

**Date:** 05/27/2020

**To:** Nim Kidd, Vice Chancellor

**Cc:** MacGregor Stephenson, Chief of Policy & Research

**From:** Dan Borgeson, Unit Chief

**Subject:** Senate Bill 285 Hurricane Preparedness Report

Pursuant to Senate Bill 285, the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) has been preparing in earnest for the upcoming hurricane season. From updating Emergency Support Functions (ESF) plans to creating new Hazard Annexes in the State Emergency Management Plan, guides for local elected officials, Community Safe Rooms, and mitigation projects TDEM stands prepared for the 2020 hurricane season. TDEM has completed the following projects in preparation for the 2020 hurricane season:

- Developed the Catastrophic Debris Management Annex which describes how state and local jurisdictions manage large amounts of debris often found because of a hurricane and floods.
- Developed the Catastrophic Debris Management Guide, which is a quick reference guide for local emergency managers and elected officials.
- Developed the Disaster Response and Recovery Guide that will assist local jurisdictions to quickly recover from disasters.
- Updated the Basic Plan in the State of Texas Emergency Management Plan.
- Updated Emergency Support Function #6 (Mass Care) Plan.
- Updated the State of Texas Hurricane Annex.
- Updated the State Operation Center Hurricane Playbook.
- Created hurricane preparedness materials.
- Created "go bag" preparedness video.
- Conducted a series of meetings with the Emergency Management Council to discuss alterations and concerns related to evacuation and sheltering in a pandemic.
- Conducted hurricane evacuation presentations.
- Awarded two Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) projects for community safe rooms in Montgomery and Wharton Counties, and working with FEMA to finalize awards for four additional community safe rooms in Hardin, Calhoun, and Refugio Counties.



- Awarded 28 HMGP projects for drainage enhancements in parts of Texas that may experience flooding associated with hurricanes.
- Awarded 21 HMGP projects for emergency generators at public facilities in counties at risk from hurricanes.
- Awarded seven HMGP projects for acquisition and elevation projects to help citizens address flood concerns in counties at risk from hurricanes.
- Assisted with the Disaster Housing Standard Operating Guide development with the Joint Housing Solutions Work Group.
- Participated in the Alternate Housing Study Oversight Committee which gathered, analyzed, and evaluated data related to alternative housing options, including factors such as resiliency, safety, ability to be used for permanent housing.
- Participated in the flood insurance retention work group.
- Conducted outreach to local jurisdictions on cost tracking guidance and the availability of Regional Disaster Finance Coordinators to assist within jurisdictions.
- Upgraded the WebEOC Crisis Information Management System and geographic information system computer infrastructure to ensure these systems can support both the COVID-19 response and a hurricane event simultaneously.
- Established Internet map feeds from the National Weather Service (NWS) Fort Worth Regional Office and the NWS West Gulf River Forecast Center in Fort Worth that will be operational in June 2020. This data will be used to support the State Operations Center and local emergency managers for hurricane response.
- Working with Texas A&M University to acquire and enhance geographic information system databases with national, state and local data to better support TDEM response, recovery, mitigation and planning efforts for hurricane incidents.
- Working with the University of Texas at Austin, Center for Research in Water Resources and the National Weather Service on developing a mobile flood location map application for the First-Responder Community.
- Identify and mapping hotel locations in the FEMA Transitional Sheltering Assistance program that could be used as an alternative to traditional evacuation shelters due to the need to implement social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic.



As required by SB 285, the following agencies are listed in the state's response to a hurricane:

# **Texas Division of Emergency Management**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: Yes

### **Texas Military Department**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

### **Texas Department of Agriculture**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: Yes

#### **Texas Animal Health Commission**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: Yes

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

#### **Texas Department of Criminal Justice**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

### **Texas Education Agency**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: Yes

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

### **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**

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# **Texas Facilities Commission**

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### **Texas Dept of Family and Protective Services**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

### **Texas Fire Protection Commission**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

#### **Texas A&M Forest Service**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

#### **Texas General Land Office**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: Yes

### **Texas Dept of State Health Services**

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### **Texas Dept of Health & Human Services**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

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### **Texas Dept of Information Resources**

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### **Texas Dept of Insurance**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

### **Texas Dept of Licensing & Regulation**

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#### **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

# **Texas Highway Patrol**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: Yes

# **Texas Public Utility Commission**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

#### **Texas Railroad Commission**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

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### **Texas A&M University System**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

### **Texas State University System**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: Yes

### **Texas Tech University System**

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418.005 EMC Training Completed: No

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#### **Texas Workforce Commission**

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