



# Floodplains and County Maintenance

Why it matters!





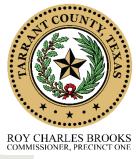


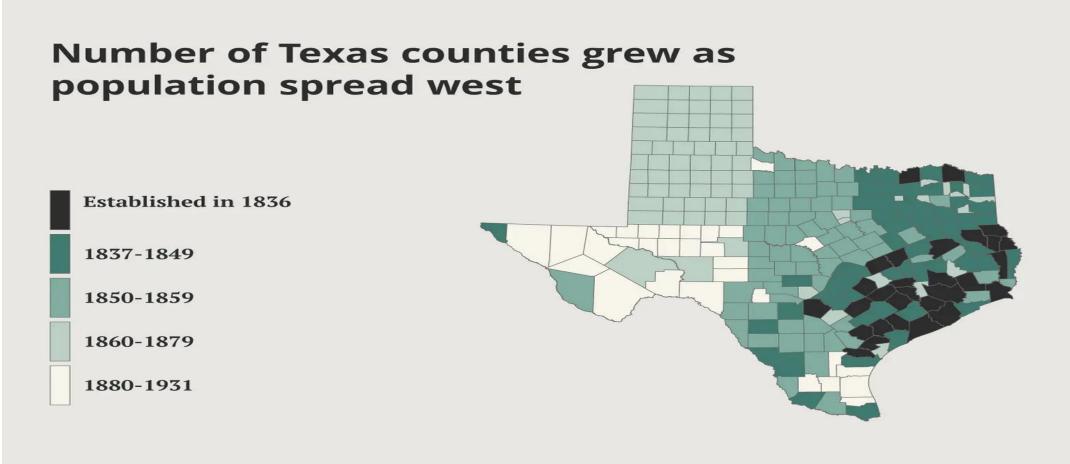
# Floodplains and County Maintenance-why it matters

# Agenda

- History of Counties
- County Systems
  - State Authority
  - Structure
  - Duties of a County \*
- \*Duties of a County
  - Maintenance Duties-what exactly do maintenance facilities do (County/City/State/Toll/etc.)
  - Floodplain Benefits
  - Why it matters (relate the maintenance duties to floodplain benefits)
  - Wrap-up-questions

# Floodplains and County Maintenance-why it matters HISTORY OF COUNTIES





# Floodplains and County Maintenance-why it matters

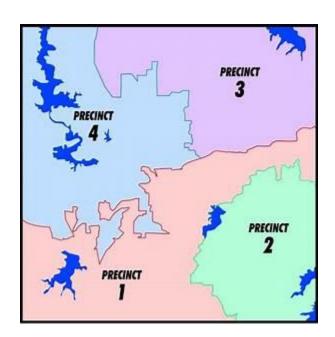
# **COUNTY SYSTEMS**

# ROY CHARLES BROOKS

### PRECINCT SYSTEMS

(Commissioner Directly in Charge)

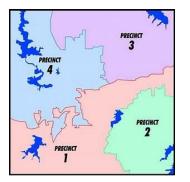
- Road Supervisor System
- Ex-Officio Commissioner System

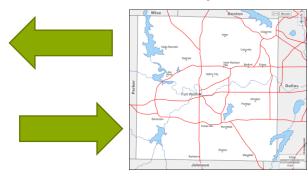


# DELEGATED SYSTEMS (my term)

(Commissioner delegates road duties)

- Road Commissioner System
- Road Superintendent System
  - Voluntary Unit System
- County Road Department System-County Engineer or Road Administrator (unit system)





### TITLE 6. ROBBERT SUPPLIFIE C. COUNTY BURDE 1800 BRIDGES

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Chapters E. C. and D its not appear to the county.

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Area DWG, National Str., etc. 201, dec. 1, etc., dect. 1, 2005.

head in the amount of \$1,000 papable to the county helps for the use and benefits of the county could and bridge final. We look must be

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o the county that comes noto the companiones's possession.

# Floodplains and County Maintenance-why it matters **COUNTY SYTEMS**

PRECINCT SYSTEMS-Commissioner Runs his precinct individually





Road Supervisor System

- Chapter 251.004
- Commissioner must supervise public roads at least once a month.
- Make a report at the 9<sup>th</sup> month within each year
- Ex-Officio Commissioner System
  - Chapter 252.001
  - Hiring to be paid from the county road and bridge fund
  - Report is also required



Annual Road Condition Report 2020 Fiscal Year



# Floodplains and County Maintenance-why it matters county systems

DELEGATED SYSTEMS-Delegated from Commissioners Court to (one to four individuals)



- Road Commissioner System
  - Chapter 252.101
  - County Commissioners may hire up to four (4) road Commissioners
    - May use districts separate from precincts
    - Countywide/Consolidated system
    - County Commissioners still maintain ultimate control, but the Road Commissioners oversee the daily activity.
- Road Superintendent System "voluntary unit system"
  - Chapter 252.201
  - Road superintendent for the County or 1/Precinct w/ a two (2) year term
    - May use districts separate from precincts
    - Countywide/Consolidated system
    - County Commissioners still maintain ultimate control, but the Road Commissioners oversee the daily activity.

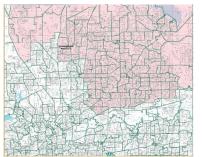
- County Road Department System-County Engineer or Road Administrator
  - Chapter 252.301
  - Referendum Unit System or Unit System
    - Requires petition by at least 10% of the numbers cast in the last election for governor
    - Petition certified by the clerk then goes on the ballot
    - If passed, it creates a County road department, Commissioners Court is the policymaking body and the County Engineer/Road Administrator is the CEO
    - If they can't hire one, the Commissioners Court can appoint one

# Floodplains and County Maintenance-why it matters STRUCTURE





















COMMISSIONERS COURT- 1 Judge, 4 Commissioners

- Similar to a weak mayoral council
- Share oversight of County on state, national, and international levels.
- Checks and balances with other political heads (i.e. Tax Assessor, sheriff, clerks, etc.)
- Commissioner's Court controls the budget

# Floodplains and County Maintenance-why it matters

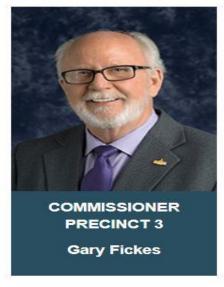
# TARRANT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

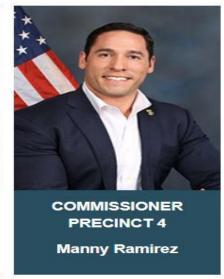












### **COUNTY JUDGE**

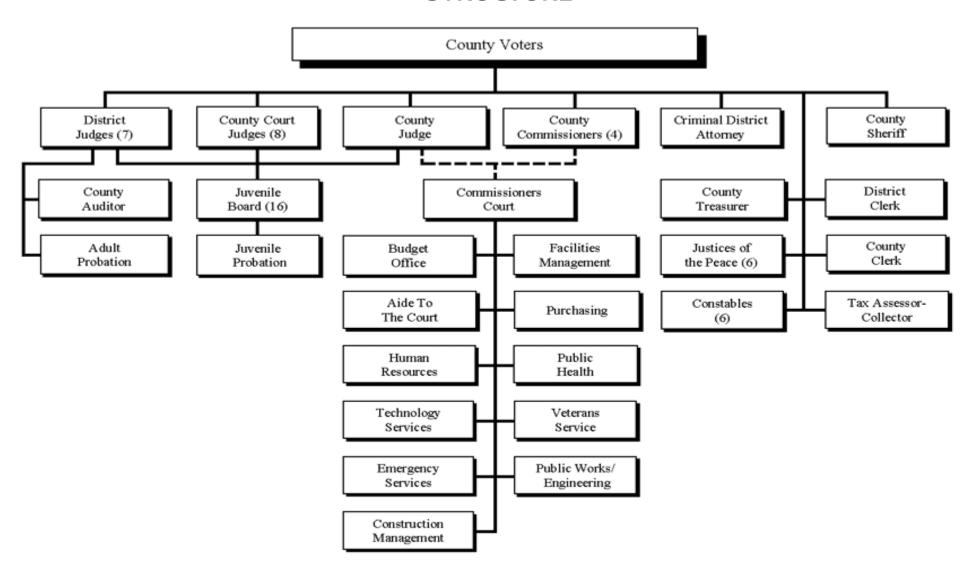
- CEO (administrative only in larger counties may be judicial in smaller counties)
- Voted on by the entire County.
- No Veto Power
- Works with members of the court to approve budgets, tax rate, authorize contracts, set salaries/benefits of employees, etc.

### **COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

- Commissioners' boundaries split based on population and elected by residents in their precinct only.
- They oversee the roads and bridges within their precinct (detailed discussion later) and sometimes they have additional responsibilities for solid waste collection, parks, and other services within the precinct. Time can be spent in associations, on boards, or with committees.

# Floodplains and County Maintenance-why it matters STRUCTURE



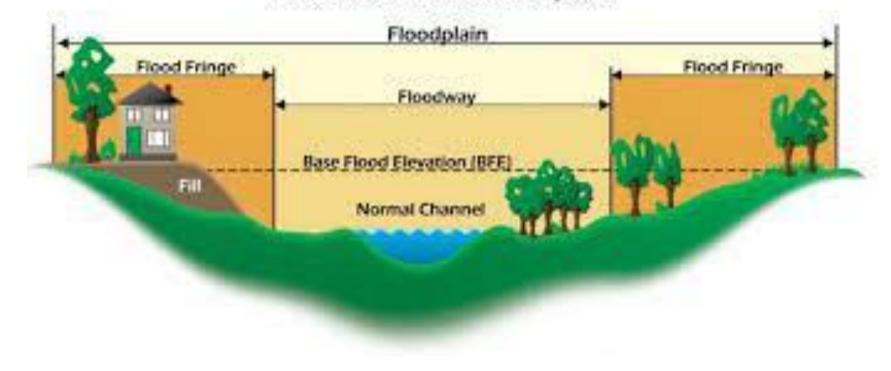


# **County Systems**

# Precinct Systems and Delegated Systems BOTH benefit from.... FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT



# Characteristics of a Floodplain







# County Commissioners Roadway Duties

For all Texas County Commissioners



# From a previous slide...

- COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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HOW DO THEY OVERSEE THE ROADS AND BRIDGES? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

They MAINTAIN the EXISTING roads and bridges within their precinct They OVERSEE the PROPOSED ROADS AND BRIDGES within their precinct They OVERSEE the PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS within their precinct

## **MAINTAIN EXISTING ROADS**

Crack sealing-larger cracks in the roadway





Slurry seals-several smaller cracks in the roadway and/or aging pavement





## **MAINTAIN EXISTING ROADS**

Overlays-pavement failure (localized longitudinal cracking/horizontal cracking/chunks of pavement popping out, etc.) but base in decent shape-overlays are typical for roadways with ditch sections and/or

ROY CHARLES BROOKS COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT ONE

Mill and overlays with curb and gutter sections



Seal Coats for pavement preservation and to extend life of oxidized asphalts



## MAINTAIN EXISTING ROADWAYS

REHABILITATION-resetting the deterioration process



Full Depth Reclamation (FDR)



Traditional milling/grinding/cement or lime or cemlime stabilization



# They MAINTAIN the EXISTING roads and bridges within their precinct MAINTAIN EXISTING ROADWAYS

REHABILITATION-resetting the deterioration process

Hot in place recycling



Cold in place recycling





# MAINTAIN EXISTING BRIDGES/CUVLERTS

Bridge Rail/Guard Rails Repairs



Scour repair due to erosion

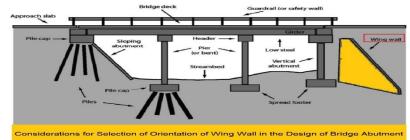


Decks (joint maintenance, debris removal, etc.)









# MAINTAIN EXISTING BRIDGES/CUVLERTS



Debris removal under the bridge (trash from upstream)

and/or

Illegal dumping





# They MAINTAIN the EXISTING roads and bridges within their precinct MAINTAIN EXISTING BRIDGES/CUVLERTS

TxDOT Off System Bridge Program

What is an off-system bridge?

- A structure on a non TxDOT facility (city or county facility) that is greater than 20 ft. long as you travel down the roadway
- TxDOT construct at 80/20 split or up to 100% (if County shows other bridges have been repaired previously with County funds)
- TxDOT inspects every 2 years and provide report
- County Responsibility to make repairs (typically repairs stem from these reports)

**Existing Structures** 













# MAINTAIN ROW (RIGHT OF WAY)



Mowing

Pushmower-new guy



Tractor Mowers-intermediate guys



Boom mowers-advanced guys



# **MAINTAIN ROW (RIGHT OF WAY)**

# **UTILITIES**

If new installation, put it where you said you would If repair or replacement, put it where it was





**SIGNS** 

New and/or replacement





# MAINTAIN ROW (RIGHT OF WAY)



lane edge strip

## **MAINTAIN SIDESLOPES**

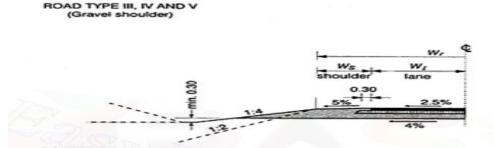
2:1-or steeper (concrete/guardrail)

3:1-somewhat mowable motorists likely not flip but will need assistance climbing out of the ditch

4:1-recoverable and mowable-more ROW

5:1-safe-more ROW

6:1-perfect-even more ROW



# MAINTAIN ROW (RIGHT OF WAY)

Debris removal (tires, trash, barrels of?)





Dead animals-ouch – we remove them too (or bury them)





## SPECIAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

ROY CHARLES BROOKS COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT ONE

Sheriff Office/District Attorney-excavation for buried evidence



(TWO LANE CONVENTIONAL HIGHWAY)

FILMING ZONE

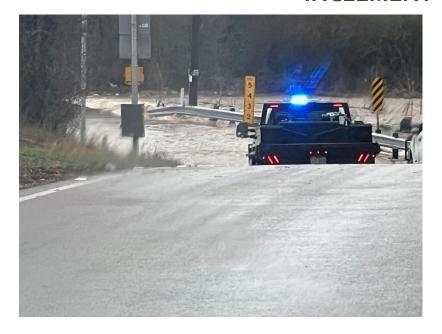
| FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMING ZONE | FILMI

Movie filming/blocking of roadways

Traffic Control Plan

Ensuring roadways/structures/ditches are not damaged

# **INCLEMENT WEATHER**







Inclement weather responsesa whole book in an of itself





# From a previous slide...

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HOW DO THEY OVERSEE THE ROADS AND BRIDGES? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

They MAINTAIN the EXISTING roads and bridges within their precinct

They OVERSEE the PROPOSED ROADS AND BRIDGES within their precinct

They OVERSEE the PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS within their precinct



# They OVERSEE the PROPOSED roads and bridges within their precinct





Planning

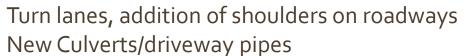
MTP's (likely in coordination with multiple

Cities to connect the dots)

**Development of Schematics** 

Feasibility Studies

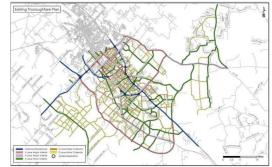
**Construction Plans** 



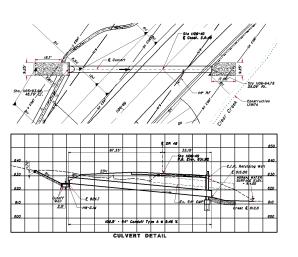
**Culvert Replacement** 

Construction of new roadways

New construction methods (typical sections typically involving a Geotech used for new pavement construction Intersection Improvements







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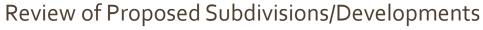


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# They OVERSEE the PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS within their precinct





**Subdivisions** 

New

Replats

Re-zoning-typically not allowed unless the Legislature has specifically identified the County to allow it

Commercial/Industries

Individual developments (commercial adjacent to residential)

Large scale developments-raw water line, sewer lines, electrical, sewer, etc.)
Special developments

Recycling tire plant

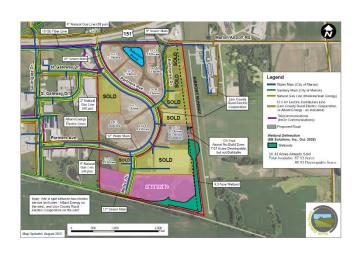
Pickle factory

Concrete Plant

Erosion of creek sidewalls adjacent

to roadways









# Benefits of Floodplain Management

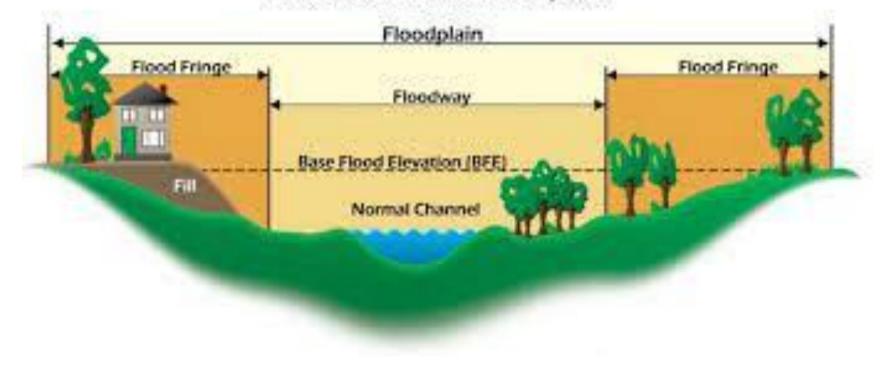
For any Agency (Federal, State, Local)

# PREVIOUS SLIDE County Systems



Precinct Systems and Delegated Systems BOTH benefit from....
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT

# Characteristics of a Floodplain

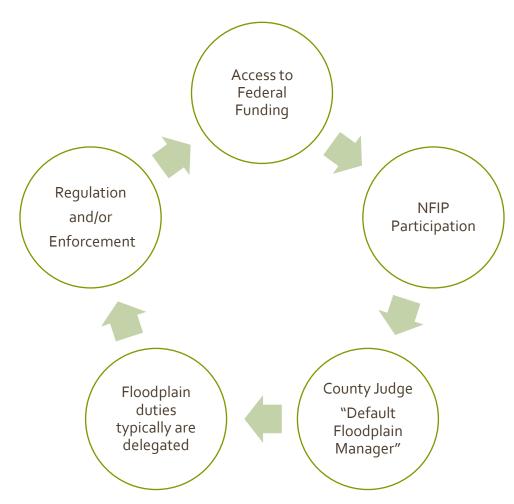


## **FLOODPLAIN BENEFITS**



- Floodplains Exist (officially or not)

  - Officially-regulated via the NFIP
    Un-officially-not regulated by the NFIP
- Loss of life and property can be reduced if not eliminated through proper management w/ official floodplains or un-official floodplains



# Comparison of Floodplain Management versus non-Floodplain Management



# Floodplain Management

- Storage
  - Aesthetics
  - Cattle water supply
  - Recreation (fishing, boating, golf hazards, trails)
  - Increased property value
- Conveyance
  - Designed flows
  - Positive drainage
  - Target for drainage
- Downstream flooding reduction
- Upstream flooding reduction

# Non Floodplain Management

- Not aesthetically pleasing
- No recreation (no fishing, no boating, no golf, nothing to accentuate trails)
- No selling point for property owners
- Overland flows into non-preferred areas
- Potential for increased flooding upstream and downstream and potential litigation (if unintentional flooding occurs)





# Why It Matters



### WHY IT MATTERS!

# Maintain Existing Roadways-MAXIMIZING CONVEYANCE IN DITCHES/CHANNELS/STORM DRAINS



Crack sealing-larger cracks in the roadway



Slurry seals-several smaller cracks in the roadway and/or aging pavement-slurry seals



Potholes



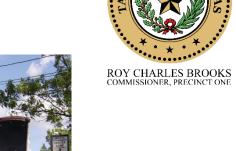
### WHY IT MATTERS!

# Maintain Existing Roadways-DON'T INCREASE HEAD AT THE USFL OF A CULVERT

(story of 2 to 3" overlay)

DON'T FILL IN THE GUTTER-REDUCES CONVEYANCE

Overlays-pavement failure (localized longitudinal cracking/horizontal cracking/chunks of pavement popping out, etc.) but base in decent shape-overlays for ditch sections and/or



Mill and overlays with curb and gutter sections

Seal Coats to extend life of oxidized asphalts



# Maintain Existing Roadways-GREAT TIME TO EVALUATE/UPDATE CULVERTS

Rehabilitation-resetting the deterioration process



Full Depth Reclamation (FDR)



Traditional milling/grinding/cement or lime or cemlime stabilization



# Maintain Existing Roadways-GREAT TIME TO CHECK SIDESLOPES/EVALUATE VELOCITIES IN DITCHES

Rehabilitation-resetting the deterioration process

Hot in place recycling



Cold in place recycling

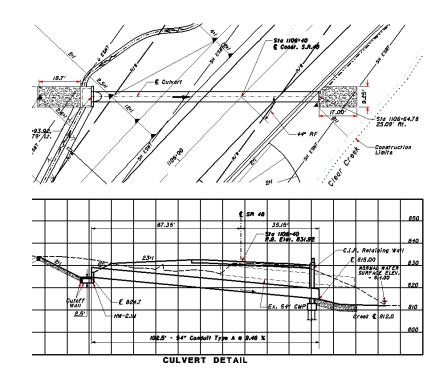




## Maintain Existing Roadways-GREAT TIME TO BRING COMPLIANCE PS&E RELATED TO CULVERTS

PS&E (Plans, Specifications, and Estimates)

Limits: From: FORT BEND COUNTY LINE				Check: \$100,000				
To:	IH 10				Misc Co	st:		
Estimate	nate \$102,182,803.45		nder	Company				
Bidder 1	\$90,916,059.57 -11		.03%	WEBBER, LLC				
Bidder 2	\$94,736,075.85	-7.29%		JAMES CONSTRUCTION GROUP, LLC				
Bidder 3	\$96,222,637.24	-5	.83%	MAIN LANE IN	DUSTRIES LTD	Ü		
Bidder 4	\$99,492,208.88	-2	.63%	ZACHRY CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION				
Bidder 5	\$104,431,315.55	+2	.20%	WILLIAMS BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.				
Bidder 6	\$107,999,999.97	+5	.69%	GRANITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY				
Bidder 7	\$108,127,332.27	+5	.82%	PULICE CONSTRUCTION, INC.				
Item Code	Descrip	tion	Unit	Quantity	Unit Est.	Bidder	Unit Bid	
1006002	PREPARING ROY	N	STA	355.400	14,000.00	1 2 3 4 5 6	25,100.000 6,500.000 3,300.000 28,137.310 29,300.000 21,400.000 30,000.000	
1046001 REMOVING CONC (PAV)		SY	41,221.000	6.00	1 2 3 4 5 6	11.700 10.500 19.000 15.000 25.000 12.000 19.000		
1046009	9 REMOVING CONC (RIPRAP)		SY	2,860.000	8.17	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	3.550 15.860 9.000 5.000 7.000 4.000 2.000	
1046011 REMOVING CONC (MEDIANS)		SY	620.000	13.24	1 2 3 4 5 6	5,600 12,760 10,000 4,850 9,000 12,000 3,000		
1046017 REMOVING CONC (DRIVEWAYS)			SY	119.000	12.92	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	11.400 50.710 10.000 9.700 30.000 15.000 2.000	
1046021	1 REMOVING CONC (CURB)		LF	13,404.000	6.25	1 2	2.250	



			of Transportation			
ITEM:	S 1-9	GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND COVENANTS				
Item 1		Abbreviations and Definitions				
	2	Instructions to Bidders				
	3	Award and Execution of Contract				
	4	Scope of Work				
	5	Control of the Work				
	6	Control of Materials				
	7	Legal Relations and Responsibilities	4			
	8	Prosecution and Progress				
	9	Measurement and Payment				
100 ITEMS EARTHWORK		EARTHWORK AND LANDSCAPE	6			
Item	100	Preparing Right of Way				
	103	Disposal of Wells				
	104	Removing Concrete				
	105	Removing Treated and Untreated Base and Asphalt Pavement				
	106	Obliterating Abandoned Road				
	110	Excavation	7			
	112	Subgrade Widening				
	132	Embankment				
	134	Backfilling Payement Edges	8			
	150	Blading	8			
	152	Road Grader Work	8			
	154	Scraper Work	8			
	156	Buildozer Work				
	158	Specialized Excavation Work	9			
	160	Topsoil	9			
	161	Compost	9			
	162	Sodding for Erosion Control				
	164	Seeding for Erosion Control	9			
	166	Fertilizer				
	168	Vegetative Watering				
	169	Soil Retention Blankets				
	170	Irrigation System				
	180	Wildflower Seeding				
	192	Landscape Planting				
	193	Landscape Establishment	11			
200 ITEMS		SUBGRADE TREATMENTS AND BASE	11			
Item		Sprinkling.				
	210	Rolling	12			
	216	Proof Rolling	12			
	247	Flexible Base				
	251	Reworking Base Courses	12			

Maintain Existing Bridges/Culverts-GREAT TIME TO CLEAN OUT THE CHANNELS/RE-ESTABLISH VEGETATION/CHANNEL SLOPES/CHECK FOR EROSION/ETC.



Bridge Rail/Guard Rails Repairs



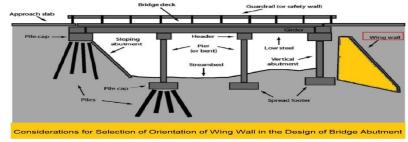
Scour repair due to erosion



Decks (joint maintenance, debris removal, etc.)



Abutments (watch for separation, buckling, dropping, etc.)



Maintain Existing Bridges/Culverts-after rains great time to site visit structures for **DEBRIS REMOVAL (OF ALL TYPES) as this** increases water surface elevation





Debris removal under the bridge (trash from upstream)

or

Illegal dumping



TxDOT Off System Bridge Program (20 ft. or longer in travel direction)-GREAT TIME TO INCREASE CONVEYANCE!

- TxDOT construct at 80/20 split or 100% (if County shows other bridges have been repaired)
- TxDOT inspects
- County Responsibility to make repairs

# **Existing Structures**







New Structures





Maintain Rights-of-way-mulching is awesome-make sure grass clippings and tree branches aren't entering waterways-GREAT TO COMPOST AND DECREASE SILTATION IF NECESSARY!







Mowing

Pushmower-new guy Tractor Mowers-intermediate guys Boom mowers-advanced guys



# Maintain Rights-of-way-ENSURE UTILITY COMPANIES DON'T LEAVE SPOILS IN THE CHANNEL FROM REPAIRS/REPLACMENTS



**Utilities** 

If new installation, put it where you said you would If old installation, put it where it was



e flags

Signs

New and/or replacement





MAKE SURE SIGNAGE ALERTS MOTORISTS-MAKE SURE ADEQUATE SIGNAGE IS INSTALLED FOR DRAINAGE STRUCTURES (DELINEATORS, FLOOD GAUGES, ETC.)

Maintain Rights-of-way-evaluate opportunities to improve sideslopes

When burying dead animals, make sure spoils aren't thrown in the creek and/or floodplain areas.



2:1-or steeper (concrete/guardrail)

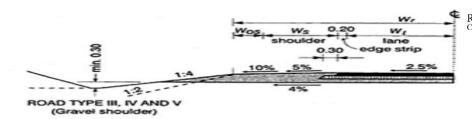
3:1-somewhat mowable likely not flip

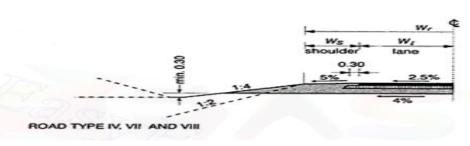
4:1-recoverable and mowable-more ROW

5:1-safe-even more ROW

6:1-perfect-even more ROW

Dead animals-ouch!







Maintain Rights-of-way-ensure debris is cleaned from

ditches/storm drains

Debris removal (tires, trash, barrels of?)

**Environmental Coordination** 







### Special Assistance Projects

Sheriff Office/District Attorney-excavation for buried evidence-ensure areas near creeks/floodplains are restored to their original condition

- No new high points to back up or "divert" water
- No new low points which will hold water-help conveyance



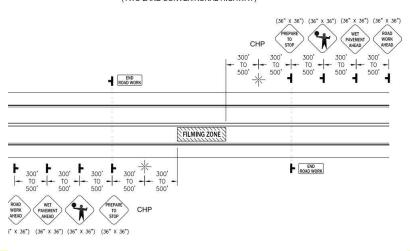
FILMING TRAFFIC CONTROL PLAN

(TWO LANE CONVENTIONAL HIGHWAY)

Movie filming/blocking of roadways

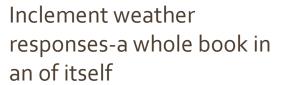
Traffic Control Plan

Ensuring roadways/structures/ditches are not damaged



# Special Assistance Projects





Ensure roadways are cleaned using vacuum rather than a sweep to ensure sand/various products aren't pushed downstream!







They oversee the PROPOSED roads and bridges within their precinct

#### THINK OF MAINTENANCE ISSUES WHEN "DESIGNING"!

Construction of New Roadways

Planning-look for ways to reduce floodplain areas and/or convey water efficiently downstream

MTP's (likely in coordination with multiple

Cities to connect the dots)

**Development of Schematics** 

Feasibility Studies

**Construction Plans** 

Roadways

New Culverts/driveway pipes

**Culvert Replacement** 

Construction of new roadways

New construction methods (typical sections

typically involving a Geotech used for new

pavement construction

Intersection Improvements



They oversee the roads and bridges within their precinct

THINK OF MAINTENANCE ISSUES WHEN "REVIEWING"!

Review of Proposed Subdivisions/Developments-review independent developments to ensure conveyance is efficient and floodplains are preserved



#### **Subdivisions**

Think of maintenance

New

Replats

Re-zoning-typically not allowed unless the

Legislature has specifically identified the

County to allow it

#### Commercial/Industries

Individual developments (commercial

adjacent to residential)

Large scale developments-raw water line,

sewer lines, electrical, sewer, etc.)

Special developments

Recycling tires

Pickle factory

Concrete Plant

Erosion of creek sidewalls adjacent

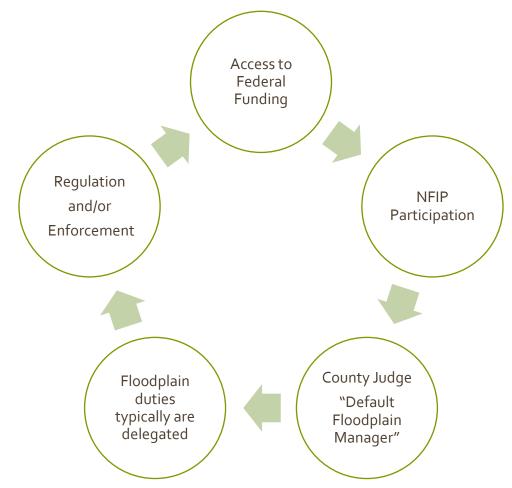
to roadways

50



# Regardless of County Official, Type of County setup

- Floodplains Exist (officially or not)
  - Officially-regulated via the NFIP
  - Un-officially-not regulated
- Loss of life and property can be reduced if not eliminated through floodplain management



# FLOODPLAIN AND COUNTY MAINTENANCE

# ROY CHARLES BROOKS COMMISSIONER, PRECINCT ONE

# THAT IS WHY IT MATTERS

# **QUESTIONS?**

# **Contact Information:**

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