

## **Dallas Projects and Plans**

### **Errick L. Thompson, P.E.**

Assistant Director, City of Dallas  
Public Works & Transportation Department  
320 E. Jefferson Blvd., Room 201  
Dallas, Texas 75203  
[Errick.Thompson@DallasCityHall.com](mailto:Errick.Thompson@DallasCityHall.com)

The City of Dallas has a population of 1.2 million and covers 384 square miles of fairly flat to rolling terrain ranging from an elevation of 450 feet to 750 feet. The city lies within the Upper Trinity watershed and is nearly bisected by the Trinity River. The Upper Trinity watershed expands along the river from Gainesville in far north central Texas to Houston, a distance of over 300 miles. There are 17 lakes and a series of creeks and streams within the 32 sub-watersheds that make up Dallas. The city averages 33.7 inches of rainfall and 2.5 inches of snow annually. The average summer high temperature is 96. F and the average winter low temperature 36. F. Storm drainage, flood plain management, and flood control improvements are primarily funded through the City's general fund (ad valorem and sales taxes), the storm drainage management utility fund, and general obligation bonds. The City currently maintains favorable Community Rating system credit allowing Dallas property owners to receive 15% discounts on flood insurance.

Citizens of the City of Dallas overwhelmingly passed a \$1.35B General Obligation Bond Program in November, 2006. Included in the capital program was \$334M in flood control, storm drainage, and erosion control improvement projects to provide 100-yr flood protection for older parts of the city for the first time. The development of the capital program began with review and analysis of identified needs of over 4920M. The \$334M final program includes 46 erosion control projects at a cost \$9M, 17 major flood management projects valued at \$186.6M, and 28 storm drainage projects valued at \$138M.

The City's previous capital program in 2003 included \$16.4M for flood protection, storm drainage and erosion control. The 2006 program represents a 2,000% increase in terms of funding. In order to implement the program over a six-year time frame, it was important to consider program delivery options. Ultimately, the City decided to seek a program management firm for full service project management on a collection of larger projects. This presentation will provide an overview of some of those projects.