2015 Marty Martinez
All Hazard Incident Management Team
Conference and Training
Local Government

• All disasters are local. The citizens in the area where the event occurs, as well as their local governments and voluntary agencies, are the first to have to cope with the damage.

• When a local jurisdiction does not have the resources it needs to respond to a disaster, it turns to mutual aid and the state government for assistance.
State Government

• State governments provide support and additional resources for local governments and serve as agents for the local jurisdictions if federal disaster assistance is needed.

• Local governments cannot directly access federal programs; instead, the states work with FEMA to access federal programs and support.
Federal Government

• The federal government provides financial and other assistance to states, local governments, and tribal communities in support of response, recovery, and mitigation efforts.

• The federal role in emergency management also provides for published guidance, training, and education.
Texas Disaster Response
The Role of Public Works in Emergency Management

• Preparedness
• Response
• Recovery
• Mitigation
Annex K – Public Works & Engineering

– For slowly developing emergency situations, take actions to protect government facilities, equipment, and supplies prior to the onset of hazardous conditions.

– Provide heavy equipment support for search and rescue operations.

– Conduct damage-assessment surveys of public facilities, roads, bridges, and other infrastructure.

– Inspect damaged structures.
Annex K – Public Works & Engineering

– Clear debris from roadways and make repairs to reopen transportation arteries.
– Make expedient repairs to essential public facilities to restore operations or protect them from further damage.
– Remove debris from public property and manage debris disposal operations for public and private property.
– Assist in controlling public access to hazardous areas.
Response

- Assess damage
- Secure utilities and lifelines
- Open roads
- Manage environmental and safety hazards
- Manage resources
- Secure facilities
Recovery

• Public Works takes lead role
• Restoration of services
• Long-term debris management
• Inspection services
• Facility reconstruction
Purpose

When a catastrophic event occurs and the citizens of Texas have their daily lives and local economy disrupted, an immediate and integrated public works response provides for quicker recovery of critical services and infrastructure.
Mission

The Public Works Response Team (PWRT) supports local jurisdictions in their response to a catastrophic event by providing critical public works services as needed to facilitate recovery.
Program History

• Established in 2007

• Deployments
Administration

- State asset
- The operationally ready response teams are recruited from local jurisdictions
- Coordinated with other State Agencies.
- Memorandums of Understanding
Memorandum of Understanding

To delineate responsibilities and procedures for PWRT activities under the authority of the State’s Emergency Management Plan.

MOU commences on the date of the last signature and continues for a period of five (5) years.

Activation Procedure

Mobilization, Deployment, and Re-deployment

Administrative, Financial, and Personnel Management
Planning Support

- Re-entry
- Recovery of essential services
- Local capabilities
Operational Support

- Public works resources
- Information collection
- Support local jurisdictions
Liaison Support

- Point of contact
- Deployment
  - Incident
  - Local EOC
  - DDC
  - SOC
Team Composition

- Administrative
- Bridge Engineering
- Communications
- Dam / Levee Engineering
- Debris Clearance
- Electric Power Systems
- Electrician
- Environmental / Hazardous Materials
- Fleet Management
- Heavy Equipment
- Highways / Roads Engineering
- Inspector
- Natural Gas
- Parks & Recreation
- Public Works Resource Team POC
- Solid Waste
- Storm Water Drainage
- Structural Building Codes
- Traffic Signals
- Transportation Systems
- Wastewater
- Water
- Other
Resource Team

- Public entity
- Public Works Department
- Municipal Utility District
Individual Member

• Public Works Director
• Subject matter expert
• Not affiliated with a Resource Team
Membership Benefits

• Training opportunities
• Networking
• Educational
• Newsletter
Training

• PreparingTexas.org
• Various training opportunities
• Secure central location to store training certificates
Required Training

• IS-800.B: An Introduction to the National Response Framework

• IS-700.a: National Incident Management System

• IS-100.PWb: Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS 100) for Public Works

• IS-200: ICS for the Single Resource and Initial Action Incidents
Additional Training

- ICS-300: Intermediate ICS
- ICS-400: Advanced ICS
- O-305: AHIMT
- PWRT Strike Team Leader Training
Deployments

- Hurricane Dolly - 2008
- Hurricane Ike - 2008
- Hurricane Alex - 2010
- Cameron County Flood – 2008
- Starr County Flood – 2007, 2008
- Webb County Flood - 2010
- McAllen Hail Storm – 2012
- Hidalgo County Irrigation District 2 - 2012
Participating Agencies

- City of Mission
- City of Alton
- City of McAllen
- City of Edinburg
- City of Pharr
- City of San Juan
- City of Donna
- City of Weslaco
- City of Edcouch
- City of Harlingen
- City of Brownsville
- Hidalgo County
- Cameron County
- Willacy County
Public Works Response Team Response to West

• On April 17, 2013, an ammonium nitrate explosion occurred at the West Fertilizer Company storage and distribution facility in West, Texas.

• More than 150 buildings were damaged or destroyed.
How To Join

PUBLIC WORKS RESPONSE TEAM

When a catastrophic event occurs and the citizens of Texas have their daily lives and local economy disrupted, an immediate and integrated public works response provides for quicker recovery of critical services and infrastructure.

Established in 2007, the Public Works Response Team (PWRT) supports local jurisdictions in their response to a catastrophic event by providing critical public works services as needed to facilitate recovery.
Frequently Asked Questions

• By signing up, what am I volunteering for?
  – By signing up, you are volunteering to receive PWRT program updates and training opportunities. Response to an emergency will come in an official request from the State Operations Center, and only if you are available.

• Will I be reimbursed for my deployment expenses?
  – Yes. All members will be reimbursed for deployment expenses and are required to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the state prior to deployment.

• How do I obtain a copy of the PWRT Memorandum of Understanding?
  – To obtain a copy of the PWRT Memorandum of Understanding, download a copy from the website: www.dps.texas.gov/dem/PWRT
In Closing

• Public works professionals play a vital role in all phases of emergency management.

• Public works is one of the first responders on the scene when a disaster strikes.

• Before, during, and after an emergency, public works is the lifeline for the community.

• Be specific when ordering resources
Questions...
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www.dps.texas.gov/dem/pwrt