



Solid Waste Advisory Committee

**May 13, 2021
10:00 a.m.**

Agenda



Central Texas Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Electronic Meeting: 10:00 am

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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Access Code: 138-035-741

Agenda

1. Call to Order.
2. Public Comments.
3. Staff Update (pgs. 6-12):
 - a) RSWMP Update;
 - b) New SWAC Members;
 - c) Federal and State Updates;
 - d) TCEQ MSW Management and Resource Recovery Advisory Committee Nominations;
 - e) Other Resources;
 - f) Air Quality.
4. **Action Item:** Regarding approval of January 21, 2021, January 28, 2021, and March 1, 2021 meeting minutes (pgs. 14-18).
5. **Discussion Item:** Regarding FY21 HHW Events; Gatesville & Bell County Event Summaries (pgs. 20-22).
6. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding FY21 Interest and Remaining Implementation Funds (pgs. 24-25).
7. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding use of FY22-23 Solid Waste Funds (pg. 27).
8. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Call for Applications for FY22 HHW Events (pg. 29-36).
9. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Scrap Tire Resolution (pgs. 38-40).
10. **Discussion Item:** Regarding SUSTEX Case Study on the Centex Sustainable Communities Partnership (pgs. 42-53).
11. Member Comments/Discussion.

The Central Texas Council of Governments is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodations and equal opportunity for effective communications will be provided upon request. Please contact the CTCOG office at 254-770-2200 24 hours in advance if accommodation is needed. Citizens who desire to address the Board on any matter may sign up to do so prior to this meeting. Public comments will be received during this portion of the meeting. Comments are limited to 3 minutes maximum. No discussion or final action will be taken by the Committee.

12. Next Meeting Date: Thursday, June 24, 2021.

13. Adjournment.

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Item #3: Staff Update

Staff Update

- a) Staff will provide an update on the RSWMP update process. The final approved draft of the RSWMP is due to TCEQ on January 1, 2022. An updated schedule is included in the meeting packet.
- b) New SWAC members
- Marcie Seele was appointed on March 9, 2021 to replace Jeremy Allamon as the representative for the City of Belton.
 - Commissioner Henry Hubnik was appointed on March 10, 2021 to replace Opey Watkins as the representative for Milam County.
- c) Federal and State Updates
- Each year TCEQ collects and compiles data on the processing and disposal of municipal solid waste in the state. The report for 2019 was just published and can be viewed [here](#).
 - The Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC) produces a report for the Texas Legislature every two years summarizing the work done through the Solid Waste Grants program. You can view the FY18/19 report [here](#).
 - GCAA Award Winners – San Saba and Gatesville
 - Given to communities for their outstanding overall effort to keep their communities beautiful.
 - Copperas Cove, Gatesville, Nolanville, Salado, and San Saba also recognized for their continued excellence in recent years.
 - Legislative updates – included in the packet
- d) TCEQ Municipal Solid Waste Management and Resources Recovery Advisory Council (MSWMRRAC) Nominations
- The MSWMRRAC is an Advisory Council created in 1983 and comprised of 18 members who serve staggered 6 year terms. The Advisory Council reviews and evaluates the effects of state policies and programs relating to municipal solid waste management (MSW).

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Notice to Proceed – March 21, 2021 (anticipated)

Kick-off Meeting – April 1, 2021

Local Government Survey Drafted – May 1, 2021

Phase I Completion – July 31, 2021

Phase II Completion – September 31, 2021

Project Schedule

	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
Kick-off Meeting							
Notice to Proceed							
Data Gathering/Survey							
Gap Analysis							
Recommended Goals							
SWAC Meeting on Goals							
Completion of Plan Tables							
SWAC Meeting on Plan Recommendations							
Public Meeting							
Submittal to TCEQ							

FEE

The Project Fee will not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).

AZ&B will invoice the CTCOG on a percent complete basis for each of the two phases on a monthly basis.

Proposed Budget for CTCOG Regional Solid Waste Plan

	Dollars	Estimated Hours
Data Analysis	\$ 3,000	20
Gap Analysis	\$ 6,000	40
Recommended Goals	\$ 3,600	24
Completion of Plan Tables	\$ 9,100	61
Two SWAC Mtgs	\$ 1,500	10
One public meeting	\$ 1,800	13
	\$ 25,000	168

Assumes all meetings are virtual meetings

The Team will prepare draft goals and objectives for comment by SWAC

One map will be prepared illustrating location of solid waste facilities

Evaluation of alternatives will be limited to 40 hours for alternatives evaluation

One survey will be developed to identify existing programs in the Region.

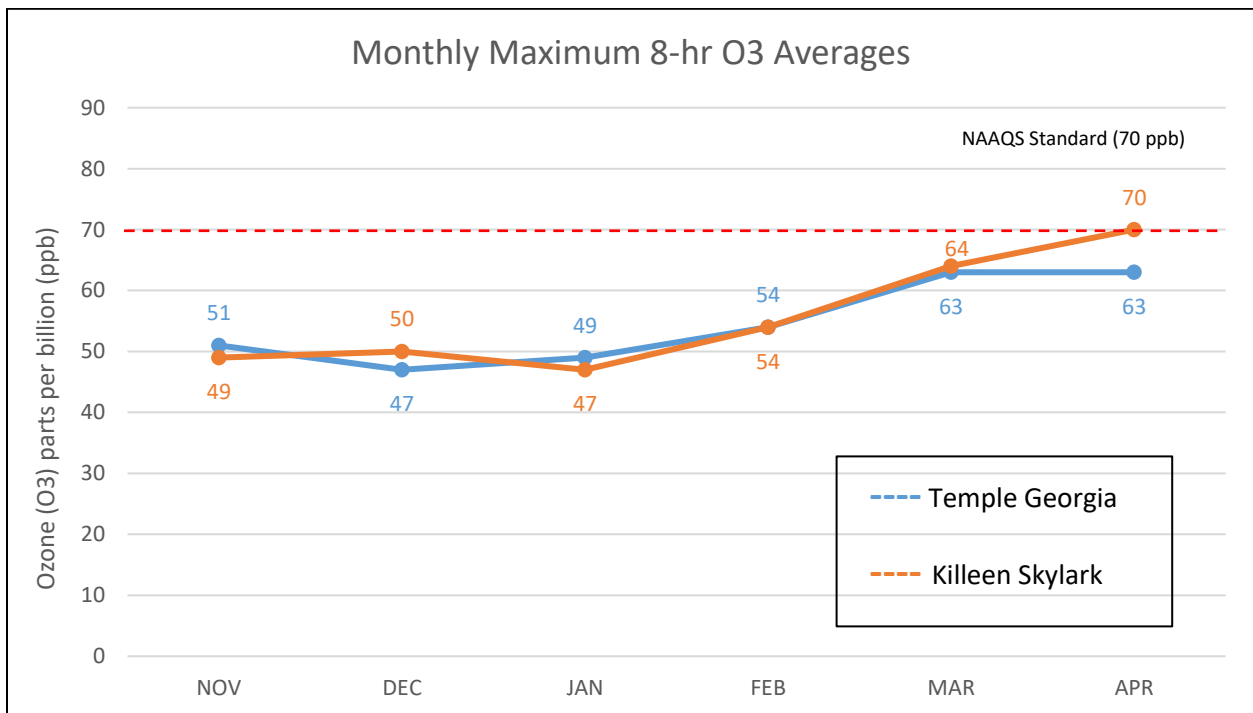
The CTCOG will be responsible for survey distribution and follow-up.

- TCEQ has put out a notice requesting nominations to fill 10 open positions. The positions are specific to different kinds of individuals including elected county and municipal officials, professional engineers, solid waste industry professionals, planners, and the general public.
- Individuals can be nominated by others or you can apply for yourself.
- For the full notice, application forms, and a description of the committee please visit: [TCEQ MSWMRRAC Page](#).

e) Other Resources

- The Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC) is hosting a half day Solid Waste workshop on May 20th on how to manage the difficult parts of a recycling program. [Link](#) to more information and how to register.
- 2021 Keep Texas Beautiful Conference: June 29 – July 1 ([Link](#))

f) Air Quality





Staff Report – City Council Agenda Item

Agenda Item #6

Consider an appointment to the Central Texas Council of Governments Solid Waste Board.

Originating Department

Administration – Amy M. Casey, City Clerk

Background

Jeremy Allamon, Assistant Director of Public Works, is currently serving as the City's representative on the CTCOG Solid Waste Board and has resigned. The Director of Public Works has recently promoted Marcie Seele to Public Works Programs Manager and wants her to replace Mr. Allamon on this board.

Fiscal Impact: None

Recommendation: Recommend approval of the appointment.

Attachments: None



Steve Young
Milam County Judge

March 9, 2021

James McGill
Regional Planner – CTCOG
2180 N. Main St.
Belton, Tx 76513

Mr. McGill,

On Monday, March 8, 2021, the Commissioner's Court of Milam County appointed Henry Hubnik as the Central Texas Council of Governments SWAC Representative. Mr. Hubnik is Commissioner in Precinct 1 and will fill the position previously held by Opey Watkins.

Thank you.

Steve Young
Milam County Judge

87th Texas State Legislation Tracking
Capital Area Council of Governments
SOLID WASTE RELATED LEGISLATION
(last updated 2/26/2021)

Bill No.	Companion	Status	Last Action Date	Stage	Author	District	Counties Represented	Party	Title	Synopsis
		Assigned to Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Cmte	2/25/2021	1	Ortega	77	El Paso	Democrat	Relating to common and public nuisances	Updates Section 1, §125.002, Civil Practice and Remedies Code: A court may issue a temporary restraining order, temporary injunction, or permanent injunction in a suit under this section. Sec. §125.0451. Temporary Restraining Order. (a) A court may issue a temporary restraining order without a formal hearing in a suit under Section 125.002 only if the person seeking the temporary restraining order shows in an ex parte hearing that a place is maintained in a manner that is a common nuisance or about to become a common nuisance. (b) A temporary restraining order issued under this section may not last for a period of more than 14 days. (c) A temporary restraining order issued under this section is not: (1) an injunctive order for the purposes of Section §125.003 or §125.045; or (2) a determination by the court that a person is maintaining a common nuisance for the purposes of Section §125.046. Sec. 3, Sections §125.047(d). If a municipality creates a fund under this section, the fund consists of (1) money awarded the municipality in an action under this chapter; (2) money awarded the municipality under a settlement to an action under this chapter; (3) fines resulting from code enforcement citations issued by the municipality for conduct defined as a common or public nuisance under this chapter; (4) bonds forfeited to the municipality under this chapter; and (5) donations or grants made to the municipality for the purpose of nuisance abatement.
HB 167	None+B31.6L1		2/25/2021	1	Ortega	77	El Paso	Democrat	Relating to common and public nuisances	
HB 176	None	Introduced	11/9/2020	1	Zweiner	45	Blanco, Hays	Democrat	Relating to local government prohibitions or restrictions on the sale or use of a container or package	Updates Section 1, Section §361.0961(a) H&SC providing prohibition rights of local government to adopt ordinance, rule, or regulation to prohibit or restrict, for solid waste management purposes, the sale or use of a container or package in a manner not authorized by state law.
HB 242	None	Referred to Natural Resources Cmte	2/25/2021	1	Zweiner	45	Blanco, Hays	Democrat	Relating to the authority of the TCEQ to require water pollution abatement plans from certain facilities regulated by the Railroad Commission of Texas.	SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 26, Water Code, is amended to require applicants for the exploration, development, or production of oil, gas, or geothermal resources under the authority of the Railroad Commission of Texas in the vicinity of the Edwards Aquifer to provide the TCEQ with a Water Pollution Abatement Plan.
HB 631	None	Referred to Environmental Regulations	3/1/2021	1	Darby	72	Coke, Concho, Glasscock, Howard, Irion, Reagan, Runnels, Sterling, Tom Green	Republican	Relating to local government and other political subdivision regulation of certain solid waste facilities	Provides updates to TH&SC Chapter (§361, Solid Waste Disposal Act, §361.095, removing requirement for a permit applicant to obtain a permit for siting, construction, or operation of a municipal solid waste facility from a local government or other political subdivision of the state as a prerequisite to a permit being issued by the TCEQ. Prohibits local government from adopting rule or ordinance that conflicts with the Commission's powers under TH&SC §316.011. Powers & Duties of the TCEQ, Commission's Jurisdiction. However, does not prevent or limit powers of municipality or county authority granted under TH&SC §363.112. Denial of Certain Landfill Permits (Type IV MSW Facilities - green waste, C&D, and/or rubbish only), or prevent or limit powers of county authority granted under TH&SC §364.012, Prohibiting Solid Waste Disposal in County (Solid Waste Facility Siting Ordinances).
HB 714	None	Referred to Environmental Regulation	3/1/2021	1	Reynolds	27	Fort Bend	Democrat	Establishment of the Texas Environmental Justice Advisory Council	Adds Chapter 428, Texas Environmental Justice Advisory Council, to Subtitle G, Title 5, H&SC, which establishes the Texas Environmental Justice Advisory Council to advise state agencies and local governments on environmental justice issues. Definitions; Membership - eight members appointed by Executive Director or Commissioners of TCEQ, TH&HS, Attorney General, TDH&CA, TDA, TxDOT, TDE, and Governor, to serve two year terms. Requires an Environmental Justice Review Board w/ 15 appointed members w/ 5 from grassroots or faith based community organizations, and 10 from public health, environmental, civil rights organizations, academia, large and small businesses, local government, and organized labor. Review Board will meet quarterly to advise the council and develop action plans. The council will review each state agency and state program that serves to protect the environment to evaluate the agency's or program's positive and negative effects on environmental justice for affected populations. Council shall report annually to agency or state program agency reviewed, governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house. Report shall identify each facility applying for a permit issued by the commission, and evaluate positive/negative effects on environmental justice for affected population and make recommendations on compliance. Report to be updated biennially beyond initial summary. Negatively affected populations may petition to create a community action plan to be created by the Council. Council shall work with Review Board to establish such Community Action Plans.
HB 753	None	Referred to Environmental Regulation	3/1/2021	1	Cain	128	Harris	Republican	Relating to municipal solid waste management services contracts; limiting the amount of a fee.	Updates Texas Health and Safety Code, 363.120 and 364.034 by stating a municipality may not charge a person granted a franchise to provide solid waste management services in the municipality franchise fees of more than two percent of the gross receipts of the franchisee for the sale of services in the municipality, a municipality may not restrict the right of an entity to contract with a person other than the municipality or an exclusive franchisee of the municipality for solid waste management services for commercial, industrial, or multifamily residential waste
HB 860	None	Referred to Environmental Regulation	3/1/2021	1	Collier	95	Tarrant	Democrat	Relating to changes to an application for an environmental permit before a contested case hearing on the application	Amends Government Code 2003.47 by adding an applicant before the TCEQ whose application has been referred for a contested case hearing to be held in accordance with this section may not request changes to the application after the 31st day before the date scheduled for the preliminary hearing on the application. If an applicant chooses to not proceed with the preliminary hearing on the application on or before the 31st day before the date scheduled for the preliminary hearing, the applicant must withdraw the application with or without prejudice in accordance with commission rule. If an applicant who has withdrawn an application without prejudice subsequently resubmits a revised application, the applicant must comply with applicable notice and other requirements in effect on the date the revised application is submitted to the commission does not apply to a change made to an application for which: (1) a preliminary hearing has been held and parties to the hearing have been named; (2) all parties to the hearing have agreed in writing to the proposed changes; and, (3) the applicant has complied with applicable notice requirements. Repeals Section 382.0291(d), Health and Safety Code.
HB 960	None	Referred to Environmental Regulation	3/1/2021	1	Allen	131	Harris	Democrat	Relating to the location of certain public meetings for certain permits issued by the TCEQ	Updates Section 5.554 Texas Water Code to state a public meeting requested under Subsection (a)(1) shall be held in the house district in which the facility or proposed facility is located or proposed to be located.
HB 964	None	Referred to Energy Resources	3/1/2021	1	Darby	72	Coke, Concho, Glasscock, Howard, Irion, Reagan, Runnels, Sterling, Tom Green	Republican	Relating to the treatment, recycling for beneficial use, or disposal of drill cuttings	Updates definitions under Section 123.001 Natural Resources Code for "Drill Cuttings" to expand the definition to include any associated sand, silt, drilling fluid, spent completion fluid, workover fluid, debris, water, brine, oil scum, paraffin, or other material cleaned out of the wellbore, and "permit holder" to include disposal. Also, updates Section 123.003 NRC to include disposal under responsibility in Tort.
HB 968	None	Referred to Environmental Regulation	3/1/2021	1	Dutton	142	Harris	Democrat	Relating to public comments on matters subject to a hearing under the jurisdiction of the TCEQ	Updates Section 5.555 Water Code, to require the TCEQ Executive Director to respond to and consider all public comments filed during the public comment period, not just those the Executive Director may consider relevant material.
HB 969	None	Referred to Environmental Regulation	3/1/2021	1	Dutton	142	Harris	Democrat	Relating to the definition of "affected person" for purposes of a contested case hearing held by or for the TCEQ regarding certain environmental permit applications	For the purpose of an administrative hearing held by or for the commission involving a contested case regarding a permit application referred under Section 5.556 or 5.557 Water Code, the state senator and representative who represent the area in which the facility to which the application relates is located or proposed to be located are considered affected persons.

HB 975	None	Referred to Environmental Regulation	3/1/2021	1	Dutton	142	Harris	Democrat	Relating to the notice of intent to obtain a permit from the TCEQ	Amends Section 5.552, Water Code, placing public notice requirements contained under Chapters 26 & 27 Water Code, Chapter 361 H&SC, into 5.552 WC requiring not later than 30 days after the date the TCEQ determines the application to be administratively complete a sign at the proposed site that states an application for a facility has been filed, the name of and contact information for the applicant, the proposed site use, and the manner in which the applicant may be contacted for further information. The sign required must have dimensions not smaller than 18 inches by 28 inches, consist of dark letters on a white background, and consist of lettering at least 1.5 inches in height and in block capital letters.
HB 1191	None	Introduced	1/19/2021	1	Goodwin	47	Travis	Democrat	Relating to the creation of the Office of Environmental Justice within the TCEQ	Amends Chapter 5, Water Code, to add an Office of Environmental Justice, Subchapter G-1, within the TCEQ. Establishes definition for "Environmental Justice Community" where-in >30% or more of the noninstitutionalized population consists of persons who have an income below 200% of the federal poverty level; or, >50% or more of the population consists of members of racial minority or ethnic minority groups. Defines "permitted facility" as any under Chapters 361 or 382 Texas Health & Safety Code, or Chapters 26 or 27 of Water Code. Establishes general responsibility of the office of Environmental Justice to protect the public health, general welfare, and physical property of environmental justice communities in regard to the issuance of permits. Further defines "affected environmental justice community" as any such community within 3 miles of a proposed or existing facility. States the office shall provide a recommendation to the commission on whether a permit should be issued. In making such decision the office shall consider whether the cumulative effects of pollution from the proposed permitted facility or change to an existing facility on the affected environmental exceeds the statewide average; and, any existing or anticipated vulnerabilities in the affected environmental justice community. This includes: existing pollution levels and exposure levels; limited access to health care by residents; health factors of the residents including prevalence of asthma and other respiratory diseases, and cancer. Must consider proximity of the proposed permitted facility to single or multi-family residences; schools; places of worship; day care centers; hospitals or other medical facilities. Such information must be provided by the seventh day following the public comment period for the permit application. Establishes requirement the Commission consider such recommendations in making determinations on whether to issue a permit. Establishes staffing as deemed necessary and allows for outside assistance.
HB 2104	None	Introduced	2/23/2021	1	Campos	119	Bexar	Democrat	Relating to the County provision of solid waste disposal services	Updates Section 1, Section 364.011(a), Health & Safety Code, to set a population of 500,000 or less benchmark for consideration of a Commissioners court to by rule regulate solid waste collection, handling, storage, and disposal in areas of the county not in a municipality or ETJ of a municipality. Adds 364.011(a)(2), to set a population of more than 500,000 as the benchmark requiring the county commissioners court to regulate solid waste collection, handling, storage, and disposal in areas not in a municipality or the ETJ of a municipality. This will require Travis County Commissioners Court to regulate SW Services in the County. Williamson County currently remains below the >500,000 benchmark.
HB 2144	None	Introduced	2/23/2021	1	Harris	8	Anderson, Freestone, Hill, Navarro	Republican	Relating to the tort of public nuisance	Section 1, Title 4, Civil Practice and Remedies Code, is amended by adding Chapter 100F Public Nuisance, which refines the definition of public nuisance violation and provides remedies for the tort of public nuisance. This bill curtails the use of common law public nuisance lawsuits brought by government using outside counsel, and revises the way individuals file common law public nuisance cases. Does not affect a local governments ability to enforce public nuisance violations under TH&SC Chapters 341 or 343.
SB 211	None	Introduced	11/18/2020	1	Zaffirini	21	Laredo	Democrat	Relating to the judicial review of acts by the TCEQ.	Updates TH&SC Chapter 361.321 by defining time required to appeal an administrative order through filing a petition to be the same as required by Section 5.531, Texas Water Code, which is 30 days.
SB 594	None	Introduced	2/5/2021	1	Hinojosa	20	Bexar	Democrat	Relating to the provision of solid waste disposal services by certain counties.	Updates Section 1, Section 364.011 (a-1) which would allow a commissioners court by rule to regulate solid waste collection, handling, storage, and disposal by establishing a mandatory program under Section 364.034 in an area of the county located within the ETJ of a municipality if (1) the municipality does not provide solid waste disposal services in that area; and (2) the county is adjacent to the US Mexican Border and either has a population of <300,000 and contains a municipality with a population of 200,000 or more, or has a population of >700,000 and contains at least two municipalities that each have a population of 77,000 or more. Provides for the collection of a fee for such service, and establishes Commissioner's Court authorization to adopt orders to enforce the requirement, including civil or administrative penalty in an amount reasonable and necessary to ensure compliance.
SB 765	None	Introduced	2/23/2021	1	Huffman	17	Brazoria, Fort Bend, Harris	Republican	Relating to seller's disclosures regarding the proximity of certain residential real property to certain landfills and related facilities.	Updates Property Code, Section 1, Section 5.008(b) to Require seller's disclosure notices to include reporting on any portion of the property that is located within one mile of the boundary of a MSW facility which requires a permit or registration issued by the TCEQ.

Item #4: Meeting Minutes



SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 21, 2021

10:00 AM

Electronic Meeting

Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG)
2180 North Main Street
Belton, TX 76513

Solid Waste Advisory Committee Voting Members Present

Chair Zoe Rascoe – Citizen Representative
Vice Chair Bill Parry – City of Gatesville
Bill Gould – City of Killeen
Justin Brantley – City of Temple

Second Vice Chair Duane Herrera – Bell County
John Trigg – Industry Representative
Paul Daugereau – Waste Management
Mark Hyde – City of Harker Heights

Additional Attendees

Kara Escajeda – City of Nolanville
James McGill – CTCOG

Kendra Coufal – CTCOG

1. Call to Order: Zoe Rascoe called the meeting to order at 10:03am.

2. Public Comments: No comments were made by the public.

3. Staff Update: RSWMP Update; FY 21 HHW Events; Air Quality.

James McGill provided an update on the RSWMP Updated process. Mr. McGill stated that the time and location of upcoming spring HHW events. Air Quality for the month of December was 47 ppb at the Temple station and 50 ppb at the Killeen station. Bill Parry asked if there was any official guidance on running an event during the Covid-19 pandemic. Justin Brantley shared some ideas and thoughts from the event Temple ran in October.

4. Action Item: Approval of October 22, 2020 meeting minutes.

Bill Parry made a motion to approve the October 22, 2020 electronic meeting minutes, seconded by Paul Daugereau; the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion Item: Regarding Temple HHW Summary.

James McGill stated that the Temple HHW event in October had been successfully held with 619 attendees. Mr. McGill shared data on where attendees were from, items brought, and previous attendance gathered from surveys taken at the event.

6. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding Statement of Work (SOW) for RSWMP Update.

Zoe Rascoe informed the group that over the past few months the RSWMP Updated Subcommittee has been exploring the possibility of hiring a consultant with the excess Solid Waste Implementation funds to help finish the Plan update. Ms. Rascoe stated that the Subcommittee desires to not just update the numbers in the plan, but to have a feasible and sustainable action plan and goals. James McGill shared some of the necessary requirements to proceed with this course of action, the first being to have a Statement of Work submitted to TCEQ for approval and then to approve an RFP to gather proposals. Bill Parry asked if there was a guarantee from TCEQ that they would approve the SOW quickly. Mr. McGill stated that he expected the approval and RFP process to be swift and give the consultant ample time to complete the Plan Update.

Bill Parry made a motion to approve the Statement of Work language to be included in the final RFP for the CTCOG RSWMP update, seconded by Justin Brantley; the motion passed unanimously.

7. Discussion Item: Regarding an update to the SWAC Bylaws

Kendra Coufal informed the SWAC that CTCOG's Planning staff over the past several months has been undergoing a process to conform all Advisory Committee Bylaws to the CTCOG Official Bylaws. Ms. Coufal explained that the yellow highlights in the bylaws was language added directly from the Official Bylaws and the green highlights were staff recommended changes. James McGill pointed out the major staff recommendations which included removing redundant language about which members had voting powers, removing language requiring the Meeting Chair to be physically present, and adding an attendance requirement to maintain SWAC Membership. Zoe Rascoe asked if members who are removed due to attendance could still receive SWAC updates and information to ensure that no area of our region misses anything. Mr. McGill responded affirmatively and stated that official action to amend the bylaws would be taken at the next SWAC meeting.

8. Discussion Item: Federal Updates.

James McGill informed the SWAC of the new National Recycling Strategy that EPA is developing and about an article on future disposal issues with renewable energy source materials once they reach their end of life.

9. Discussion Item: State Updates.

James McGill informed the group of several updates from the state level regarding Solid Waste legislation being considered by the Texas Legislature, TCEQ's 2019 Municipal Solid Waste Review report, and their Biennial Report to the Legislature. Mr. McGill also shared information regarding the Governor's Community Achievement Award (GCAA) grant opportunity through Keep Texas Beautiful, and the Take Care of Texas Kids Art Contest sponsored by TCEQ.

10. Discussion Item: Regarding electronics recycling and disposal of home medical waste.

James McGill shared with the group that staff has received an increase in the number of calls asking where to dispose of TVs and other e-waste, as well as a call from Fort Hood asking about the proper disposal of home medical waste. Mr. McGill asked if the SWAC had any knowledge or recommendations for e-waste recycling and home medical waste disposal. John Trigg stated that there are not many opportunities because it is difficult or not worth it to go after those waste categories.

11. Member Comments:

No member comments.

12. Next Meeting: May 2021

13. Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

These meeting minutes were approved by the SWAC members at their meeting on _____.

Zoe Rascoe, SWAC Chair

Uryan Nelson, CTCOG PRS Director



SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, January 29, 2021

3:30 PM

Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG)
2180 North Main Street
Belton, TX 76513

1. Call to Order.

- The meeting was held electronically using a Survey Monkey poll. The poll was open from January 28, 2021 to January 29, 2021.

2. ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) Update RFP.

- The item is to approve a Request for Proposals (RFP) for CTCOG to send out and solicit consultants to assist in completing our mandatory update of the 20-year RSWMP.
- Following approval of the RFP and receipt of proposals, the consultant options will be brought before the SWAC for their review and final selection.

The SWAC voted to approve the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) Update RFP; the vote was unanimous.

3. ADJOURNMENT.

- Voting concluded on Friday, January 29 at 5p.m.

These meeting minutes were approved by the SWAC members at their meeting on _____.

Zoe Rascoe, SWAC Chair

Uryan Nelson, CTCOG PRS Director



SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Monday, March 1, 2021

8:00 AM

Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG)
2180 North Main Street
Belton, TX 76513

1. Call to Order.

- The meeting was held electronically using a Survey Monkey poll. The poll was open from March 1, 2021 to March 2, 2021.

2. ACTION ITEM: APPROVE selecting Arredondo, Zepeda & Brunz LLC as the contractor for CTCOG's Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) Update.

- The item is to approve the selection of Arredondo, Zepeda & Brunz LLC as the contractor to complete CTCOG's mandatory update of the 20-year RSWMP for the period of 2022-2042.

The SWAC voted to approve the selection of Arredondo, Zepeda & Brunz LLC as the contractor for CTCOG's Regional Solid Waste Management Plan (RSWMP) Update; the vote was unanimous.

3. ADJOURNMENT.

- Voting concluded on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 5p.m.

These meeting minutes were approved by the SWAC members at their meeting on _____.

Zoe Rascoe, SWAC Chair

Uryan Nelson, CTCOG PRS Director

Item #5: FY21 HHW Events

FY21 HHW Events Update

Upcoming Events

- Killeen HHW Event – May 15th (9am – 2pm)
- Milam County Tire Event – June 5th

Past Event Summaries

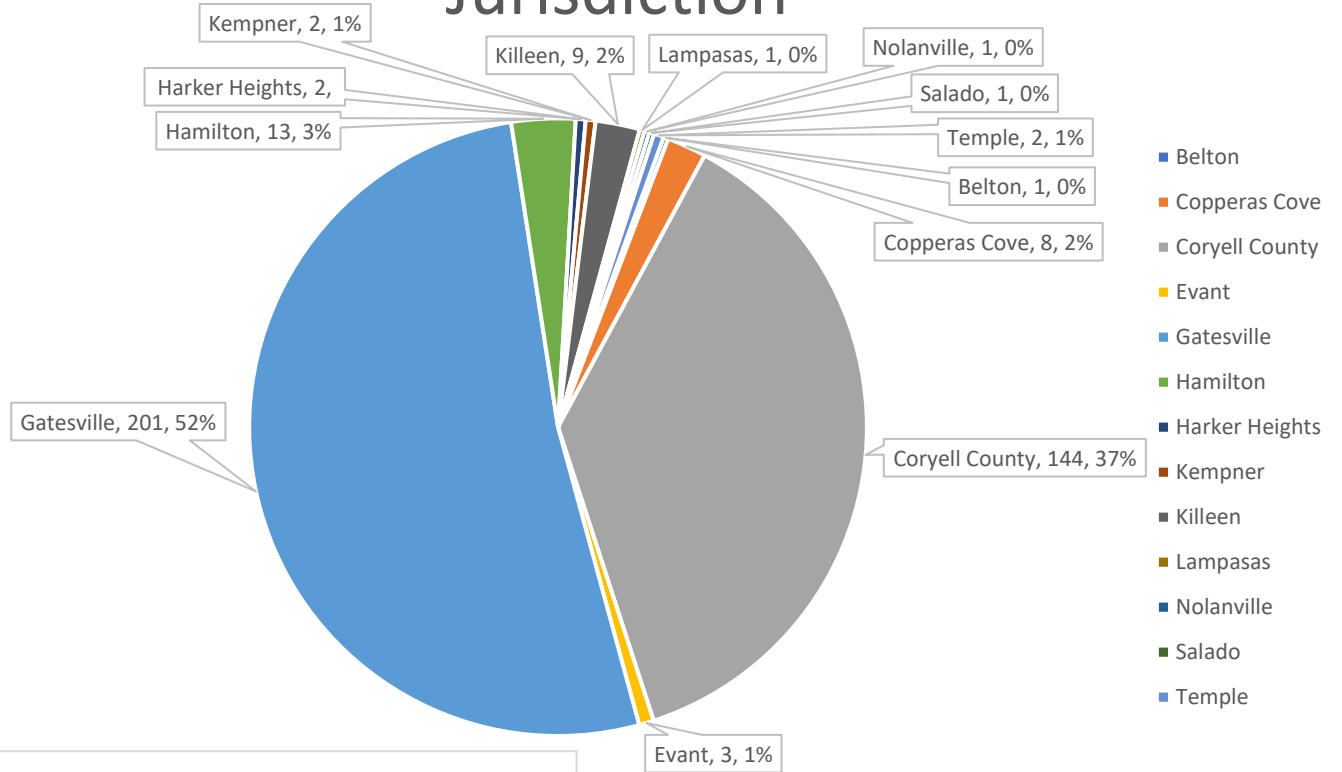
- The City of Gatesville held an HHW Event on February 27, 2021. The event had a total of 388 attendees with most coming from the City of Gatesville or Coryell County, followed by Hamilton, Killeen, and Copperas Cove. More event data is listed in the following pages.
- Bell County held a Tire Event on April 16th and 17th. They collected 2,763 small tires and 247 large tires.

Action Item: No action needed; for discussion only.

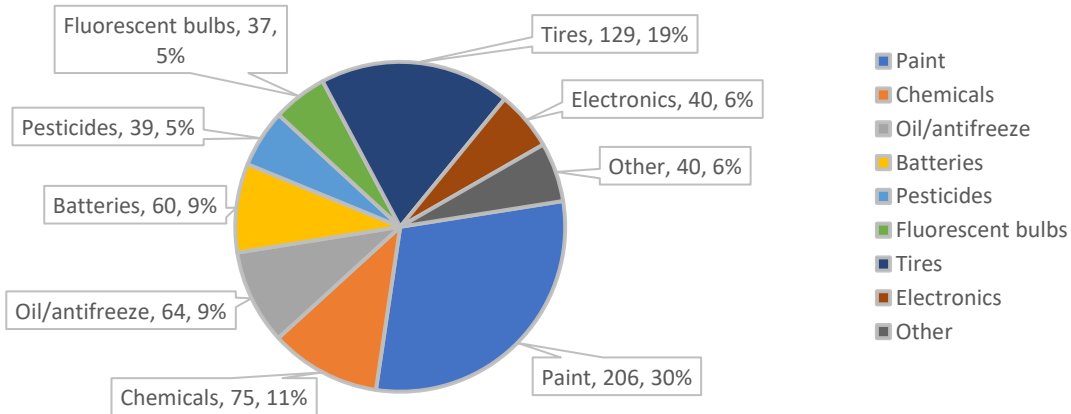
City of Gatesville 2021 HHW Event

- 388 attendees
- Most attendees were Gatesville or Coryell County residents
- Paint, Tires, and Chemicals were the most common items dropped off
- 19% of attendees brought tires

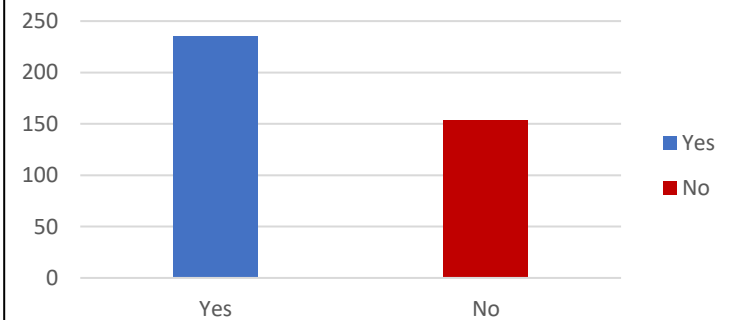
Jurisdiction



Items



Total



Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event

Saturday, May 15, 2021 9am-2pm

Killeen Special Events Center - 3301 South W.S. Young Dr.

Accepting (At NO Charge):

Fluorescent Bulbs/Tubes

Petroleum Products

Pesticides/Herbicides

Acids/Other Chemicals

Household Cleaners

Cooking Oil

Paints

Antifreeze

Used Oils

Batteries



DO NOT BRING:

**Tires, Electronics, Fire Alarms, Smoke Detectors,
Explosives, Pressurized Containers, Brush**



This event is open to residents of Bell, Coryell, Hamilton,
Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba Counties.

Please bring proof of residency.



**Item #6:
FY21 Interest and Remaining
Implementation Funds**

Additional FY21 Implementation Funds

Per our contract with TCEQ, all Solid Waste grant funds are placed in interested bearing accounts when received. Any interest earned by CTCOG through those accounts may be used in any budget category including implementation projects. Currently, there is \$2,944.65 in Earned Interest that is available for use. These funds can be spent in this biennium or they may be rolled over to FY21 for use in the next biennium.

In addition, there is also \$8,492 in remaining implementation funds that must be used by the end of FY21. These funds cannot be carried over to FY22.

Staff has listed several ways these funds have been utilized in the past as potential options for this biennium. This list is not exhaustive nor is the SWAC limited to only these options.

- Use funds to purchase recycling bins for distribution in the region.
 - Approximately 25 bins if all funds are used.
 - Approximately 20 bins if only the leftover FY21 implementation funds are used.
- Give funds to any past or upcoming HHW event in held in FY20 or FY21.
- Put funds toward the upcoming Temple event on October 13, 2021.
 - Possible because we are extending our contract with TCEQ for 90 days due to the RSWMP update.
 - Temple's event will fall within that 90 day window and therefore will occur during this current contract period.
- Move the Earned Interest funds to the next biennium.

Total available funds: \$11,436.65

Action Item: Determine Use of FY21 Earned Interest and Remaining Implementation Funds.

Previous Event Funding

	City of Gatesville	City of Killeen	City of Temple	Milam County	Bell County
<u>FY21</u>	Event Cost: \$32,868.78 City: \$17,868.78 COG: \$15,000 # of cars: 388	City Contribution: \$20,000 Funding Allocation: \$20,000	Event Cost: \$41,538.42 City: \$26,538.42 COG: \$15,000 # of cars: 619	County Contribution: \$5,000 Funding Allocation: \$10,000	County Contribution: \$2,000 Funding Allocation: \$2,000
<u>FY20</u>	Event Postponed to FY21	Event Cost: \$58,258.50 City: \$43,258.50 COG: \$15,000 # of cars: 590	Event Cost: \$64,904.47 City: \$49,904.47 COG: \$15,000 # of cars: 543	No Event	No Event

Item #7:
FY22-23 Solid Waste Funds

Determination of Use for FY22-23 Funds

TCEQ is currently in development of contract documents and budgets for the Solid Waste Grants Program for the FY22-23 biennium.

CTCOG's budget for the FY20-21 biennium included \$60,000 each fiscal year for Implementation projects. Staff anticipates that a similar amount will be available each year of the next biennium. During the FY20-21 biennium the SWAC decided to continue using all implementation funds on regional Household Hazardous Waste Events.

Staff would like recommendations or feedback from the SWAC on how to utilize Solid Waste Implementation Funds for the FY22-23 biennium.

Action Item: Determine use of FY22-23 Solid Waste Implementation Funds.

**Item #8:
Application for FY22 HHW
Events**

Call for Applications for FY22 HHW Events

If SWAC chooses to continue the HHW program as in previous fiscal years, a call for applications will be held during summer 2021 to select which entities will host an event in FY22 (October 2021 through September 2022). Entities wishing to host an HHW event will be required to fill out an application approved by SWAC. Representatives from entities will be given the opportunity to present their application at the October 2021 meeting with SWAC members selecting entities and funding amounts per entity.

Attached to this meeting packet is the application. Staff is requesting feedback and approval on the call for applications. If approved, staff is seeking a recommendation on the start and end dates for the call. The call for FY21 applications was open for 40 days and ran from July 20th through August 28th, 2020.

Action Item: Approve Call for Applications for FY2022 HHW events.

Call for Applications:

Household Hazardous Waste Events – Fiscal Year 2022

The Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) is requesting applications from cities or counties interested in hosting a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection event during FY 2021. Fiscal Year 2022 begins on September 1, 2021.

This application is due back to CTCOG staff no later than August 1, 2021. The SWAC will vote to select events at their next meeting, tentatively October 14, 2021 at the CTCOG offices. Be prepared to have a representative present to answer questions regarding your site or your ability to contribute funds or labor. Note that on page three of the application form is a selection of background information and lessons learned.

Please contact James McGill if you have any questions: (254)-770-2366 or james.mcgill@ctcog.org.

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT
Application for FY 2022**

Applications are due to CTCOG by 5 P.M. on August 1, 2021. You may send them via email to james.mcgill@ctcog.org, or mail a hard copy to:

Central Texas Council of Governments
Attn: James McGill, Solid Waste Coordinator
2180 N. Main Street
Belton, Texas 76513

CTCOG is located at **2180 North Main Street in Belton, Texas**. For directions, please call **(254) 770-2200**. Applicants should attend the **October 2021** meeting of the **Central Texas Council of Governments Solid Waste Advisory Committee**, in order to present a tentative plan for the event, explain why their location should be selected, and to answer questions from the committee. The meeting will be at 10:00 and be held at the CTCOG offices. The Solid Waste Committee will select the event locations based on the cases presented and funding levels.

Please fill out the questions below to explain why your entity should host a HHW event. Additional space for questions can be found on page 5 of this application and attach any support documentation that is appropriate.

1. Has your City/County ever held a Household Hazardous Waste Event?

Yes No

• If so, when? (MM/YYYY)

• If known, how many people attended?

2. If selected to host an event, how many people do you anticipate will attend?

Please provide an explanation on how you got your answer.

Information from past events:

- Past CTCOG contribution towards cost: \$10,000 - \$20,000
- Past turnout for urban area (Killeen or Temple): 400-500+ cars
- Past turnout for rural area (Hamilton or Gatesville): 120-300+ cars
- Past total cost for urban events: \$40,000 - \$60,000+
- Past total cost for rural events: \$20,000 - \$35,000
- Cost for tire trailer provided by contractor: \$2400 (approximate)
- Cost for electronics vendor on site - Depends on vendor / contract
- Newspaper advertising – depends on local paper classified ad rates. Ads are most effective in the community where the event takes place, less so with increasing distance. (In other words, an ad in the San Saba paper is unlikely to result in anyone from San Saba attending an event in Cameron). Check with your local paper for cost of ads based on size, graphics and color.

Most effective advertising: local newspaper, water bill inserts, church announcements, community billboards.

Lessons learned:

- One way traffic works best – having people enter and exit through a single entry point can cause traffic jams, confusion to the drivers, and may increase the risk of a car striking a pedestrian
- Combined events (HHW in conjunction with a city-wide clean-up) may increase confusion to the public regarding acceptable items for disposal, times, or locations. Staff or volunteers will have to identify the visitor's purpose and direct them to the correct location. It may require traffic to cross paths or have to merge back in line, and can make data collection difficult if people are being counted that aren't bringing hazardous waste. However, it can work given the appropriate location. If you are considering this, please contact your solid waste coordinator for more information.
- Maximize the use of volunteers to help direct traffic, take surveys, hand out promotional items, unload tires, etc. The quicker a car can be received, surveyed, unloaded and moved out, the happier your residents are going to be. Traffic won't back up, tempers won't flare, and you just have a better flow of cars through the site.
- Brief the volunteers and paid employees well before the scheduled opening time. That helps everyone understand how cars will be directed to flow through the site, and what

their part will be. Also, you can brief them on the safety hazards involved with moving vehicles, hazardous chemicals, heat exhaustion, etc.

- Expect people to begin arriving at the event at least one hour prior to the posted start time, especially in the rural areas.
- Volunteers or paid staff are a necessity.
- Please provide access to bathrooms.
- If your entity is selected, please reserve the event location a few days in advance as so that contractors can set up their stations before the event date.

Item #9: Scrap Tire Resolution

Scrap Tire Resolution

The illegal dumping and stockpiling of scrap tires are major statewide issue that the CTCOG region is not exempt from as many solid waste professionals are aware. TCEQ has been pursuing an effort with the US Tire Manufacture Association (USTMA) over the past year to address the scrap tire stockpile problem and discuss possible abatement ideas.

The two organizations held a workshop that was well attended in October and plan to continue information sharing regarding scrap tire stockpiles in Texas and possible remediations of the issue.

Additional information on this topic:

- [TCEQ 2019 Annual Report Summary](#)
- [TCEQ Resources - 5 Year Scrap Tire Management Plan](#)

Staff, with the assistance of Kara Escajeda, have utilized information from the workshop and other sources to put together a Resolution on acknowledging the challenge of properly disposing scrap tires and committing to finding a solution to the problem, for the SWAC to consider.

Action Item: Approve Scrap Tire Resolution.



**A RESOLUTION OF THE SOLID WASTE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO
ACKNOWLEDGE THE CHALLENGE OF REDUCING SCRAP TIRE STOCKPILES
IN CENTRAL TEXAS AND COMMIT TO FINDING A SOLUTION**

WHEREAS; the Central Texas Council of Governments helps their community members work cooperatively to improve the conditions and well-being of Central Texans residing in Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba counties; and

WHEREAS; the Solid Waste Advisory Committee was created to advise the Central Texas Council of Governments' Executive Committee on the development and implementation of the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan; and

WHEREAS; the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association began its scrap tire program in 1990 under the auspices of the Scrap Tire Management Council, and USTMA works with all stakeholders, including states, the U.S. EPA, and industry to develop markets, reduce scrap tire stockpiles, and implement state regulations that foster sustainable scrap tire markets; and

WHEREAS; the USTMA and TCEQ joined forces to create a workshop to identify key characteristics of the scrap tire stockpile problem throughout Texas and hear on-the-ground perspectives on the issue; and

WHEREAS; the state of Texas has the second highest number of scrap tires in stockpiles (over 11 million) in the United States; and

WHEREAS; the following fundamental concepts have been identified:

- Enforcement of state scrap tire laws is challenging.
- Civil and criminal liability are important deterrents to illegal dumping.
- A multi-stakeholder approach is needed to share ideas to abate existing stockpiles.
- State and local agencies do not currently have sufficient financial resources to remediate stockpiles in Texas.
- Growing sustainable, circular markets for scrap tires, such as the use of rubber modified asphalt and the use of tire-derived fuel in cement kilns is essential to prevent illegal dumping; and

WHEREAS; the Solid Waste Advisory Committee realizes scrap tires are a regional problem and require a regional solution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee is committed to promoting appropriate tire disposal and combating illegal dumping by:

1. Including innovative abatement strategies in the 2022 to 2042 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan,
2. Consulting industry experts and learning from other successful remediation programs,
3. Including Economic Development Corporations into strategies for reuse markets,
4. Encouraging local municipals to adopt similar resolutions,
5. Pooling regional resources and working together to find a solution to the scrap tire stockpiles in Central Texas, and
6. Participating in State forums on the topic.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 13th Day of May 2021 by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

Zoe Rascoe, SWAC Chair

Uryan Nelson, CTCOG PRS Director

Item #10: SUSTEX Case Study

**SUSTEX Presentation on CenTex Sustainable Communities Partnership
Case Study**

The SUSTEX 2021 Summit was hosted on April 21 and 22 by Texas A&M University Central Texas (TAMU-CT). The Summit is an annual event that focuses on sustainability in our world. The event brings together current and future leaders to discuss current challenges and present sustainable solutions, especially ones that involve leadership and organizational culture.

A case study, developed by graduate students and staff at TAMU-CT, on the CenTex Sustainable Communities Partnership was presented at the Summit. The case study explores the formation of the group, its leadership structure and approach, how it meets the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the most successful programs, success factors, and future outlook.

The case study presented is still in a draft form and is included in the packet for SWAC's review.

Action Item: No action needed; for discussion only.

Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership Case Study

DRAFT for presentation at SUSTEX Conference

April 22, 2021

Mr. James Gosnell and Dr. Barbara Altman

NOTE: This case was originally developed by a team of graduate students (Christina Garnes, James Gosnell, Matthew Negri, and Benjamin Verell) as part of a graduate course on Cross-Sector Partnerships taught by Dr. Barbara Altman at Texas A&M University – Central Texas in Fall 2020. Dr. Altman and Mr. James Gosnell have continued to make revisions to the case since it was originally submitted. This version of the case has been prepared for presentation by Mr. Gosnell at the SUSTEX 2021 conference at TAMU-CT in April 2021. At this conference, representatives of the communities in the partnership will respond to the case and offer fresh insights to develop the case further.

Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership Case Study

Introduction

Fort Hood, Texas has become a premier installation and example for the military, and the local communities, with their robust and effective sustainability program which is working toward net zero waste. Fort Hood has received multiple awards for environmental stewardship, making it a prime candidate for leading a partnership in the area. Fort Hood's success has provided an example of an effective sustainability program for the Central Texas region along with a local resource for municipal sustainability programs. During the partnership formation the leadership of Fort Hood and the individual municipalities recognized that working together would provide the benefit of pooled resources and knowledge, which would generate a larger impact than could be realized individually.

Partnership Formation and Sustainment

In 2007, the City of Dallas was selected to partner with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and North Central Texas Council of Governments to create the Dallas Sustainable Skylines Initiative (SSI) and create a framework to address air emissions in the region. On March 21, 2007, the initiative was launched with a public signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between each of the partners with projects focused in five categories: central city livability; green buildings and developments; renewable energy/energy efficiency; stationary/area sources; and off-road sources. Aware of Fort Hood's environmental and sustainability program successes, EPA Region 6, reached out to the Fort Hood Environmental Support Team Supervisor to explore adopting a similar concept in the Central Texas region.

In 2008, the Army's Strategy for the Environment emphasized a vision that enabled the Army to meet its mission today and into the future and support the "Triple Bottom Line (Plus)" for sustainability: mission, environment, and community (+ Economy). Aligned with this strategy and the framework of the Dallas SSI, Fort Hood saw this as an opportunity to strengthen and build community partnerships to promote sustainability and environmental stewardship in the region. Also, as the first sustainability initiative in the region specifically around a military installation, it was an opportunity for other Department of Defense agencies to mirror a similar effort. As a result, Fort Hood and municipalities in the region hosted a public forum in 2008 in Killeen to gauge the public's interest in regional sustainability. This then led to forming the Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership (Cen-Tex), which was established on April 24, 2009 by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Fort Hood Garrison Commander and the mayors of Copperas Cove, Gatesville, Harker Heights, and Killeen which encompassed a commitment to a five-year period. The signed MOU outlined a multi-year partnership to promote sustainability in Central Texas through voluntary projects and cooperation in developing a project work plan; development of common public education materials; identifying funding requirements; recruiting new participants for support; participating in meetings; devoting staff time for support; and analyzing, selecting, and implementing a variety of sustainable and environmentally beneficial projects for the region. The Cen-Tex's mission "serves as a forum to combine regional sustainability efforts to improve the overall quality of life and economic vitality of the Central Texas region and its citizens" (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities

Partnership, 2020). The purpose of the partnership is to “leverage regional resources to maximize efficiency in sustainability programs and projects” (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020).

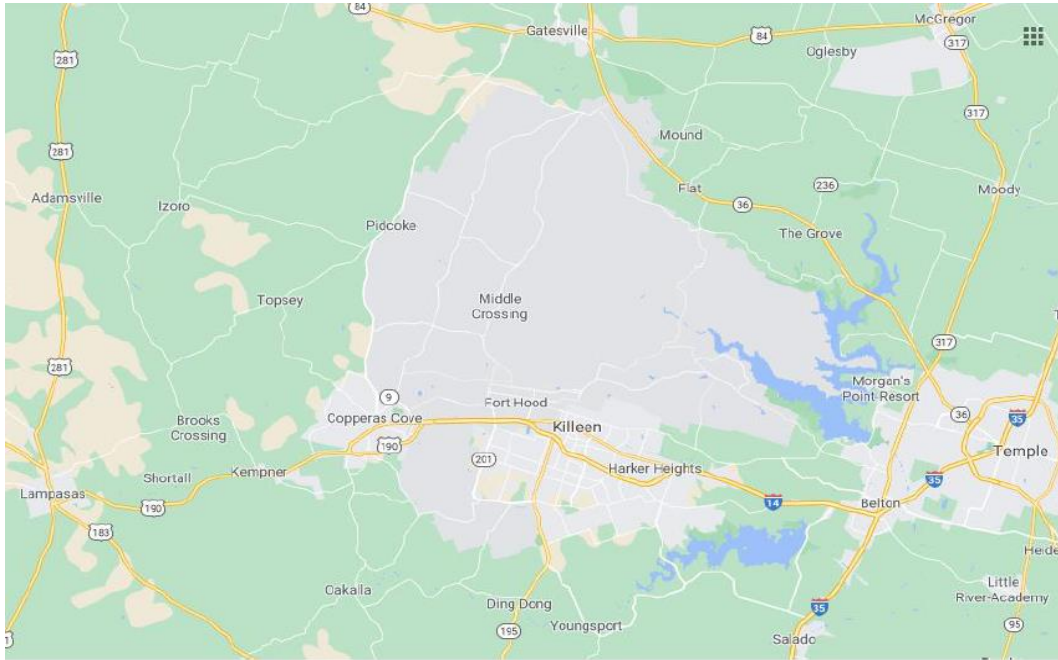
Hurdles or challenges that had to be overcome beginning in 2008 included gaining an understanding of the different perspectives of the various stakeholders involved, synchronizing efforts, meeting the legal requirements of the different entities, and developing the system of logistics required to form the partnership. Each of the municipalities involved in the formation would be required to meet their internal regulations and ordinances while participating in partnership activities. For the municipalities, each city council had to authorize the participation and provide the mayor the authority to enter into the MOU in April 2009, which in the future was renewed as a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Then the City Managers were responsible for determining how their municipality could participate and contribute to the partnership. In September 2009 and January 2010, Cen-Tex conducted additional meetings and seminars on Fort Hood and in Killeen to educate stakeholders and to develop a better understanding of the common vision for the partnership. In 2008, prior to the official formation of Cen-Tex, an advertising campaign was launched through newspaper and radio to provide information about the partnership and the various meetings being conducted to inform the residents of the partnering entities. This would ensure that people were aware of the partnership and its purpose for existence and set the foundation to give an equal voice to all groups involved. Table 1 shows the overall timeline with the changes in members and major activities for each milestone.

Table1: Cen-Tex Partnership Timeline

(Placeholder for Table 1)

Cen-Tex has expanded over the twelve years of its existence and the current list of communities in the Central Texas region that participate include the cities of Belton, Copperas Cove, Gatesville, Harker Heights, Killeen, Lampasas, Nolanville, and Salado (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020) as well as Fort Hood. The Vision Statement for the partnership is “To be the leader of Regional Sustainability Partnerships in Texas” (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020). The strategic plan to accomplish the vision involves programs that are grouped into five areas, “education, materials and resources, quality of life, sustainable design, and transportation” (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020). The current priorities for Cen-Tex include habitat preservation and creation, and promotion of native vegetation, energy and water conservation, recycling, and pollution prevention initiatives and reaching out to stakeholders through multiple avenues that include school and community events and print and electronic media such as newspaper, local televised news, radio, and social media.(Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020). The primary goal of Cen-Tex is to provide “Measurable benefits to the community” (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020).

Figure 1: Cen-Tex Partnership Map



(Google Maps, 2021)

Leadership Structure and Approach

The leadership structure of Cen-Tex includes three groups, the Executive Committee, Staff Committee, and Citizen Committee. The Executive Committee is composed of the Fort Hood Garrison Commander who acts as the Chairperson, and the City Managers of each partnering community. The Staff Committee includes the Fort Hood Environmental staff and City staff members with backgrounds in planning, engineering, public works, environmental services, and parks and recreation. The Citizen Committee consists of volunteers from Fort Hood and the participating communities (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020). Cen-Tex promotes the sharing of information, resources, and lessons learned to implement current goals and priorities. Monthly, the Staff Committee meets via virtually, face-to face, or via teleconference to discuss, plan, and execute action items determined by the Executive Committee. The Staff Committee makes suggestions to the Executive Committee or their City Manager for courses of action. The City Managers and sometimes City Councils have to approve an action before it can be implemented.

The Executive Committee is responsible for directing the Staff Committee and identifying areas of concern, trending technologies, and projects that would benefit the region. Senior leadership then discusses the items and if the majority agree then the Staff Committee is directed to implement and/or research the feasibility of an initiative. Then quarterly, the Staff and Citizens Committees provides progress reports on their efforts to the Executive Committee.

Other administrative functions of the Executive Committee include ensuring at a minimum that the MOA, initially the MOU, and partnership by-laws are reviewed and updated

as required. While the Fort Hood Garrison Commander, who functions as the Chairperson of the Executive Committee, rotates out every two years, city managers who make up the remaining Executive Committee membership have remained somewhat stable which adds continuity to the partnership. This ensures a blend of leadership comprised of experiences of the Executive Committee Chairperson serving throughout the United States and/or in places such as Europe and/or the Middle East, with the continuity of committee members who have long term ties with the Central Texas region and its residents.

The Relationship of the Cen-Tex Goals to the U.N. SDGs

When referencing the Cen-Tex mission and goals, and how they address the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (U.N. SDGs), a former Staff Committee Chairperson and current Staff Committee member was able to elaborate on water conservation, drainage standards, quality of life, and the development of common partnership goals as examples. While the primary focus of Cen-Tex is sustainable life for the Central Texas region, the examples that were provided coupled with the broad areas of “education, materials and resources, quality of life, sustainable design, and transportation” (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020) align with aspects of 10 of the 17 SDGs as noted in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Applicable U.N. SDGs

Cen-Tex Sustainability Goal Areas	Corresponding U.N. Sustainable Development Goals				
<i>Overall</i>	<i>SDG - 17 Partnership for the Goals</i>				
<i>Education</i>	<i>SDG - 6 Clean Water and Sanitation</i>	<i>SDG - 13 Climate Action</i>	<i>SDG - 14 Life Below Water</i>	<i>SDG - 15 Life on Land</i>	
<i>Materials and Resources</i>	<i>SDG - 6 Clean Water and Sanitation</i>	<i>SDG - 13 Climate Action</i>	<i>SDG - 14 Life Below Water</i>	<i>SDG - 15 Life on Land</i>	
<i>Quality of Life</i>	<i>SDG - 7 Affordable and Clean Energy</i>	<i>SDG - 12 Responsible Consumption and Production</i>	<i>SDG - 13 Climate Action</i>		
<i>Sustainable Design</i>	<i>SDG - 6 Clean Water and Sanitation</i>	<i>SDG - 9 Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure</i>	<i>SDG - 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities</i>	<i>SDG - 12 Responsible Consumption and Production</i>	<i>SDG - 13 Climate Action</i>
<i>Transportation</i>	<i>SDG - 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth</i>	<i>SDG - 9 Industry, Innovation, Infrastructure</i>	<i>SDG - 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities</i>	<i>SDG - 13 Climate Action</i>	

(United Nations, 2021)

Most Successful Programs

Cen-Tex has served to promote progress across the Central Texas region through programs that include water conservation and drainage standards, education and outreach for students and families, and the sharing of information which were identified by both the current and former Staff Committee Chairpersons as the most successful programs. While the current versions are not exactly the same due to regulatory requirements and uniqueness of each municipality, water conservation and drainage standards were addressed early in the partnership and are substantially the same within the Central Texas region which was not the case prior to the establishment of Cen-Tex. Substantially similar codes of ordinances are now in place which include common language, goals, and shared management for water, wastewater, reuse water, and stormwater. This has served to improve the quality of life and the safety of the residents of Fort Hood and the member municipalities across the region with the current focus as of 2020 expanding to developing substantially common regional standards for subdivisions. However, each entity will have unique development standards based on items such as regulatory requirements, water capacity/supply, and wastewater capacity.

Education and outreach for students and families is a priority for Cen-Tex. These programs include education, competitions, and projects that teach students that sustainability is more than mere compliance, it is a way of life that ensures long term availability of resources. These efforts are part of the partnership's Youth Environmental Ambassadors! (YEA!) Program which "empowers youth to volunteer and lead in sustainability efforts" (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020) through energy conservation, beautification, and recycling events to name a few. The YEA! Program is a collaborative partnership between the Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, Fort Hood Recycle, and the Child and Youth Services School Liaison Office Adopt-A-School Program to promote sustainability and environmental stewardship in schools districts within the Greater Fort Hood Area. (Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership, 2020).

Cen-Tex's program which encourages participants to share information selflessly is another key accomplishment and includes obtaining information across the membership and from outside organizations and other programs where the partnership can both share and receive knowledge. This is accomplished through the formal activities of Cen-Tex and through events like Earth Day Texas, Mother Earth News Fair, Keep Copperas Cove Beautiful's Eco Harvest and Eco Fling, Gatesville Earth Day, Fort Hood Earth Day, Fort Hood Month of the Military Child and Earth Fest, Harker Heights' Food, Wine and Brew Fest, City of Killeen's Geographic Information Systems Day, Nolanville's Monarch Fest, Central Texas College's Geek Fest, and Texas A&M University Central Texas' SUSTEX conference.

Table 2: Successful Program Data

(Placeholder for Table 2)

Meeting the Partnership Challenges

While the Executive Committee members share similar positions in their respective partnering cities, these members often see the goals of the partnership from different perspectives based on the different mission and culture of each participating organization. For example, the mission of Fort Hood is to train soldiers, provide defense strategies, and win wars which differs greatly from the mission and culture of the municipalities which exist to serve their residents through community programs and services. A commonality is that at the core of the culture of each partnering entity is the similar goal of providing the best programs and services to ensure a good quality of life for their constituents. To address and mitigate the differences amongst its members, Cen-Tex has provided internal education for committee members to ensure understanding of these differences and how to accomplish the mission with respect to meeting key stakeholder requirements and expectations. To meet Cen-Tex's mission, resources are evaluated and voluntarily shared across the partnership as members are not mandated to participate or to make changes. Cen-Tex utilizes the organization more as a forum to have discussions about what is impacted and what is being seen as impacting developments in the partnering municipalities as well as Fort Hood. Information is shared of how members and outside entities are addressing challenges and what some possible alternatives are that may be implemented to get the end result for sustainability that is sought after. Some examples of that include native vegetation, native trees, and green space requirements. Each partnering entity adopts and implements their strategy voluntarily and within their own requirements and protocol

and in compliance with their restrictions, adopted plans, ordinances, and state and federal regulations.

According to a former Staff Committee Chairperson, Cen-Tex has an adequate number of key stakeholders represented for the government sector involving Fort Hood and the partnering municipalities, but there is a fluctuating level of participation due to changes in the Staff Committee where members transfer, receive promotions, obtain employment elsewhere, or are limited in their ability to serve due to other responsibilities. To help increase stakeholder engagement, Cen-Tex developed a relationship with the founder of non-profit citizen groups Centex Planeteers and Sustainably Geeky. The founder of these groups serves as the Citizens Committee Chairperson and promotes Cen-Tex's initiatives amongst stakeholders with similar interests. A few of the entities within Cen-Tex either had, currently possess, or in the process of a Keep Texas Beautiful affiliate organization, which includes Copperas Cove, Gatesville, Harker Heights, Killeen, Nolanville, and Salado, and creates another opportunity of resources to increase involvement from residents in each community. Although the size and resources from each municipality may vary over time, all entities are governed by the MOA and have an equal presence on Cen-Tex.

Challenges that Cen-Tex experiences relative to leadership involve committee members making time to participate in activities which are conducted largely on a volunteer basis for staff and citizen members. The former Chairperson shared that almost all of the participation is outside normal work hours and that an additional challenge involves the use of funding from the different entities, some can provide funds directly to the partnership and others like Fort Hood can only donate in kind due to federal restrictions. Funds are readily available to support outreach efforts, however, Cen-Tex also repurposes recyclable materials in community outreach projects to promote sustainability. The current Staff Committee Chairperson stated that this requires creativity to ensure Staff Committee members are engaged to cover events often using alternative supplies from recyclable items for example which keeps costs down and demonstrates leadership for sustainability. Cen-Tex members employ innovative techniques to meet these challenges and complete education and community events by using items from recycling facilities in the region that include glass and plastic bottles, paper rolls, and boxes for example. These items are used to build bird feeders, flower holders, and other craft and education projects. This requires thorough planning to track the items that Cen-Tex members have on hand or will donate when needed to ensure available resources for the various events.

The current and former Staff Committee Chairpersons expressed that COVID-19 has presented additional challenges for Cen-Tex which have served to cause reflection and revision for how business is conducted. Although, meetings had been conducted telephonically since 2016, the COVID-19 environment, provided an opportunity to further expand meeting participation virtually via Microsoft Teams to broaden capabilities for communication. The outcome is that Cen-Tex is reaching more people on their social media platforms to promote events and share successes, and has spent more time making videos to put information out on social media to make people more aware of what is being and can be done to support sustainability in the region.

According to both current and former Staff Committee Chairpersons, the regional recycling plan and recruiting Citizen Committee members have been the two largest challenges

for Cen-Tex overall. The regional recycling plan has been the most problematic challenge and has made the least progress up to this point. Fort Hood campaigned for a legislative change to allow the Installation to accept recyclables from Copperas Cove, which was approved in Dec 2019; however, the approved version requires authorization by the Office of the Secretary of Defense. As of April 2020, that authority remains pending. .

The Citizens Committee has continued to be very small, and the former Staff Committee Chairperson stated that Cen-Tex is looking into ways to expand that role which is needed to have a larger impact. To assist with this, the Executive Committee voted to change the bylaws which were revised to allow the Staff Committee members to approve applicants for the Citizen Committee. Prior to this approval from the Executive Committee was required which took place on a quarterly basis at their scheduled meetings, the Staff Committee meets monthly and interacts with the members of the Citizen Committee which makes this committee a good source for timely and appropriate approvals.

Success Factors

The factors that have contributed to the partnership being able to overcome its challenges and promote all its successful programs is summarized in the following table:

Table 2: Success Factors

Memorandum of Understanding for Governance and Responsibilities
Fort Hood as a Catalyst and Exemplar
Shared Vision and Mission and an Equal Voice for Partners
Stakeholder Education Campaigns for Partner Community Members
A Blend of Short-term and Long-term Leadership for the Executive Committee
Common Language, Goals, and Shared Management
Share Information Selflessly (SIS) - Information, Resources, and Lessons Learned
Expanded Virtual Protocol Utilizing Teleconferences and Virtual Meeting Platforms
Partnering with Other Non-profit Citizen Groups

Future Outlook

According to the current and former Staff Committee Chairpersons, Cen-Tex’s goal is to increase participation across the partnership and synergize current programs within the entities with similar initiatives like Youth Advisory Commission, Keep Texas Beautiful affiliate, and Texas A&M Agrilife 4-H. Ultimately the biggest role the Cen-Tex has is creating a sustainable regional community, supporting the local residents and businesses, and improving the level of environmental protection. When asked if Cen-Tex anticipated any new partners joining in the future, the current Staff Committee Chairperson shared Cen-Tex’s interest to reach out to the City of Temple and City of Kempner, TX in the future. As other municipalities in the area have expressed interest in combining their efforts with that of the partnership, Cen-Tex continues to work with members and non-members towards a common regional sustainability message and to remain the leader in sustainability in the region. Cen-Tex is continuing the rebuilding phase due

to the current COVID environment with the main focus of being active and relevant in the various communities.

Decision Dilemma

The Cen-Tex Sustainable Communities Partnership is in a transition phase where the current leaders are looking for ways to infuse new energy during what can be described as a regrowth period. Engagement in the partnership's outreach activities continues to vary amongst the member communities. Overall the member communities are, within their respective jurisdictions, actively engaged in supporting and achieving the goals of the partnership. Three key challenges that must be overcome moving forward involve maintaining active participation from all member communities in events beyond their jurisdiction, implementing a regional recycling plan, and the expanding the Citizens Committee membership. These regional sustainability leaders are brainstorming new ways to engage new partners and optimize resources to enhance the ability of the partnership to realize continued positive progress in sustainability in the region.

DRAFT

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SWAC Member List

SWAC Members FY 2020-21

Duane Herrera	254-933-5275	duane.herrera@co.bell.tx.us	Bell County
Daren Moore	254-223-1001	dmcoryellcounty@gmail.com	Coryell County
Johnny Wagner	254-386-8542	jwagner@hamiltoncountytexas.org	Hamilton County
Henry Hubnik	254-482-1739	hhubnik@milamcounty.net	Milam County
Stan Weik	325-372-5144	weiks@att.net	San Saba County
Lewis Bridges	512-734-1431	lewisgail68@gmail.com	Lampasas County
Jed Garren	325-948-3397	commissionerpct2@co.mills.tx.us	Mills County
Bryan Neaves	254-933-5275	bryan.neaves@co.bell.tx.us	Bell County Alternate
Marcie Seele	254-933-5823	mseele@beltontexas.gov	City of Belton
Noel Watson	254-547-4242	nwatson@copperascovetx.gov	City of Copperas Cove
Bill Parry	254-865-8951	wparry@gatesvilletx.com	City of Gatesville, Vice Chair
Mark Hyde	254-953-5649	mhyde@harkerheights.gov	City of Harker Heights
William Gould	254-554-7572	wgould@killeentexas.gov	City of Killeen
Justin Brantley	254-298-5723	jbrantley@templetexas.gov	City of Temple
Paul Daugereau	512-272-6226	pdaugere@wm.com	Solid Waste Industry Representative
Zoe Rascoe	254-913-1013	trascoe@hotmail.com	Citizen Representative, Chair
John M. Trigg, PG	254-207-6827	john.trigg@wilsonart.com	Private Sector/Business Representative
Velia Key	254-547-4242	vkey@copperascovetx.gov	Ex-Officio--City of Copperas Cove
Jeff Browning	254-743-0553	jbrowning07@gmail.com	Ex-Officio--City of Temple
Ryan Polster	254-386-8116	citysecretary@ci.hamilton.tx.us	Ex-Officio--City of Hamilton
Scott Perry	254-434-1098	scotchperry@yahoo.com	Ex-Officio--City of Hico
Kara Escajeda	254-698-6335	kescajeda@nolanvilletx.gov	Ex-Officio--City of Nolanville
Jeanie Harrison	254-372-4572	harrisonx2@hughes.net	Ex-Officio--Hamilton County Recycling
David McGinnis	254-526-5541	smvacuumandwaste@hotmail.com	Ex-Officio--S&M Vacuum and Waste, LTD
Tanya Gray	254-493-4000	tanya@keeptemplebeautiful.org	Ex-Officio--Keep Temple Beautiful
Trey Buzbee	254-761-3168	tbuzbee@brazos.org	Ex-Officio--Brazos River Authority
Cheryl Untermeyer	512-239-6700	cheryl.untmeyer@tceq.texas.gov	Ex-Officio--TCEQ

End of Packet