

PROJECTS AND PLANS FOR HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Ataul Hannan, P.E, CFM
Director, Planning Division, Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCFCD)
9900 Northwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77092

Using new methodologies and technologies, FEMA and the Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCFCD) will provide a more complete understanding of flood risks throughout Harris County. The project targets updates for 2500+ miles in 22 watersheds across Harris County, Texas using an approach that:

- Uses an unsteady 1D-2D coupled model
- Produces regulatory floodways with an updated approach looking at depth and velocity
- Assesses overland flow and non-riverine flood areas

The resultant new hydrologic and hydraulic models, floodplain mapping, and other flood risk products will be delivered to FEMA, local communities and the public at large, producing highly technical and credible information through relatively cost effective approaches.

The multi-year assessment will include new rainfall frequency data, updated terrain data, and improved hydrologic and hydraulic modeling technology and methods. The project will improve the understanding of the risk of flooding in Harris County so that the public, local communities and emergency managers can make informed decisions to protect life and property during flood events. HCFCFCD expects many changes to be reflected in the resulting flood risk maps that will impact how future projects, new development, and their associated mitigation strategies are implemented. This presentation will focus on the evolution of floodplain assessment and FEMA mapping approaches to produce the most up to date information for community use.