. VICTORIA



Figure 24: EDA's Naomi Friedman and EPA's Bryan Hummel visit with local stakeholders in Victoria, Texas.



Figure 25: Roundtable discussions at the Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission's workshop at the University of Houston, Victoria.

AGENDA

8:30 am	Check-in
8:45 am	Welcome Remarks Executive Director Joe Brannan, Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission Robert Peche, EDA/Economic Recovery Support Function
9:00 am	Presentations Moderator: Robert Peche Panelists/Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table 1: Texas Department of Agriculture & U.S. Department of Agriculture • Table 2: Economic Development Administration • Table 3: Texas Division of Emergency Management & FEMA • Table 4: Texas General Land Office and U.S. Housing & Urban Development • Table 5: U.S. Department of Treasury • Table 6: Texas Water Development Board
10:00 am	Round Tables Break-Out: Q&A Round 1
10:30 am	Round Tables Break-Out: Q&A Round 2
11:00 am	Round Tables Break-Out: Q&A Round 3
11:30 am	Round Table Reports and Closing

SUMMARY

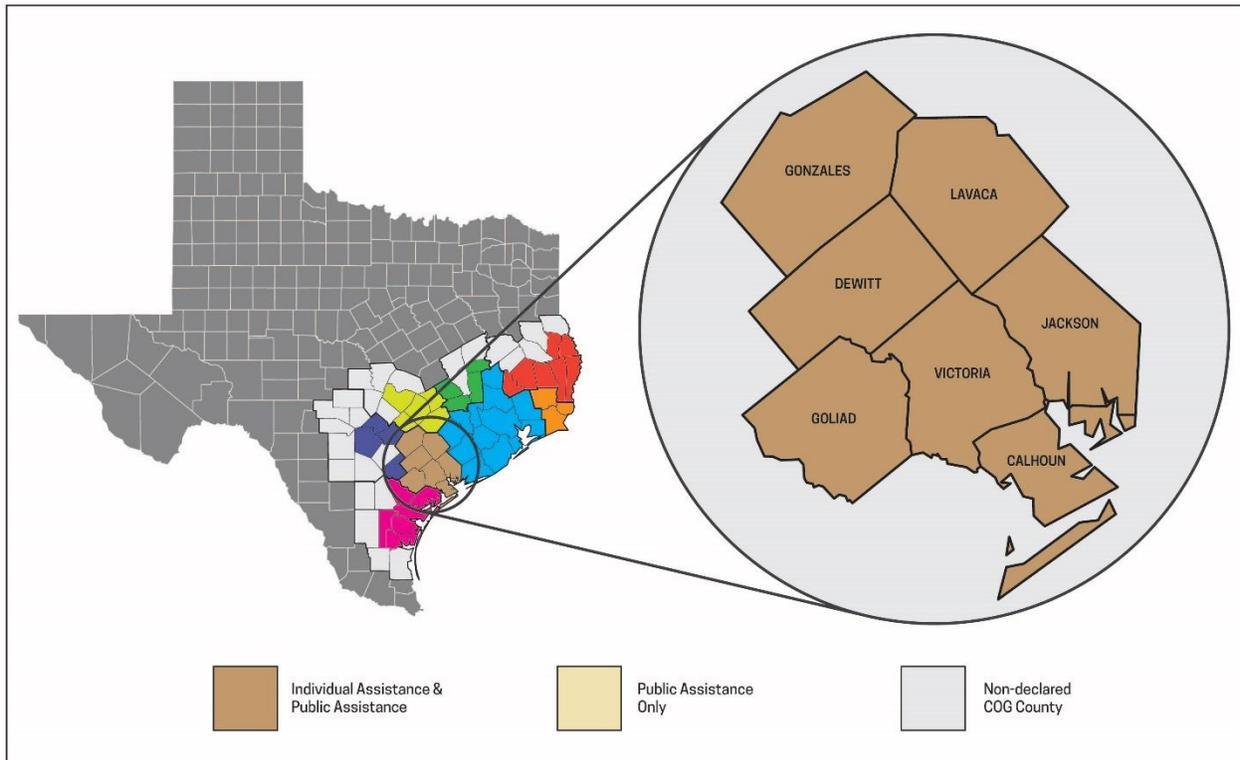


Figure 26: The Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission’s affected counties. [Map sources: See endnote iii]

The Golden Crescent Regional Planning Commission (GCRPC) hosted a long-term economic recovery workshop at the University of Houston–Victoria for stakeholders in the region. GCRPC Executive Director Joe Brannon welcomed the group to the workshop. Naomi Friedman, EDA National Coordinator for Disaster Recovery and Resilience, spoke about EDA’s work to help communities affected by disasters.

Robert Peche, the Economic RSF Field Coordinator, provided an overview of the day’s presentations and roundtable discussions. The roundtables allowed all participants to engage directly with federal and state partners. Each of the 11 agencies paired up with one other state or federal partner to visit with local leaders.

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

The workshop was attended by 6 representatives from Harvey-impacted Victoria County and other regional, nonprofit, university, and business leaders, along with 25 representatives from six federal agencies and six state and local agencies.

COASTAL BEND COG WORKSHOP: MAY 23, 2018, CORPUS CHRISTI

AGENDA

8:30 Registration/Check in

8:45 Welcome
Richard Bullock, Coastal Bend COG

9:00 Structure and Focus of the Day's Sessions
Robert Peche, EDR, Southern Texas and Economic RSF Coordinator

9:15 Federal and state panel presentations

Moderator: Robert Peche, Economic Development Administration
U.S. Department of Agriculture
U.S. Small Business Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
U.S. Department of Treasury
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
FEMA Philanthropic Advisor
FEMA Community Planning & Capacity Building

12:00 Sustainability and Resilience: Minimizing Future Flooding and Increasing Groundwater Recharge / Bryan Hummel, EPA Region 6

1:00 State Panel Speed Round
Texas Department of Agriculture
Texas Department of Emergency Management
Texas General Land Office
Texas Workforce Commission
Texas Department of Insurance

3:15 FEMA Resources

4:15 Closing Remarks

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

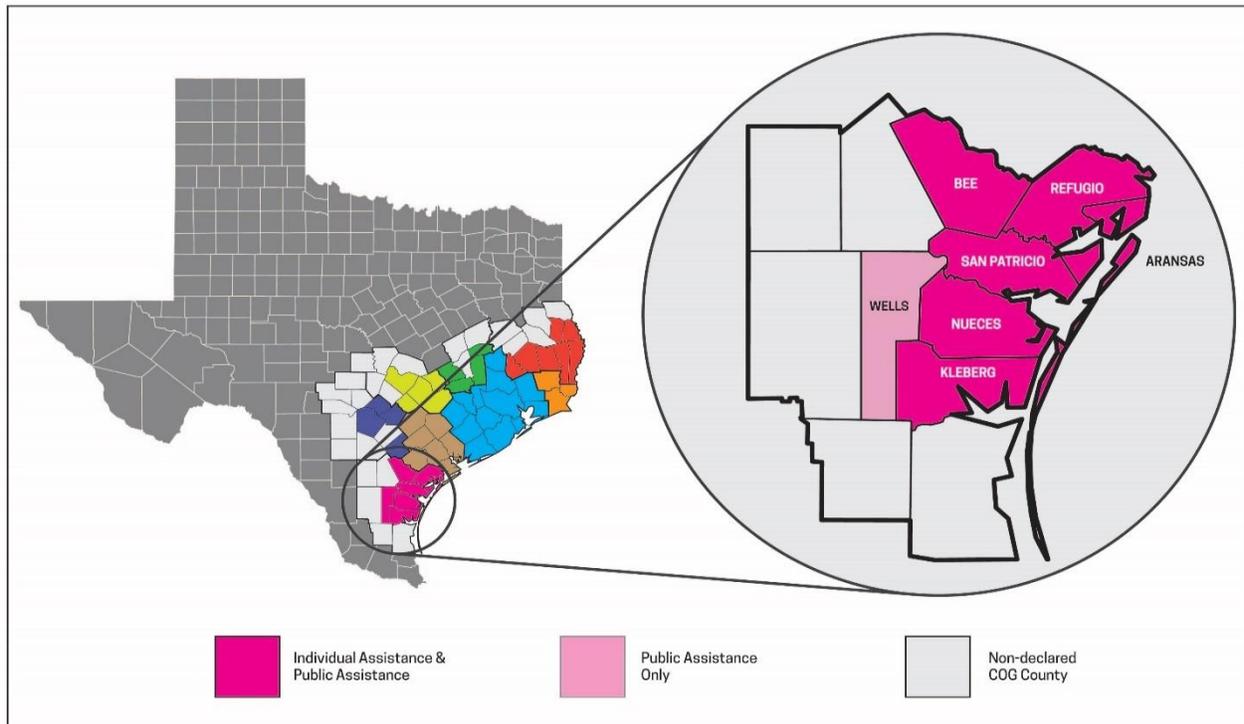


Figure 27: The Coastal Bend COG's affected counties. The City of Rockport in Aransas County was where Hurricane Harvey first made landfall. [Map sources: See endnote iii]

The Coastal Bend COG (CBCOG) hosted a long-term economic recovery workshop in Corpus Christi for stakeholders in the region on May 23, 2018. CBCOG Planning Director Richard Bullock opened the workshop and Russell Franques, the Director of the Coastal Bend Business Innovation Center, the co-host, provided information about the Innovation Center's role in disaster recovery and resources available.

Robert Peche, the Economic RSF Field Coordinator, provided an overview of the format for the day's presentations and roundtable discussions. Thirteen agencies were represented. Each agency paired with another state or federal partner to visit with local leaders at the roundtables.

Unfortunately, Nueces County was convening a hurricane preparedness meeting on the same day, so some local leaders were unable to participate in the day's meeting. This meeting conflict reflected a larger issue with "meeting fatigue" local leaders have experienced following Harvey. Nonetheless, meeting participation was robust and local officials appreciated the opportunity to engage in face-to-face dialogue about the pressing issues in some of the hardest-hit communities.



Figure 28: EDA's Robert Peche starts the day with an overview of the workshop's format.

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

The workshop was attended by approximately 30 representatives from the region, including Harvey-impacted Aransas, Refugio, and San Patricio counties, five cities (Corpus Christi, Ingleside, Kingsville, Mathis, and Rockport), and other nonprofit, university, and business leaders. The participants discussed economic development projects, available resources, and strategies to enhance resilience with representatives from seven federal agencies and seven state and local agencies.



Figure 29: Participants network at the Coastal Bend Business Innovation Center in Corpus Christi.



Figure 30: Roundtable discussions at the workshop. Approximately 30 local stakeholders attended the workshop.

HOUSTON-GALVESTON WORKSHOP: JUNE 1, 2018, HOUSTON



Figure 31: Roundtable discussions in Houston. With more than 100 total participants, H-GAC was one of the largest events.



Figure 32: Local participants at the Houston workshop. All of Houston-Galveston's counties were heavily impacted by Harvey.

AGENDA

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 9:30 | Registration/Check in |
| 10:00 | Welcome
Chuck Wemple, CEO Houston-Galveston Area Council |
| 10:05 | Structure and Focus of the Day's Sessions
Robert Peche, EDR, Southern Texas and Economic RSF Coordinator |
| 10:15 | Speed Round One with State and Federal Agencies
Moderator: Robert Peche, Economic Development Administration
Representatives from state and federal agencies will introduce themselves and present in one minute or less, followed by breakout sessions with agencies. |
| 11:45 | Break |
| 12:00 | Regional Economic Resilience – Lunch Presentation
Jeff Taebel, H-GAC Director of Community and Environmental Planning |
| 12:45 | Speed Round Two with State and Federal Agencies
Moderator: Robert Peche, Economic Development Administration
Representatives from state and federal agencies will introduce themselves and present in one minute or less, followed by breakout sessions with agencies. |
| 1:45 | Sustainability and Resilience: Minimizing Future Flooding and Increasing Groundwater Recharge
Bryan Hummel, EPA Region 6 |
| 2:15 | Closing Remarks
Jeff Taebel, H-GAC Director of Community and Environmental Planning |

SUMMARY

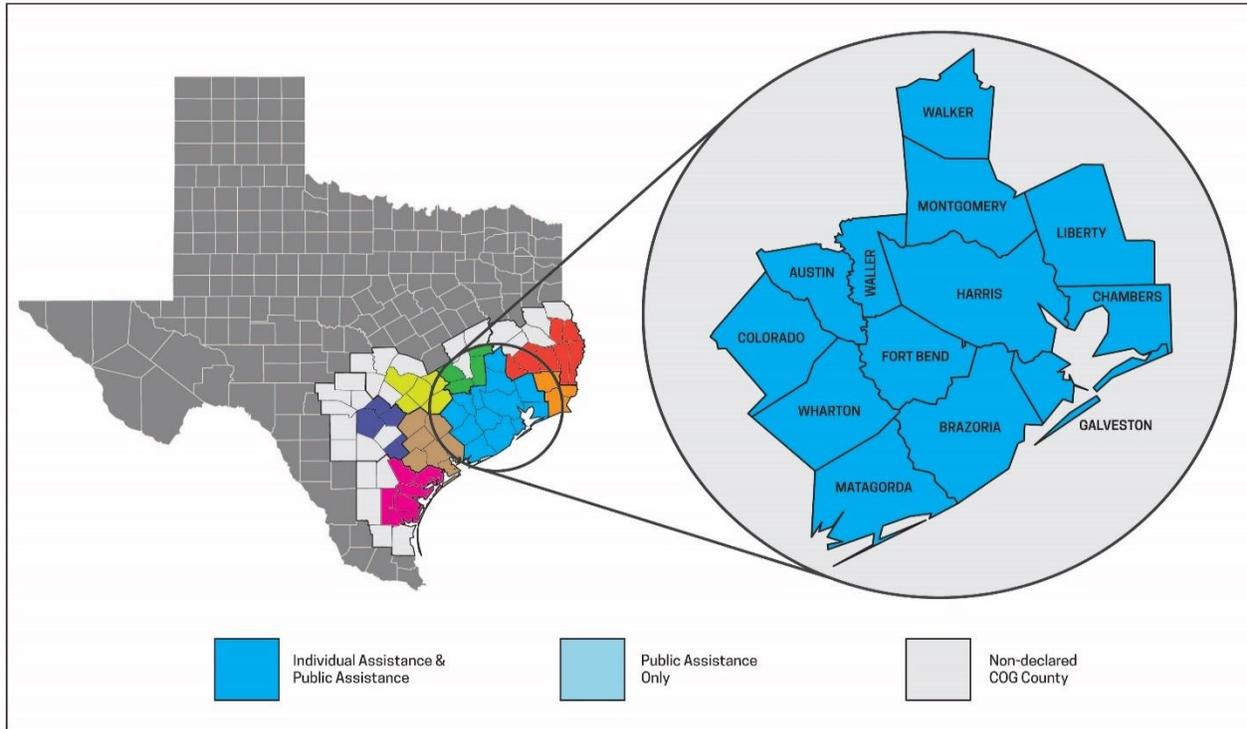


Figure 33: Houston-Galveston Area Council’s affected counties. The 275 trillion tons of water Harvey dropped on the Houston region was heavy enough to cause the earth’s crust to drop by 2 cm. [Map sources: See endnote iii]

As the heaviest hit COG of the eight, the Houston-Galveston workshop was one of the most well-attended events in the series. Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) CEO Chuck Wemple opened the session and EDA’s Robert Peche described the format for the day before continuing to the speed rounds with agency representatives.

H-GAC’s Jeff Taebel delivered a lunch presentation about regional economic resilience, and Bryan Hummel delivered a presentation on “Sustainability and Resilience: Minimizing Future Flooding and Increasing Groundwater Recharge.”

LOCAL PARTICIPATION

The workshop hosted by H-GAC was attended by approximately 70 representatives of Harvey-impacted Harris, Galveston, Walker, Fort Bend, Brazoria, Montgomery, Liberty, Chambers, Wharton, and Matagorda counties and multiple cities (including Houston, Huntsville, Galveston, Sugar Land, Friendswood, League City, Texas City, Rosenberg, Richmond, Pearland, Magnolia, Dayton, Anahuac, Pasadena, Wharton, Hempstead, Bay City, Conroe, Angleton, Dickinson, El Campo) in addition to 23 representatives of seven federal agencies and 10 state and local agencies.

TABLE OF AGENCY PROGRAMS FOR THE HARVEY IMPACTED AREA

Agency	Program	Funding (if applicable)
Texas General Land Office / U.S. Housing & Urban Development	Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery	\$ 5.081 billion ¹ (total)
Texas Division of Emergency Management	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	\$ 1.1 billion (total)
Economic Development Administration	Harvey Disaster Supplemental	\$129 million (total)
Texas Water Development Board	Disaster Recovery Response Emergency Relief and Urgent Need Funding / Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds	\$90 million (total)
Texas Workforce Commission / U.S. Department of Labor	Vocational Rehabilitation Funding	\$33 million (total)
Texas Workforce Commission / U.S. Department of Labor	Dislocated Worker Grants	\$30 million (total)
Texas Workforce Commission	Skills Development Fund	Up to \$500,000 per business
Texas Department of Agriculture	Community Development Fund	Varies
Texas Department of Agriculture	Texas Capital Fund	Awards vary from up to \$100,000 to up to \$1 million
Texas Department of Agriculture	Planning & Capacity Building Fund	Max award: \$55,000
Texas Department of Agriculture	Disaster Relief Fund	Max award: \$350,000
Texas Department of Agriculture	Colonia Funds	Awards vary from up to \$100,000 to up to \$1 million
Environmental Protection Agency	Brownfields Area Wide Planning Grants	Up to \$200,000
Environmental Protection Agency	Brownfields Assessment Grants	From up to \$400,000 to \$600,000
Environmental Protection Agency	Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants	Up to \$1 million
Environmental Protection Agency	Brownfields	Up to \$200,000/site
Environmental Protection Agency	Brownfields Job Training Grants	Up to \$200,000
Environmental Protection Agency	Environmental Justice Small Grants	Up to \$30,000
U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA-RD)	Home Repair Loan & Grant Program	Grants up to \$7,500 and loans up to \$20,000

¹ The majority of these funds must be used to address unmet housing needs. For more information, please visit: <http://texasrebuilds.org/Pages/State-Action-Plans.aspx>.

Agency	Program	Funding (if applicable)
USDA-RD	Community Facilities Loan & Grant Program	\$20,000-\$30,000
USDA-RD	Rural Housing Direct Loan Program	Varies
USDA-RD	Existing Home Loan Borrowers Assistance	Varies
USDA-RD	Multi-Family Housing	Varies
USDA-RD	Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program	Varies
USDA-RD	Business & Industry Loan Guarantee Program	Varies
USDA-RD	Revolving Loan Funds	Varies
U.S. Department of the Interior / National Parks Service	Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program	N/A
FEMA Philanthropic Advisor	Connecting philanthropic partners with communities in need	Varies
Federal Reserve Bank	Implications of Community Reinvestment Act and disaster areas and Opportunity Zones.	N/A
U.S. Small Business Administration	Disaster loan programs	Varies

REFERENCES

ⁱ National Hurricane Center Tropical Cyclone Report: *Hurricane Harvey*, May 2018, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/data/tcr/AL092017_Harvey.pdf

ⁱⁱ Hurricane Harvey Mission Scoping Assessment, October 2017, Federal Emergency Management Agency

ⁱⁱⁱ Map: [Texas with Counties - Single Color](#) by [FreeVectorMaps.com](#), Data: "FEMA-4332-DR, Texas Disaster Declaration as of 10/11/2017" https://gis.fema.gov/maps/dec_4332.pdf