

# **CRS Floodplain and Stormwater Program** for Public Information (PPI) Annual Report

# 2022

In 2015, the City of Grand Prairie adopted a Public Protection Information Plan under the Community Rating System Program to guide city officials in how to implement floodplain information outreach projects that would be most beneficial to all residents of Grand Prairie. The 2015 plan was updated in 2021.

This is a summary of the PPI Committee Meeting that was held on August 19, 2022. This summary includes the status of the action items in the plan, an assessment of each project's usefulness, and any committee recommended changes.

**Outreach Project 1 and 2:** Post Flood Information on City Website and other Social Media Outlets in Both English and Spanish

• Date Verified that Website and Social Media Accounts were Active and Working

City Website Floodplain page was operational on June 26, 2022 and September 27, 2022. The webpage includes the English and Spanish floodplain brochures. The information on Flood Insurance Rate Maps, including Frequently Asked Questions. All the links within the Stormwater web page worked.

The City participated in Texas Flood Awareness social media campaign (May 23-27, 2022).

Social Media Posts to Facebook (as of September 28, 2022)

- Summary: 7 posts reached 11,579 resulted in 131 "clicks" and reactions/shares 96
  - Turn Around Don't Drown August 22, 2022
  - Flood Insurance Rate Maps May 27, 2022
  - Purchasing Flood Insurance and Best Ways to Protect Your Home May 26, 2022
  - Flood Awareness Week May 25, 2022
  - Flash Flooding Turn Around Don't Drown May 24, 2022
  - Flood Awareness Week May 23, 2022
  - Alert GP January 25, 2022

Social Media Posts to Twitter (September 28, 2022)

- o Summary: 7 posts reached 1868 resulted and engagements 36
  - o Turn Around Don't Drown August 22, 2022
  - Flood Insurance Rate Maps May 27, 2022

- o Purchasing Flood Insurance and Best Ways to Protect Your Home May 26, 2022
- Flood Awareness Week May 25, 2022
- Flash Flooding Turn Around Don't Drown May 24, 2022
- Flood Awareness Week May 23, 2022
- o Alert GP January 25, 2022
- Assessment of Usefulness

The City's website is available in English and has a Spanish translation feature. The website provides public access to floodplain-related information in a non-threatening way. Some residents are reluctant to contact the City and ask questions about their property for fear of getting themselves in trouble.

The City's social media accounts are only available in English. The City's Facebook account experienced a significant number of views associated with floodplain insurance, weather warnings. Twitter posts related to flood awareness week and turn around don't drown reached the largest number of people.

- FMP, PPI, and CP were update in 2021
- Recommended Changes None
- **Outreach Project 3:** Flood Articles in The Pipeline newsletters. 2022 articles included in The Pipeline newsletter
  - Do You Have Flood Insurance October 2021
  - Flood Insurance and Community Rating System- How They Work Together November 2021
  - Flood Insurance and Community Rating System- How They Work Together January 2022
  - insure Your Property for Flooding February 2022
  - Flood Risk, Turn Around Don't Drown March 2022
  - Flood Safety April 2022
  - Wear Blue for Flood Awareness and Outdoor Warning Sirens May 2022
  - Building Responsibly June 2022
  - Community Rating System and Flood Assistance Information July 2022
  - Flood Insurance Letter from the Mayor August 2022
  - Turn Around Don't Drown September 2022
- Assessment of Usefulness

The Pipeline newsletter is only available in English. The flood-related articles have been translated into Spanish and are available on the Floodplain page of the City's website.

City staff experiences an increase in phone calls from residents following the newsletter distribution. Callers typically state that they read about the City's floodplain services in the newsletter.

• Status of 2021 Recommended Changes

- No changes
- Recommended Changes
  - No changes were recommended in 2022.

## Outreach Project 4: TXDOT Message Boards

- Dates and Messages put onto the TxDOT Message Boards
  - August 22, 2022

The City post messages on the following TxDOT message boards:

- Arkansas SB at SH-161 Service Rd. (next to PSB)
- Conover at SH-161 NBFR
- Fort Worth St at SH-161 SBFR
- IH-30 at SH-161 SBFR
- Main St at NW 7th West Bound
- Mayfield at SH-161 NBFR
- Tarrant at SH-161 NBFR

The City changes the messages on each board as warranted by weather conditions or local emergencies. The two messages typically used include "Flash Flood Warning / Turn Around Don't Drown" and "Flooding Possible / If Water On Rd Turn Around Don't Drown".

Assessment of Usefulness

Messages provide drivers with regular reminders of potentially hazardous driving conditions.

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - o None
- Recommended Changes
  - Update FMP and PPI to show that these message board are city owned operated and not TxDOT

#### Outreach Project 5: City-Owned Message Boards

• 2022 Dates and Messages put onto City Owned Message Boards

<u>January</u>

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

February

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

March

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

April

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

<u>May</u>

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

Texas Flood Awareness Week May 23-27 gptx.org/floodplain

June

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

July

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

August

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

Turn Around Don't Drown

<u>September</u>

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

October

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

November

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

December

Do You Have Flood Insurance? gptx.org/flood-insurance

The messages run on 12-month cycle displaying 500,000 times on eight digital signs on roadways and in city buildings yearly.

During a big rain event, the sign stating Turn Around Don't Drown is displayed approximately 10,000 times daily.

If flooding is in progress, the sign stating Crossing Road Barrier Can Result in Fines is displayed.

• Assessment of Usefulness

The City owns five outdoor message boards and locations in 3 city buildings that provide visual reminders regarding flood awareness, placed at these locations: I-20 @ Carrier

Parkway, Roy Orr (Mike Lewis Park), MacArthur north of I-30 at landfill entrance, inside City Hall, Lake Ridge Parkway near Lynn Creek Park, and Warrior Dr near PlayGrand Adventures and the Prairie Paws Animal Shelter.

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - No Changes
- Recommended Changes
  - Work with marketing department to update messages to include more FEMA flood insurance information and include information about new Risk Map 2.0

Outreach Project 6: Post Signs on Existing Flood Gauges at Low Water Crossings

• Date Implemented and Date Verified Signs are still there

The signs have been installed. For the three low water crossings with flashers, we have a series of three signs to warn drivers: 1) "Road May Flood", 2) "When Flooded Turn Around Don't Drown" and 3) "Water Over Road When Flashing". For stream gauge locations without flood flashers, just the first two signs are used.

Locations with signage and flashing lights:

- Riverside Dr @ WFTR Inspected March 21, 2022
- Carrier Pkwy @ Cottonwood Creek (with LWC gates) Gates are out of service due to a vehicle accident on September 23, 2021. Parts are backordered at this time due to supply chain issues. The remaining flashing lights and water level sensor are still operational. Site inspected July 22, 2022
- E Jefferson St Inspected August 2, 2022
- o 3<sup>rd</sup> St @ Cottonwood Creek (McFalls Park) Inspected September 20, 2022

Locations with signage but no lights:

- o Robinson Rd and Marshall Rd @ Cottonwood Creek Checked July 20, 2022
- o Carrier Pkwy @ I-20 Checked July 20, 2022
- Robinson Rd @ I-20 Checked July 20, 2022
- City staff designed and installed 7 permanent signs at locations prone to flooding:
- Eastbound Jefferson at Mountain Creek Inspected July 20, 2022
- Northbound Carrier at Cottonwood Creek-Inspected July 20, 2022
- Southbound Carrier at Cottonwood Creek–Inspected July 20, 2022
- Northbound SW 3<sup>rd</sup> at Cottonwood Creek– Inspected July 20, 2022
- Southbound SW 3<sup>rd</sup> at Cottonwood Creek– Inspected July 20, 2022
- o Northbound Riverside at low water crossing-Inspected July 20, 2022
- o Westbound Riverside at low water crossing-Inspected July 20, 2022



Eastbound Jefferson at Mountain Creek

• Assessment of Usefulness

The signs warn of potential flooding dangers on these roadways that tend to flood.

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - No Changes
- Recommended Changes
  - o None

Outreach Project 7: Tabletop Flood Model and Erosion Trailer Use

- List of Community Events and Dates
  - Arbor Day- November 5, 2021(Erosion Trailer)
  - Dubiski High School Engineering Students- November 2 and 3, 2021 (Erosion Trailer and Tabletop Flood Model)
  - Crew Camp Daniels Elementary School- March 31, 2022 (Erosion Trailer)
  - Crew Camp Crosswinds High School- April 1, 2022 (Erosion Trailer)
  - Crew Camp Dubiski High School- April 13, 2022 (Erosion Trailer)
  - Crew Camp Jackson Middle School- April 6, 2022 (Erosion Trailer)
  - Main Street Fest- April 22-24, 2022 (Tabletop Flood Model)
  - Earth Day- April 22, 2022 (Erosion Trailer)
  - Public Works Day at the Library- May 14, 2022 (Erosion Trailer)

- Crawfish Boil- June 4, 2022 (Erosion Trailer)
- Hatch Chile Fest August 13, 2022 (Erosion Trailer)

The following items were available at the Stormwater booth in 2022:

- Turn Around Don't Drown (TADD) stickers (provided by TFMA)
- TADD tattoos (provided by TFMA)
- Coloring books (provided by TFMA)
- Crayons and Pencils
- Jar lid Gripper (provided by Public Works)
- Mixing Bowl Scrapper (provided by Public Works)
- FEMA brochures (English and Spanish)
- City brochures (English and Spanish)
- Contents only postcards (English and Spanish)
- Page with QR codes that would link visitors quickly to FEMA flood insurance and city floodplain information
- Assessment of Usefulness

The 2022 city events event were all well-attended by individuals of all ages. The camps and library events were held for school students ranging from 3-12 grades. The coloring pages were a big hit with the kids! The QR code page was great success and allowed visitors and staff to make quick interactions while still getting our outreach messages out.

The flood model and erosion trailer were both well received! These outreach tools provide opportunities for interaction and discussion with guests.

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - Pre-stuff giveaway bag brochures, coloring pages, etc.
- Recommended Changes for 2022
  - Focus outreach booths more on schools, library events, HOA and PID meetings, Earth Day, National Night Out.
  - Remove event like Main Street Fest and Asian Time Square due to the cost and time involved to do these events

#### Outreach Project 8: Alert GP Phone Application

- Date Implemented
- Articles promoting Alert GP app were published in the Pipeline during 2022
- Assessment of Usefulness

The articles provided information on how to sign up for the service

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - No Changes

- Recommended Changes:
  - o None

**Outreach Project 9:** Flood Brochures and Flood Information in City Libraries and City Buildings (*Project 3 in CP*)

- Date Verified that brochures and Information was still in Library and Lobbies
  - November 17, 2021
  - o January 13, 2022
  - May 19, 2022

English and Spanish floodplain brochures are available at The Grand Prairie Main Library, Betty Warmack Library and City Hall. David McKee visits all three locations quarterly.

• Assessment of Usefulness

The brochures provide relevant floodplain information to the public.

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes (Updates in Italics)
  - Continue checking/restocking brochures at City facilities on a quarterly basis. (Done)
- Recommended Changes
  - Continue checking/restocking brochures at City facilities on a quarterly basis.
- **Outreach Project 10 and 11:** Flood Information Brochure in Both English and Spanish Mailed to Residents in SFHA and RL Area (Target Audience) Date Implemented
  - Mailing labels were updated based on returned mail from 2021.
- Assessment of Usefulness

As of September 30, 2022, 34 properties in the SFHA had flood insurance policies.

Year	Number of Policies
2017	69
2018	76
2019	68
2020	61
2021	60
2022	35

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - No changes were suggested in 2021
- Recommended Changes

• Add a cover sheet on City letterhead to 2023 SFHA mailouts with a brief explanation of the important information in the brochure. (RL already has a cover sheet)

**Outreach Project 12:** "Contents Only" Flood Brochure in Both English and Spanish Mailed to Residents Who Rent Property in the SFHA or Flood Prone Areas (Target Audience)

• Date Implemented

The mailing list was updated based on returned mail in 2021.

• Assessment of Usefulness

The City mailed 843 postcards to this Target Audience in August 2022. FEMA was unable to provide details regarding the actual flood insurance policy holder addresses. FEMA stated that Federal Insurance leadership, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Legal Division, Privacy and others were meeting to discuss the path forward for information sharing with states, communities and localities that have a documented, verified need for policyholder personally identifiable information. FEMA stated that the agency would not be able to share NFIP data until this group had developed a data sharing process that ensures policyholder information is safe. Thus, the City was unable to determine the number of policies in effect within this target audience or the effectiveness of the outreach project.

Year	Number of Policies
2017	6
2018	7
2019	Unable to determine
2020	Unable to determine
2021	Unable to determine
2022	7

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - No changes were recommended.
- Recommended Changes
  - Update postcard message

Outreach Project 13: Flood Brochure to Residents below Joe Pool Dam (Target Audience)

- Date Implemented
- Assessment of Usefulness

The City mailed 341 postcards in August 2022. FEMA was unable to provide details regarding the actual flood insurance policy holder addresses. FEMA stated that Federal Insurance leadership, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Legal Division, Privacy and others were meeting to discuss the path forward for information sharing with states, communities

and localities that have a documented, verified need for policyholder personally identifiable information. FEMA stated that the agency would not be able to share NFIP data until this group had developed a data sharing process that ensures policyholder information is safe. Thus, the City was unable to determine the number of policies in effect within this target audience or the effectiveness of the outreach project.

Year	Number of Policies
2017	5
2018	9
2019	Unable to determine
2020	Unable to determine
2021	Unable to determine
2022	5

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - o No changes were recommended
- Recommended Changes
  - Update postcard message and add Mountain Creek Dam and Padera Dam Residents to 2023 outreach.

**Outreach Project 14:** Flood Brochure Mailed to Residents of Kirby Creek Erosion Area (Target Audience)

• Date Implemented

In 2019, City staff developed a postcard to replace the letter for this outreach project. The postcard included information in English and Spanish.

• Assessment of Usefulness

The City mailed 129 postcards to this target audience in August 2022. FEMA was unable to provide details regarding the actual flood insurance policy holder addresses. FEMA stated that Federal Insurance leadership, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Legal Division, Privacy and others were meeting to discuss the path forward for information sharing with states, communities and localities that have a documented, verified need for policyholder personally identifiable information. FEMA stated that the agency would not be able to share NFIP data until this group had developed a data sharing process that ensures policyholder information is safe. Thus, the City was unable to determine the number of policies in effect within this target audience or the effectiveness of the outreach project.

Year	Number of Policies
2017	2
2018	0
2019	Unable to determine
2020	Unable to determine

2021	Unable to determine
2022	3

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - No changes were recommended
- Recommended Changes
  - Update postcard message

# Outreach Project 15: Flood Postcard for Flood Siren Locations

• Date Implemented

In late 2021, City staff developed a postcard for this outreach project. The sirens went live in October 2021 but have not been activated other than for testing. There has not been a flood event since activation. The postcard gives residents information about the flood sirens located near them and what they should do in the event the sirens are sounded for a flood. The postcard included information in English and Spanish.

• Assessment of Usefulness

The usefulness will be assessed after the activity has been used during a flood event.

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - No changes were recommended.
- Recommended Changes
  - o None

# Outreach Project 16: Floodgate Information Postcard

• Date Implemented

In late 2022, City staff update a postcard for this outreach project to reflect second gate location. The new gate location at SW  $3^{rd}$  St went live in September 2022. The postcard included information in English and Spanish.

- Assessment of Usefulness
  - $\circ~$  Gives useful information to resident about what to expect when gates deploy during a flooding event.
- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - No changes were recommended
- Recommended Changes
  - o None

**Outreach Project 17 and 18**: Mandatory Purchase Requirement Letter to Lenders, Realtors and Insurance Agents:

• Date Implemented

The letters were printed in English and Spanish and mailed in October 2020. Contact information was updated prior to the mailing.

• Assessment of Usefulness

This is a FEMA-required annual mailing. Based on the increased calls City staff receives from real estate agents and insurance agents, the outreach activities to these groups appears to be effective.

- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - $\circ$  No changes were recommended.
- Recommended Changes
  - Update mailing list before 2023 letters are sent out

## Outreach Project 19: Bus Driver Training at Grand Prairie ISD

• Date Implemented

In progress. Video has been created.

- Assessment of Usefulness
  - Ongoing development activity
- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - Develop a presentation that can be shared with school district so they can do selfpaced on-line training.
  - Recommended Changes
    - Get with school district to provide training materials

## Outreach Project 20: "Do Not Dump" Markers

- Date Implemented
- Assessment of Usefulness
  - Environmental Services Department adds to and updates inventory of the markers. Gives residents reminders to not dump in inlets and streams
- Status of 2021 Recommended Changes
  - o No changes were recommended
- Recommended Changes
  - o None