

**Floodplain Management Plan Planning Committee Meeting Agenda
For
November 4, 2019**

Invitees:

Allyson Solomon, Metropolitan Pima Alliance
Arlan Colton, University of Arizona Planning Program
Brian Powell, Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Department
Carolyn Campbell, Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection
Catlow Shipek, Watershed Management Group
Chris Gurton, Country Financial
Christina McVie, Tucson Audubon Society
Diana Durazo, County Administrator's Office
Eric Holler, Community Water Coalition
Eric Shepp, Pima County Regional Flood Control District
Griselda Moya-Flores, Pima County Office of Emergency Management
Ian Sharp, Farmers Investment Company
Ivy Schwartz, Tucson Mountain Association
Jason Ground, Pima County Communications
Jeff Guthrie, Pima County Office of Emergency Management
Jim Cunningham, Pima County Department of Transportation
Jonathan Horst, Tucson Audubon Society
Lola Graeme, Catalina Foothills Association
Matt McGlone, Pima County Office of Emergency Management
Nicole Fyffe, Pima County Administrator's Office
Patrick Marum, Southern Arizona Homebuilders Association
Peter Chesson, Tucson Mountain Association
Sandra Espinoza, Pima County Office of Emergency Management
Shane Clark, Pima County Office of Emergency Management
Shawn Cote, Southern Arizona Homebuilders Association
Steve Dolan, Tucson Mountain Association
Steve Huffman, Tucson Association of Realtors
Terri Tillman, Pima County Development Services Department
Tim Campbell, Farmers Investment Company

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- 1) Welcome & Introductions
- 2) Project Schedule Review
- 3) Presentation of Problem Assessment (Exposure)
 - a) Building density in floodplains heat maps
 - b) Hazard and Problem Assessments – regional and by watershed
 - c) Summary list of problems identified in Step 5
 - d) DRAFT Plan Availability
 - e) Goals from the Floodplain Management Ordinance
- 4) Next Steps
 - a) Review DRAFT problem list for errors and omissions
 - b) Review Ordinance Goals & identify additional possible floodplain management planning goals.
- 5) Schedule next 2 meetings for Goal Setting and Review of Activities to address listed problems.
- 6) Adjournment

Notes:

Where have we been?: Step 5 Hazard Assessment Results

Since the third Committee meeting held July 22, 2019, District staff has completed a complete DRAFT of the plan. The only items excluded are the complete problem list, selected goals and activities, and implementation plan. The complete problem list will be provided prior to the meeting. The DRAFT is available on the project webpage. It includes process write up, review of existing plans, hazard and problem assessments, activity review and exemplary problem list, goals and selected activities. This represents the most challenging phase of committee participation, identifying goals to address each listed problem and reviewing which of the 6 authorized activities are appropriate. Accordingly meeting frequency for the next two months will increase.

The CRS Manual excerpt below shows these activities.

Floodplain Management Planning

1. **Preventive activities** keep flood problems from getting worse. The use and development of flood-prone areas is limited through planning, land acquisition, or regulation. They are usually administered by building, zoning, planning, and/or code enforcement offices.
 - Floodplain mapping and data
 - Open space preservation
 - Floodplain regulations
 - Erosion setbacks
 - Planning and zoning
 - Stormwater management
 - Drainage system maintenance
 - Building codes
2. **Property protection activities** are usually undertaken by property owners on a building-by-building or parcel basis.
 - Relocation
 - Acquisition
 - Building elevation
 - Retrofitting
 - Sewer backup protection
 - Insurance
3. **Natural resource protection activities** preserve or restore natural areas or the natural functions of floodplain and watershed areas. They are implemented by a variety of agencies, primarily parks, recreation, or conservation agencies or organizations.
 - Wetlands protection
 - Erosion and sediment control
 - Natural area preservation
 - Natural area restoration
 - Water quality improvement
 - Coastal barrier protection
 - Environmental corridors
 - Natural functions protection
4. **Emergency services measures** are taken during an emergency to minimize its impact. These measures are usually the responsibility of city or county emergency management staff and the owners or operators of major or critical facilities.
 - Hazard threat recognition
 - Hazard warning
 - Hazard response operations
 - Critical facilities protection
 - Health and safety maintenance
 - Post-disaster mitigation actions
5. **Structural projects** keep flood waters away from an area with a levee, reservoir, or other flood control measure. They are usually designed by engineers and managed or maintained by public works staff.
 - Reservoirs
 - Levees/floodwalls
 - Diversions
 - Channel modifications
 - Storm drain improvements
6. **Public information activities** advise property owners, potential property owners, and visitors about the hazards, ways to protect people and property from the hazards, and the natural and beneficial functions of local floodplains. They are usually implemented by a public information office.
 - Map information
 - Outreach projects
 - Real estate disclosure
 - Library
 - Technical assistance
 - Environmental education

Figure 510-4. Categories of floodplain management activities.

What's Next?: Step 6 Goal Setting

The product of the previous steps is a list of problems. This includes those identified by staff at the end of each watershed problem assessment chapter and those identified by the Committee to date. The draft contains a seed list, and the complete list will be distributed prior to the Committee meeting. The following policy goals and objectives are from the Floodplain Management Ordinance as reported each year in the District Annual Report and will be used as starting point for Committee discussion in the next meeting.

- 1) Minimize flood and erosion damages;
- 2) Meet or exceed state and federal requirements relating to floodplain management thereby enabling Pima County residents to purchase low-cost flood insurance, receive disaster relief (should the need arise), and seek residential and commercial real estate loans;
- 3) Establish minimum flood protection elevations and damage prevention requirements for structures and other types of development that may be vulnerable to flood and erosion damage;
- 4) Regulate encroachment and building development located within areas subject to flooding, erosion, or located within riparian habitat areas, and ensure that the flood-carrying capacity within the altered and/or relocated portion of any watercourse is maintained;
- 5) Encourage the most effective expenditures of public money for flood control projects;
- 6) Minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and erosion, which are generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- 7) Minimize damage to utilities and public facilities such as water and gas mains, electricity, telephone and sewer lines, and streets and bridges located in regulatory floodplain and erosion hazard areas;
- 8) Help maintain a stable tax base by providing protection of regulatory floodplain and erosion hazard areas;
- 9) Inform the public where property lies within a regulatory floodplain, riparian habitat area or erosion hazard area;
- 10) Ensure that those who occupy areas within regulatory floodplain and erosion hazard areas assume the responsibility for their actions within those areas;
- 11) Protect, preserve and enhance groundwater recharge; and
- 12) Encourage the preservation of natural washes, riparian habitat, and preserve the riverine environment.