



# Texas Department of Public Safety

## Division of Emergency Management

### Regional Emergency Healthcare Systems Conference

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April 28, 2016



# TDEM Initiatives

- Coordinate the **state emergency management program**
- Increase **public awareness** about threats and hazards
- Provide **specialized training** for emergency responders and local officials
- Administer **disaster recovery** and **hazard mitigation** programs



# TDEM at a Glance

- Annual **Budget**
  - Federal Disaster
  - Federal Preparedness
  - State Funds
  - Contracts
- Almost **300** FTEs
- Nearly **200** contract employees



# TDEM General Appropriations Act History

- **AY 2015**
  - Total - \$515,333,209
  - State Only - \$4,561,072
- **AY 2016**
  - Total - \$167,739,520
  - State Only - \$5,575,721





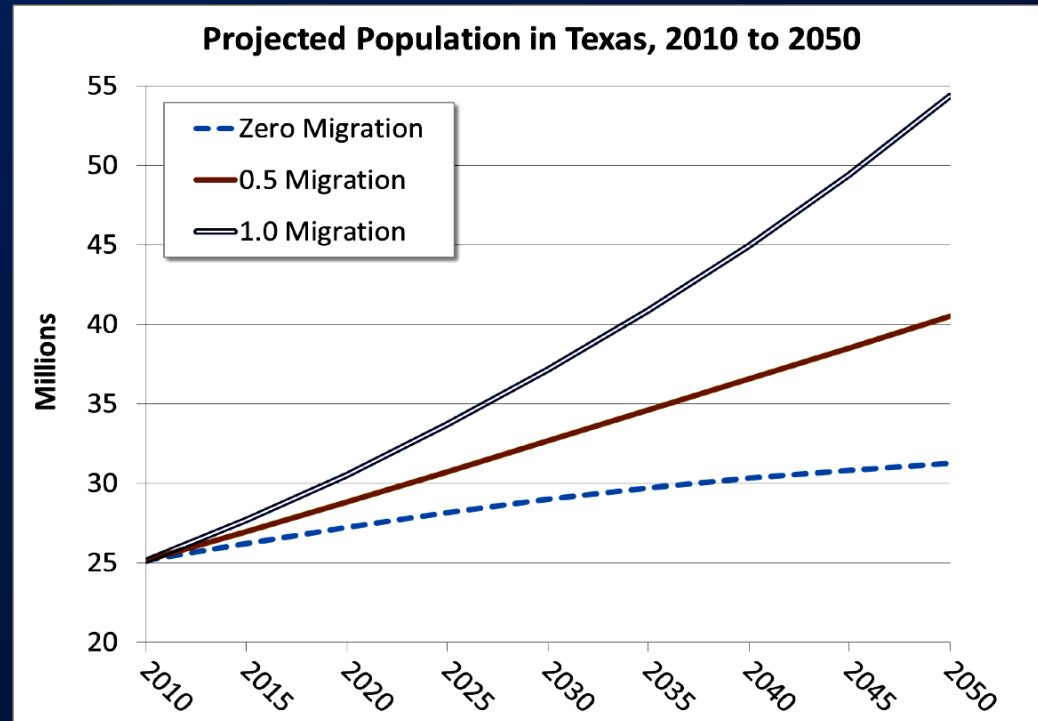
# Texas Population Growth

- Large and growing population compounds disaster numbers
- **2010** Texas population:  
25,145,561
- **2015** Texas population *estimate*:  
27,469,114
- *Estimated* population **increase** of 2,323,553 residents



# ...And Still Growing!

- Texas' population is projected to double to 54.4 million by 2050\*



\* Office of the State Demographer-  
Potter, Lloyd B. and Hoque Nazrul. 2014.



# Texas by the Numbers

- 254 *Counties* | 1,210 *Cities* | 1,024 *ISDs*
- Six of the most populous cities in the U.S.
  - #4 Houston
  - #7 San Antonio
  - #9 Dallas
  - #11 Austin
  - #16 Fort Worth
  - #19 El Paso





# Disasters in Texas

- 2010 – Present:
  - **Federally** Declared Disasters – 10
  - **Emergency** Declarations – 2
  - Fire Management Assistance Declaration (**FMAG**) – 58
  - **State** (only) Declared Disasters – 9

\*As of April 19, 2016



# Major Disaster Declarations Since 1953\*

•	10.	Missouri	58
•	9.	Alabama	59
•	8.	Arkansas	60
•	7.	Kentucky	61
•	6.	Louisiana	62
•	5.	Florida	67
•	4.	New York	70
•	3.	Oklahoma	78
•	2.	California	81

\*As of April 19, 2016



# Major Disaster Declarations Since 1953

- 1. TEXAS 93
  - EMER 13
  - FMAG 236
  - **TOTAL 341**
- The Lone Star State has recorded 92 **Major Disasters** in 63 years
- 1 EVERY 8.1 MONTHS





# Disaster Declaration Thresholds

- To qualify for federal assistance after a disaster states must meet a pre-established, population based damage threshold.

Thresholds	
<b>Texas</b>	<b>\$35,455,241</b>
Arkansas	\$ 4,111,444
Louisiana	\$ 6,932,055
Oklahoma	\$ 5,289,405
New Mexico	\$ 2,903,442





# Local Authority in Texas

- **Mayors** and **county judges** serve as emergency management directors
- Responsible for maintaining an emergency management program within their respective jurisdictions
- Officials often appoint an **emergency management coordinator** (EMC)
- Mayor and county judge are authorized by the Texas Disaster Act to declare a **local** disaster when conditions exist or when there is an immediate threat



# Incident Management in Texas

- Incidents typically **begin and end locally**, and are managed on a daily basis at the **closest possible** geographical, organizational, and jurisdictional level.





# Local Governments

- **Local governments** (counties, cities, or towns) respond to *emergencies* daily using their own resources
- They rely on **mutual aid** and assistance agreements with neighboring jurisdictions
- When local jurisdictions cannot meet incident response resource needs with their own resources or with help available from other local jurisdictions, they may ask the **state for assistance**



# Local Plans

- Texas jurisdictions develop emergency operations plans that consist of a **basic** plan and functional annexes and appendices.
- The Basic Plan outlines a jurisdiction's approach to emergency operations, and provides general guidance for emergency management activities.



# Texas State Law

- **Governor** appoints Public Safety Commission (PSC)(5 members)
- **Director**, Department of Public Safety (DPS) is appointed by the PSC
- **Chief**, DPS, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) is appointed by the DPS Director, with approval of the Governor





# Texas Government Code

- Sec. 418.102. COUNTY PROGRAMS. (a) Each county shall maintain an emergency management program or participate in a local or interjurisdictional emergency management program that, except as otherwise provided by this chapter, has jurisdiction over and serves the entire county or interjurisdictional area.



# Federal Government

- If an incident is beyond local and state capabilities, the **governor** can request federal assistance
- The governor's request is made through the **FEMA** Regional Administrator and based on a finding that the disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local governments, federal assistance is granted





# Texas – Strong **Partners** in Disaster Response

- Local jurisdictions
- Regional Organizations (RACs)
- Voluntary Organizations
- Special Response Teams (**Emergency Medical Task Force [EMTF]**, Texas Task Force 1, Public Works Response Team [PWRT])
- **Local volunteer special response teams (Search One, TEXSAR, TCSAR, AASAR)**
- Private Sector
- State Government (TDEM and the Emergency Management Council)
- Federal Government (FEMA, USGS, NWS)
- Media (TV, Print, Social)



# DDC, SC & DC

- Disaster District Chair (DDC)
  - Texas Highway Patrol (THP)
    - Captain/Lieutenant
- TDEM Regional State Coordinator (SC)
- TDEM District Coordinator (DC)



# DPS State Regions

- Texas is divided into 6 DPS regions.
- Region 7 is the Capitol Complex.
- Each region has a TDEM Field Response Regional State Coordinator.

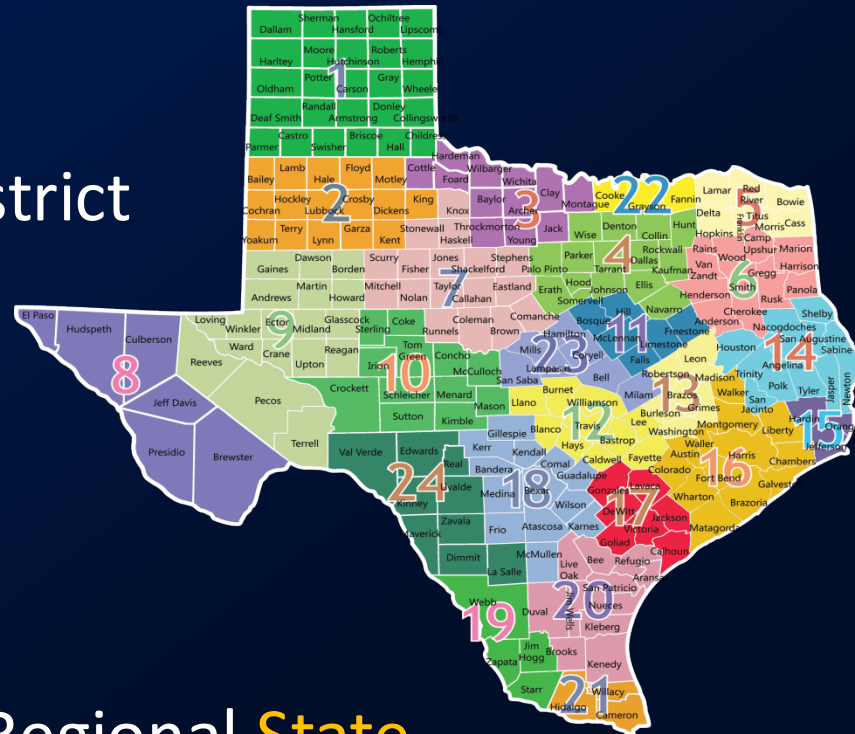




# State Disaster Districts

- Texas has **24** disaster districts.

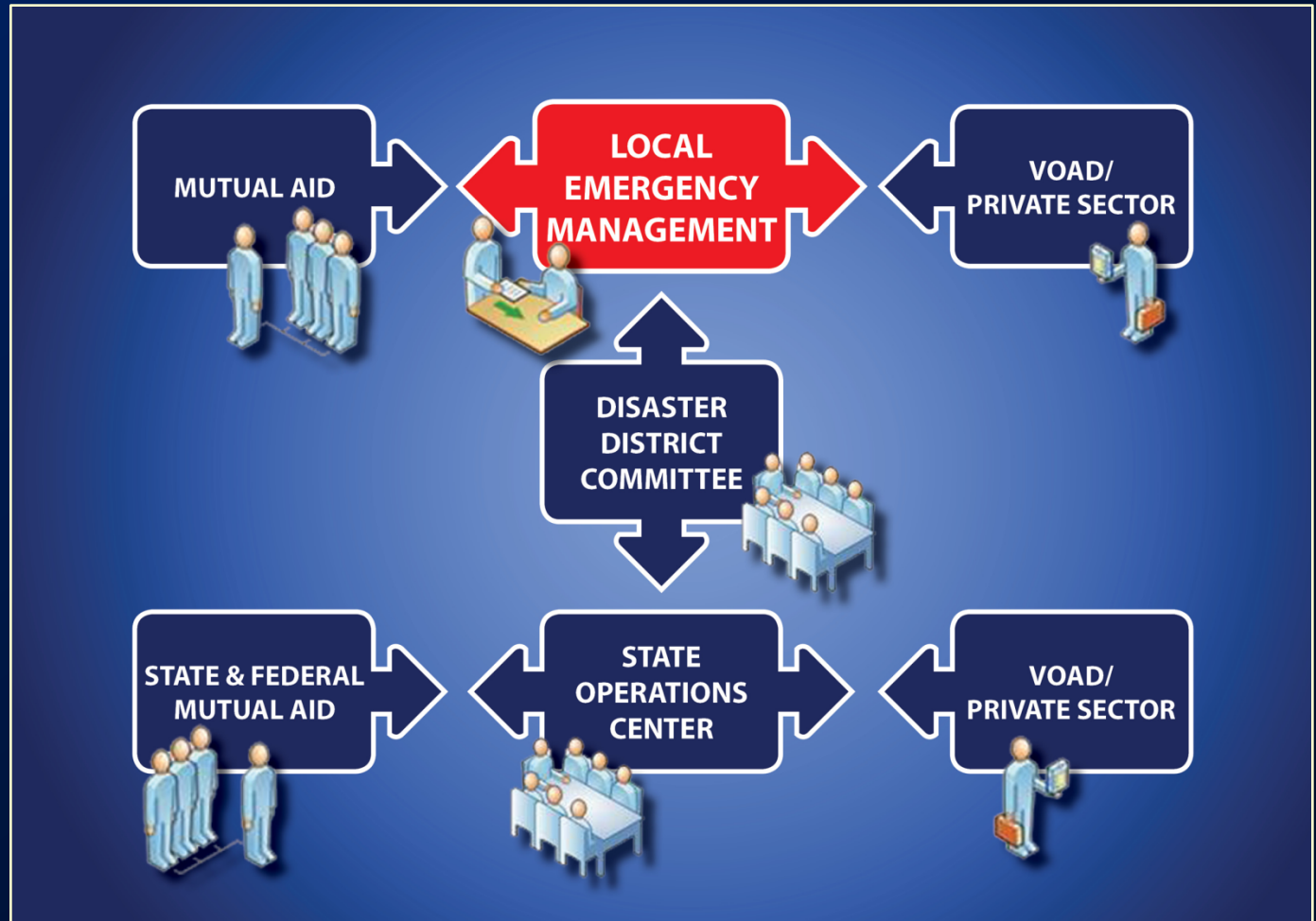
- Each disaster district has a TDEM **District Coordinator(s)**.



- Field Response Regional **State Coordinators** oversee the team of district coordinators.



# Requesting Assistance







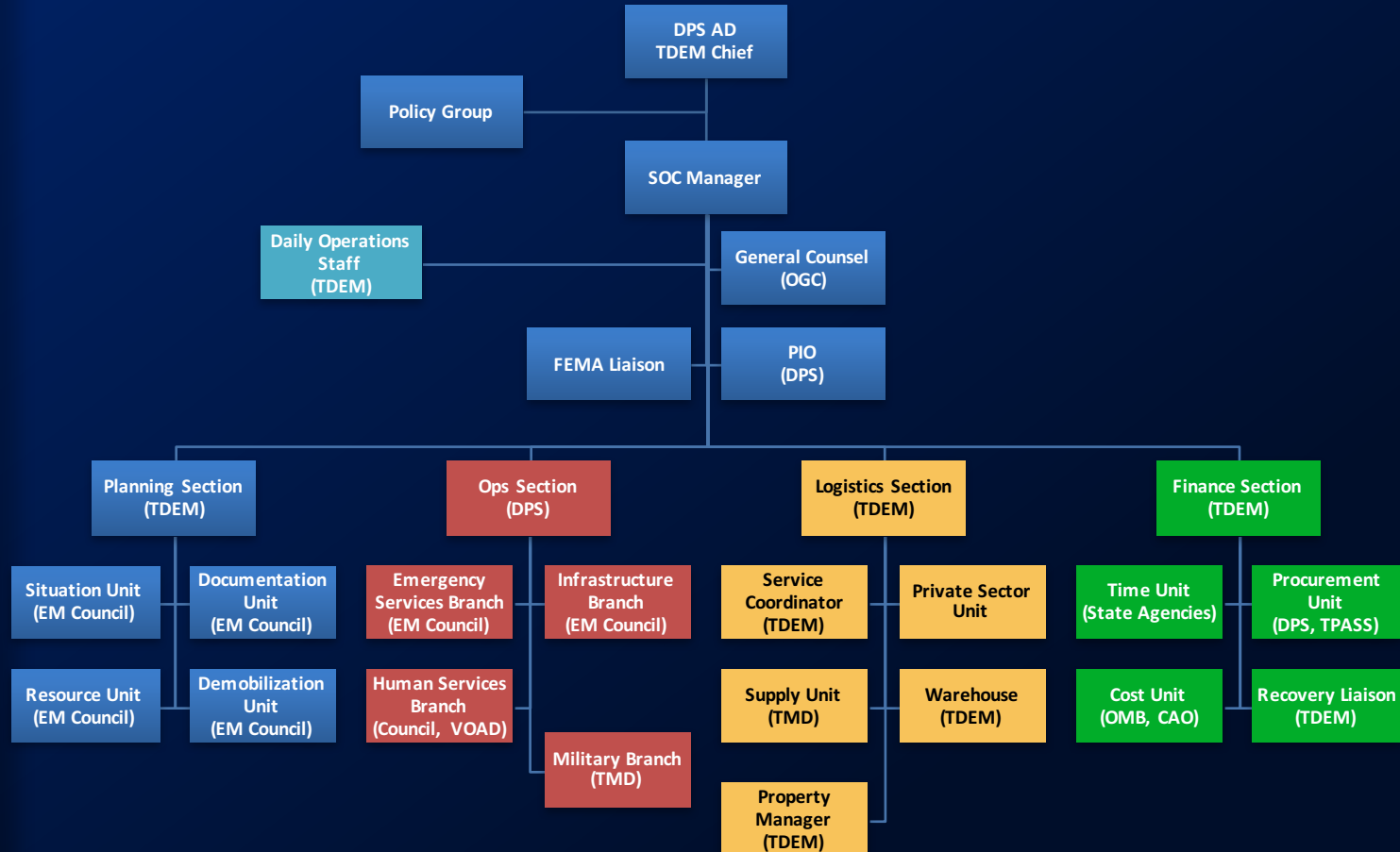
# Requesting State Assistance Through DDCs

- Staging areas
- Direction and control of resources
- Incident Management Team (IMT) support
- Facilities and equipment
- State and District Coordinator interface





# SOC Organization 2010 – 2016







# SOC Activation Process

SOC Daily Operations maintains situational awareness



Event or incident occurs



Notification of event or incident reaches the SOC



Incident monitored, but not determined WebEOC event

Incident is monitored, WebEOC event created if incident escalates



Additional support may be required



Event notifications are sent to the SMT and SOC Manager



Event may escalate; leadership decision and SOC is activated

Support reports to SOC:

- SMT
- EMC
- FEMA
- Recovery



Event or incident shows signs of diminished intensity; SOC transitions back to normal operations

After monitoring event or incident, no additional support is deemed necessary

Activated SOC monitors, reports, communicates and manages resource requests throughout the incident or event



SOC Daily Operations resume

SMT & EMC demobilize; all reports submitted to Finance Section & Documentation Unit









# Emergency Management Council (EMC)

- Texas Military Department
- American Red Cross
- Department of Information Resources
- General Land Office
- Texas Division of Emergency Management
- Public Utility Commission of Texas
- Railroad Commission of Texas
- Salvation Army
- State Auditor's Office
- State Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Texas Animal Health Commission
- Texas Attorney General's Office
- Texas Procurement and Support Services
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas Commission on Fire Protection
- Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services
- Texas Department of Agriculture
- Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
- Texas Department of Criminal Justice
- Texas Department of State Health Services
- Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- Texas Department of Insurance
- Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- Texas Department of Public Safety
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service
- Texas A&M Forest Service
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Texas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service



# Emergency Operations

- Level IV  
 Normal Conditions
- Level III  
 Increased Readiness
- Level II  
 Escalated Response Conditions
- Level I  
 Emergency Conditions



# State Operations Center (2016)







# How do Texans Support Each Other?

## DO:

- Relationship building **before** a disaster
- Combined planning, training and exercises

## DON'T:

- Wait until a disaster happens
- Self-deploy



# Why Prepare?

- Remember Texas is #1!
- In 2015, Texas experienced several significant events
  - DR-4223 (May to June 2015 Flooding and Severe Weather)
  - DR-4245 (October 2015 Flooding)
  - FM-5166 (Hidden Pines Fire)
  - DR-4255 (December 2015 Blizzard and Severe Weather)



# Why Prepare?

- In less than a 11 months, Texas has had **FIVE** Major Disaster Declarations
- 2016 started with:
  - **DR-4266** (March 2016 Severe Storms, Tornadoes and Flooding)
  - State declared (April 2016 Severe Storms and Flooding)







# DR-4223

- May to June 2015 near continuous heavy rains and severe weather
- Federally declared disaster in **113 counties**



Photo Credit: Top - Austin American Statesman, May 26, 2015  
Fisher Store Bridge Wimberley, TX



Photo credit: Top - San Antonio Express May 23, 2015  
Lightning, San Antonio, TX  
Bottom – Seguin Gazette, San Marcos River Flooding Caldwell/Guadalupe Counties , TX





# DR-4223 State Response

- One of the longest and most complex disasters Texas has experienced
- State Operations Center (SOC) activated at Level III – Increased Readiness Conditions or higher for **43 consecutive days**
- Over 40 state entities played a role in the response



# DR-4245

- October 2015 significant rainfall and severe weather
- Federally declared disaster in **22 counties**

KXAN  
San Marcos Flooding  
October 30, 2015



Bexar County Sheriff's Office  
Flooding Scenic Loop Low Road  
San Antonio, TX  
October 30, 2015





# DR-4255

- Multiple tornadoes in Dallas area
  - Hundreds of homes damage and destroyed
- Blizzard conditions experienced in west Texas and the Panhandle

Photo credit: Rowlett tornado aftermath, Dallas Morning News, December 27, 2015



Photo credit: Lubbock Cattle Drive, National Weather Service, December 27, 2015



# DR-4266

- **Historic flooding** along the Sabine, Neches and Trinity rivers
- State declared disaster in **21 counties**
- Federally declared disaster in **13 counties**



Photo credit: Texas Game Wardens, Newton County Flood, March 12, 2016





# April 2016 Flooding

- Houston region's worst flooding since Tropical Storm Allison (September 2001)
- State declared disaster in **nine counties**



Photo credit: KTRK ABC 13, evacuation, Houston, April 18, 2016



# April 2016 Flooding

- Highest Houston Metro Area two day recorded rainfall was **over 17** inches (April 18-19)
- Flooding and rainfall exceeded 2015 Memorial Day



Photo credit: Houston Chronicle, downtown Houston, April 18, 2016

Photo credit: Houston Chronicle, Horse Water Rescue, Houston, April 18, 2016







# Risks Change Rapidly!



May



October

Photo credit:  
Texas Public Radio  
Top – Riverwalk  
May 23, 2015  
KXAN  
Bottom – Hidden Pines Fire  
October 14, 2015





# Up Next...Hurricane Season

- June 1 – November 30
  - It only takes **one!**
  - #AreYouReady



# Texas Hurricane Evacuation Considerations

- Over 2 million people in evacuation zones
- Over 130 jurisdictions in evacuation areas
- 22 counties in storm surge inundation zones

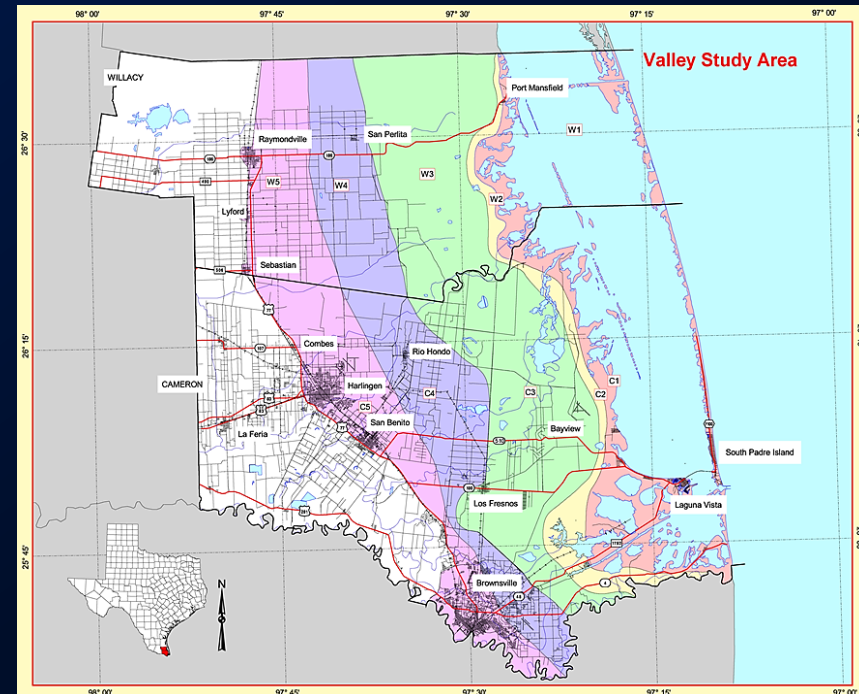






# RGV Full Scale Hurricane Exercise

- Multi-city evacuation and sheltering focused
- Local, state, and federal entities participating
- Will include air transportation assets





# Preparedness is for Everyone!

- Disasters aren't always large scale
  - Local **fires** and **floods** can impact a community just as much as a multi-jurisdiction disaster
- Keep up your **emergency plans**
- **All staff** have a role in safety during a disaster
- Training and drills



# Training

- All Hazards Focus
- [PreparingTexas.org](http://www.preparingtexas.org)

<https://www.preparingtexas.org/index.aspx>

- Approximately 73,159 users currently registered on PreparingTexas.org
- FY 2015 training
  - 405 Classes
  - 7,712 Students Trained
  - 119,845 Student Hours
- Includes several courses designed specifically for elected officials!



# Personal Responsibility

- Are you ready?
- Is your family prepared?
- Does your workplace have a plan?
- Does your church, place of worship or civic organization have a plan?
- Does your neighborhood have a plan?

# The Four Challenges







# The Four Challenges

- Be the **expert**



# The Four Challenges

- Be the **expert**
- Stay in your **lane**



# The Four Challenges

- Be the **expert**
- Stay in your **lane**
- **Collaborate** at all cost



# The Four Challenges

- Be the **expert**
- Stay in your **lane**
- **Collaborate** at all cost
- Make a **decision!**



# Texas Department of Public Safety



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