"MAKE WESLACO DRAIN AGAIN"
MANAGING EXPECTATIONS FOR
A COMMUNITY RESPONSE

PRESENTATION TOPICS
- Recent Flooding
- Response to Flooding
- Community Response
- Hidalgo County Bond
- City of Weslaco Response
- Project Development
- Existing Conditions
- Utility Mitigation
- Revised Criteria
- Project Alternatives
- Project Phasing
- Project Estimating
- Project Outcome

CITY OF WESLACO AND RECENT FLOODING
CITY OF WESLACO

LOCATION
- South Texas
- Hidalgo County
- 14.8 square miles
- Flat Terrain (1-2 ft/mile slope)

POPULATION
- Approximately 40,000 (2016)

HISTORY
- Primarily farmland
- IBWC Flood Control Channel (1958)

RECENT HISTORY OF FLOODING
- Hurricane Dolly 2008
- October 2015
- June 2018
RESPONSE TO FLOODING

CITY OF WESLACO FLOOD FORUM – COMMUNITY RESPONSE

JULY 11, 2018

Citizen Driven Meeting

Common Concerns:
- Repetitive Flooding
- Inadequate Drainage Infrastructure
- Existing Drainage Maintenance

Call for City’s Response
- Development of New Ponds
- Improved Maintenance
- New Engineers / City Leadership
- Prioritization

EFFECTIVE FEMAP MAPS

HIDALGO COUNTY FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY

- Hurricane Beulah 1967
- Aerial Photographs
- March 4, 1980
- Stage vs Storage
- SCS100-yr Runoff
- June 6, 2000
- Revised study
- Unincorporated Areas

HALFF
Hidalgo County
Precinct 1 Projects

CITY OF WESLACO RESPONSE

BUILD OFF HALFF’S HIDALGO COUNTY BOND MODEL
- Incorporate surrounding bond projects
- 1D / 2D Analysis
- Develop Project Schedule for Spring 2019 Elections

DRAINAGE CITIZENS’ TASK FORCE
- 10 Members Appointed by Commissioners

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
EXISTING CONDITIONS

DEVELOP EXISTING CONDITIONS MODEL
ICM Model Development
  1D / 2D model
  Previous Master Drainage Plans
  Storm Drains Incorporation
  Incorporating Hidalgo Bond Projects
  100 – Year Inundation Maps

HAFF

EXISTING CONDITIONS

KNOWN AREAS OF CONCERN
  100 – Year Inundation Maps
  Task Force Feedback
  District Considerations
  Field Visits

HAFF

EXISTING CONDITIONS

TASK FORCE INPUT
  Verify 100 – Year Inundation Maps

HAFF
100 – YEAR MITIGATION

FEASIBILITY
Task Force Project Selection

Project Needs Across City

Project Limitations
Right of Way Limits
Available/Applicable land for Ponds

COSTS
Still a need to have projects for a 50 – Year event and even a 10 – Year Event.

REVISED CRITERIA

TASK FORCE & PUBLIC
Initial Expectations

June 2018 Storm Event
Feasibility
Public Understanding
PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT
City Wide Projects
One Model with all Proposed Projects

TASK FORCE FEEDBACK
Projects Show Improvement

COSTS
Need to Phase Out

COMMUNICATING LEVEL OF EFFORT
Biweekly Meetings

PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

TASK FORCE
PROCESS / DEADLINES
Chairman Commencement
Public Comments & Q's
Present Latest Data
Suggestions for Additional Analysis
Project Locations

PROJECT PHASING

UNDERSTANDING TECHNICAL DATA
Exhibits
Detention Ponds
Conveyance
Adverse Impacts
COMMUNITY APPROVAL

95% IN FAVOR
Bond Election Passes
$10 Million Bond
$0.03/$100 Value Increase
Property Taxes

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK
Excited about Future Projects
June 2019 Flooding

QUESTIONS?

“Our homes were destroyed, and we were angry,” the drainage committee’s Chairman Randy Hall told the commission ...

“We decided to ... focus our energy and be part of a solution, and we believe that you have done the same to attempt to resolve these problems with the flooding.”

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