



# REBUILD TEXAS

The Governor's Commission to Rebuild Texas

# EYE OF THE STORM

- In Harvey's aftermath, Governor Greg Abbott created the Governor's Commission to Rebuild
  Texas headed by Texas A&M University System Chancellor, John Sharp.
- The commission's role was to "oversee the response and relief effort between the state and local governments to ensure victims of the storm get everything they need as quickly as possible" and to be "involved in the rebuilding process, focusing on restoring roads, bridges, schools and government buildings in impacted communities."
- "Eye of the Storm" offered to the Texas Legislature 44 wideranging recommendations to help Texas better prepare for future catastrophic storms in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.
- Chief Kidd remains Chief of the Texas Division of Emergency Management and has also become Vice Chancellor for Disaster and Emergency Services at The Texas A&M University System.



# Report Findings

- First, Texas is the best in the nation in its ability respond to disasters, but we also identified ways that we can improve through more efficient organization, more effective coordination, better information and applying emerging technologies.
- Second, apply the lessons of Harvey to the strategies we use to begin the recovery in the critical days and weeks following a future disaster.
- Third, streamline and improve our longer-term approach to recovery.
- Fourth, be better prepared and recommend ways to do that.
- **Fifth,** provide local governments, Texas businesses and individual Texans with better and more accessible information, and develop our communities in ways that don't expose homeowners and businesses to risks that only become apparent when disaster strikes.
- Finally, begin the vital work of future-proofing Texas, and develop a more organized method of approaching this imposing task.

# Report Recommendations

- In total, we make 44 recommendations.
- These have been reviewed with Governor Abbott's office and the Division of Emergency Management.
- Recommendations are tied to findings.





# Key Recommendations

- Reorganize emergency management functions to unify the most critical response and recovery functions.
- Institutionalize the use of extension agents from the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service as a "force extender" in support of the Texas Division of Emergency Management.
- Use System experts to create a recovery task force in support of TDEM to provide specialized assistance to local governments.
- Set up a response team at the state level to respond to questions and other inquiries from local emergency management officials.



# Key Recommendations (continued)

- Establish a special study committee to evaluate and propose options for a state-local partnership to help futureproof Texas on a watershed basis.
- Review current training courses to strengthen training for recovery operations for state and local personnel. (TEEX).
- Collaborate with Congress and federal agencies to improve disaster management laws and policies.
- Apply new technologies to disaster response and recovery.
- Develop a comprehensive inventory of "future-proofing" projects to pursue as funding permits (TDEM, GCRT).



# Each Disaster Begins And Ends At The Local Level

- Effective emergency management relies on the integration of emergency plans at all levels of government and nongovernment, including individuals and community organizations.
- The local government maintains control of all assets used in the response and recovery efforts, regardless of the source of those assets. Local governments must plan and prepare for this role with the support of the state and federal government.

#### TDEM Structure Around the State

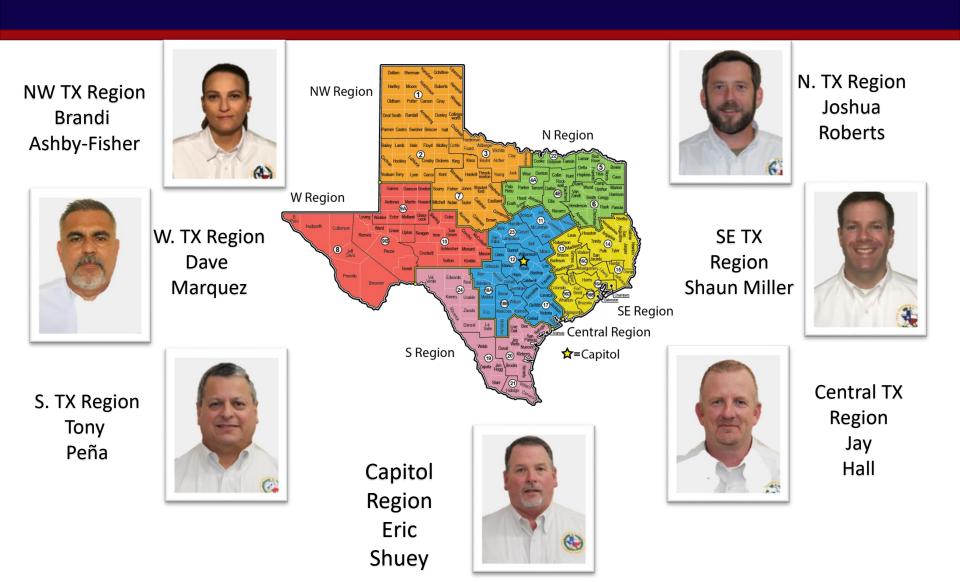
#### • DDC, SC & DC

- Disaster District Chair (DDC)
- Texas Highway Patrol (THP)
- Captain/Lieutenant
- TDEM Regional State Coordinator (SC)
- TDEM District Coordinator (DC)

#### DPS State Regions

- Texas is divided into 6 geographical regions.
- The Capitol Complex is a stand-alone region.
- Field Response State Coordinators oversee a team of District Coordinators.

# People to Know: State Coordinators



# **District Coordinators**



TDEM district coordinators serve as local emergency management and homeland security liaisons. They work directly with local government officials, volunteer groups, and private sector partners to prevent, protect, mitigate, respond and recover from disaster.

dps.texas.gov/tdem/FieldResponse

# **IMT** Roles in Texas

#### Provide support to:

- DDC
- · DDC staging area
- Local governments

# • 17 Type 3 Incident Management Teams (IMT) and single resources working under the direction of the Texas A&M Forest Service

- Strategically located throughout the state
- State IMT Coordinator located at the State Operations Center (SOC) during activation of IMTs to ensure coordination of deployed teams
- Activated at the request of a Disaster District Chair (DDC) and is
- assigned and reports to the DDC
- Assigned to assist and report to a local jurisdiction when
- requested by the local jurisdiction through the DDC
- All teams accompanied by TFS Chief of Party

# Emergency Operations & Type III IMT Program

#### Texas Type III IMT Program

- State IMT Coordinator located at the State Operations Center (SOC) during activation of IMTs to ensure coordination of deployed teams
- Activated at the request of a Disaster District Chair (DDC) and is assigned and reports to the DDC
- Assigned to assist and report to a local jurisdiction when requested by the local jurisdiction through the DDC
- All teams accompanied by TFS Chief of Party

### Executive Order No. GA-05

 Signed by Governor Abbott December 13, 2018, the GA -05 is a new Executive Order updating the Texas Emergency Management Council to include 39 different state agencies and volunteer organizations:

- American Red Cross
- Public Utility Commission of Texas
- Railroad Commission of Texas \*
- State Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service \*
- Texas A&M University System
- Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service
- Texas A&M Forest Service \*
- Texas Animal Health Commission \*
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality \*
- Texas Commission on Fire Protection
- Texas Department of Agriculture
- Texas Department of Criminal Justice

- Texas Department of Information Resources
- Texas Department of Insurance
- Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
- Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
- Texas Department of Public Safety \*
- Texas Department of State Health Services \*
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Texas Division of Emergency Management
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas Facilities Commission
- Texas General Land Office \*
- Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

- Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- Texas Military Department
- Texas Office of the Attorney General
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department \*
- Texas State Auditor's Office
- Texas State University System
- Texas Tech University System
- Texas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
- Texas Workforce Commission
- The Salvation Army
- University of Houston System
- University of North Texas System
- University of Texas System

