

**Floodplain Management Plan Planning Committee Meeting Minutes  
For  
July 22, 2019**

Members in Attendance:

Arlan Colton, University of Arizona Planning Program  
Carolyn Campbell, Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection  
Catlow Shipek, Watershed Management Group  
Chris Bertrand, San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation  
Chris Gurton, Country Financial  
Christina McVie, Tucson Audubon Society  
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  
Jason Ground, Pima County Communications  
John Blaskett, San Xavier District of the Tohono O'odham Nation  
Jonathan Horst, Tucson Audubon Society  
Julia Fonseca, Pima County Office of Sustainability  
Matt McGlone, Pima County Office of Emergency Management  
Nicole Fyffe, Pima County Administrator's Office  
Steve Dolan, Tucson Mountain Association  
Terri Tillman, Pima County Development Services Department

Others in Attendance:

Ann Moynihan, PCRFCDCivil Engineering Manager  
Brian Jones, PCRFCDFloodplain Management Division Manager  
Evan Canfield, PCRFCDCivil Engineering Manager  
Joseph Cuffari, PCRFCDCProgram for Public Information Coordinator  
Greg Saxe, PCRFCDCRS Coordinator

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1) Welcome & Introductions

*The Community Rating System Coordinator (Coordinator) welcomed the group and the members introduced themselves as new participants had come.*

2) Project Schedule Review

a) Results of Step 1-3 (Committee, neighborhood meetings, stakeholder interviews, survey)

*As listed in the update new members had been added, numerous individual meetings held with stakeholders agencies, neighboring communities, businesses and neighborhood associations, and the survey had been distributed to all floodplain residents in unincorporated Pima County. Staff also described the intent to report the survey results during step 6, goal setting.*

b) Summary of additional hazards identified by stakeholders in Step 4 (debris flows, fire vulnerability, habitat with no underlying floodplain)

3) Presentation of Problem Assessment

a) Problems identified in working sessions (developments designed under outdated standards and modelling and pre-firm structures, dips, scour critical bridges, critical facilities, erosion on private property)

*Staff described the use of a spreadsheet as recommended by the CRS Manual to track, compile and aggregate input.*

b) Regional Problem Summary (Fact Sheet)

*Staff described the contents of fact sheets and their intention as teasers for the more detailed analysis to be provided prior to the next meeting. Discussion included describing the reliability and potential of available data.*

c) Watershed Specific Problem Summary (Fact Sheets)

*Staff described the more detailed contents of the watershed specific fact sheets and the level of detail to be provided in the draft plan chapters devoted to problem assessment of each watershed.*

d) Detailed Problem Assessment (Draft Plan Availability)

*The Coordinator proposed that distributing the draft problem assessments for each watershed in Pima County is the most effective way to prepare for step 6, set goals and*

*step 7, review possible activities. The Coordinator then asked the Committee for any additional assessment needs. Members recommended including:*

- *Number of buildings vs number of buildings with flood insurance Coverage*
- *Building type by flood zone*
- *Income per capita by watershed*
- *Separating permitted structures vs non-permitted for standardization and comparability of counts*
- *Separating rentals from owner occupied*
- *Inclusion of damage assessments for critical facilities*
- *Calling out data limitation caveats and flushing them out within reason*
- *Pima County Stress index by floodplain in each watershed*
- *Referencing the Pima County Community Development and Neighborhood Conservation Department 5 Year Housing Study*
- *Establish outreach project to promote technical assistance to those in need.*
- *Assessment of lot split areas in addition to Pima Prospers Growth Areas and Infill Incentive Districts*
- *Revisiting the definition of critical facilities inventoried*

*Staff responded in the affirmative and also described that at least some of these are components of the Program for Public Information target areas and Flood Insurance Coverage Assessment. Staff announced that this information will be a component of the draft chapters of the plan to be released to the Committee prior to the next meeting. The committee recommended that these be as separate documents under each watershed tab on the webpage for convenience and furthermore that the Table of Contents be distributed to help the committee understand the content. Staff agreed and further described how the chapters reflect the CRS planning steps and that the draft would include everything up to Step 6 goal setting and Step 7 review of activities. The Coordinator asked if there were any objections to proceeding in this manner. There were none.*

#### 4) Next Steps

1. *Staff will distribute the draft plan table of contents and ALERT link to the Committee and they are attached hereto.*
2. *District Geographic Information System staff to conduct detailed queries including all jurisdictions.*
3. *Coordinator to draft watershed problem assessment chapters incorporating this data and ancillary plans by others and then make draft up through Step/Chapter 5 available on the project webpage.*
4. *Schedule next meeting for mid-September after draft problem assessment chapters for each watershed are available.*

## 5) Questions

1. How do we get ahead of development?
2. How do we include reasonably foreseeable actions?
3. How do we identify vulnerable populations?
4. Can we establish data sharing agreements for flood studies and claims data?
5. How can we evaluate and encourage future floodplain acquisition?

## 6) Adjournment

## FMP Project Update and Hazard Assessment (Step 4) Results

Since the second Committee meeting held April 15, 2019, District staff has hosted work sessions as recommended by the Committee. These sessions provided interested members with access to senior District staff and the full suite of Geographic Information System (GIS) data available. This process helped identify site specific hazards and problems to be assessed in Step 5. In total four sessions were held. Participants included:

- Audubon Society
- Community Water Coalition
- Country Financial
- Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection
- Pima County Administration
- Pima County Development Services Department
- Pima County Office of Emergency Management
- San Xavier District of the Tohono O’odham Nation
- Tucson Mountain Association
- Pima County Transportation Department
- University of Arizona – Planning Program
- Watershed Management Group

Hazard assessment maps and associated studies are available on the project webpage.

Staff has also conducted one-on-one interviews with partner agencies and neighboring communities including:

- Cadden Property Management/SAHBA
- Coronado National Forest
- National Weather Service
- Pima Association of Governments
- Sonoran Institute
- Tohono O’odham Nation
- Town of Oro Valley
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Additional interviews are planned. Lastly the District mailed a brochure to all floodplain residents in unincorporated Pima County informing them of the planning process and encouraging them to fill out the survey available on-line at:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PCFCF\\_survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PCFCF_survey)

Results will be reported in step 7, review of activities.

## Step 5 Problem Assessment

Using best available data, the District has conducted GIS queries for each of the watersheds to be included in the plan. Staff has prepared fact sheets for the county as a whole, and each watershed that are available on the project website at [www.pima.gov/fmp](http://www.pima.gov/fmp) and are attached. Based in part on the committee’s reaction to this information, greater detail will be provided in the draft plan.

While we look forward to Step 6, setting goals, and Step 7 review of possible activities, as well as drafting an action plan in step 8, the best way to present the problem assessment information for Committee and public review will be as a draft plan on the project webpage. It will contain drafts of all chapters up through Step 5.

In addition to the hazard maps the fact sheets provide the following problem indicators:

- Floodplain population
- Buildings in the floodplain
- Insurance claims paid
- Distribution of insurance claims
- Critical facilities in the floodplain

The District requests that the Committee review these fact sheets to become familiar with the basic exposure problem so that when greater detail is provided it can be digested and appropriate activities considered in the next step. It may also inspire questions and guide further assessment that is needed.

