

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE
HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT AND NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION/NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**

**FOR ASSISTANCE IN COLLECTING AND MEASURING HIGH WATER
MARKS AND OTHER ASSOCIATED IMPACTS RELATED TO
FLOODING, IN PARTICULAR TROPICAL CYCLONES**

WHEREAS, the Harris County Flood Control District (District) desires to assist the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Weather Service (NOAA/NWS), by providing equipment and expertise to mark and measure high water marks during storm events nationwide with a focus on storm surge and wave run-up; and

WHEREAS, the NOAA/NWS desires the District's expertise to document storm surge and associated inland flooding to improve the accuracy of the historical record and better calibrate forecasts/models to improve future flood forecasts and messaging, and ultimately reduce flood loss from future storms and tropical cyclones; and

WHEREAS, NOAA/NWS is responsible for weather forecasts and attempts to verify flooding associated with landfalling tropical cyclones along the coast of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the District, a conservation and reclamation district authorized by the Texas Legislature and whose mission is to provide flood damage reduction projects that work, with appropriate regard for community and natural values, is responsible for collecting high water marks in Harris County from inland flooding and inundation near Galveston Bay and can provide expertise and equipment support (assistance) to other areas of the United States related to storm surge; and

WHEREAS, the NWS requests the District's assistance in other areas of the country if those services are needed and only if the District is able to provide the support and there are no forecasted severe weather impacts to the Harris County area, including the threat of a tropical cyclone in the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to volunteer its expertise and equipment to help NOAA/NWS and will pay its own costs incurred in providing this assistance; and

WHEREAS, this non-binding Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") documents the intentions of the District to assist NOAA/NWS if requested and if able, at the sole discretion of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, the following are the points of contact for the Parties to this MOU are:

Harris County Flood Control District
Attn: Executive Director
9900 Northwest Freeway
Houston, Texas 77092
346-286-4000

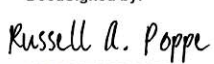
Jeffry Evans, Meteorologist in Charge
National Weather Service Houston/Galveston
1353 FM 646
Dickinson, TX 77539
jeffry.evans@noaa.gov

Jamie Rhome, Storm Surge Specialist/Team Lead
National Hurricane Center
11691 SW 17th St.
Miami, FL 33165

The term of this MOU shall be five years from the date of final execution. Either the District or NOAA/NWS may terminate its participation in this MOU with or without cause with written notice to the other party.

The District and NOAA/NWS have executed and delivered this MOU on the date set forth next to their respective signatures below, but the MOU is effective as of the date of the last signature. This MOU may be executed in several counterparts. Each counterpart is deemed an original. All counterparts together constitute one and the same instrument. Each party warrants that the undersigned is a duly authorized representative with the power to execute this MOU.

HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

DocuSigned by:

4BD1C2EDFD264B7...
By: _____ 4/19/2021
RUSS POPPE Date Signed

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

DocuSigned by:

2ECDEA6F31B14F5...
By: _____ 4/19/2021
JEFFRY EVANS Date Signed

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CHRISTIAN D. MENELEE
Harris County Attorney

HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
DISTRICT

By: 
LAURA FIORENTINO CAHILL
Senior Assistant County Attorney

By: _____
LINA HIDALGO
County Judge

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
 COUNTY OF HARRIS §

The Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, convened at a meeting of said Court at the Harris County Administration Building in the City of Houston, Texas, on _____, with the following members present, to-wit:

Lina Hidalgo	County Judge
Rodney Ellis	Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Adrian Garcia	Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Tom S. Ramsey, P.E.	Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
R. Jack Cagle	Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

and the following members absent, to-wit: _____, constituting a quorum, when among other business, the following was transacted:

**ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
 THE HARRIS COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT AND NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
 ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION/NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**

Commissioner _____ introduced an order and made a motion that the same be adopted. Commissioner _____ seconded the motion for adoption of the order. The motion, carrying with it the adoption of the order, prevailed by the following vote:

		Yes	No	Abstain
AYES:	Judge Lina Hidalgo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NAYS:	Comm. Rodney Ellis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ABSTENTIONS:	Comm. Adrian Garcia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Comm. Tom S. Ramsey, P.E.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Comm. R. Jack Cagle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The County Judge thereupon announced that the motion had duly and lawfully carried and that the order had been duly and lawfully adopted. The order thus adopted follows:

WHEREAS, the Harris County Flood Control District (District) desires to assist the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Weather Service (NOAA/NWS), by providing equipment and expertise to mark and measure high water marks during storm events nationwide with a focus on storm surge and wave run-up; and

WHEREAS, the NOAA/NWS desires the District's expertise to document storm surge and associated inland flooding to improve the accuracy of the historical record and better calibrate forecasts/models to improve future flood forecasts and messaging, and ultimately reduce flood loss from future storms and tropical cyclones; and

WHEREAS, NOAA/NWS is responsible for weather forecasts and attempts to verify flooding associated with landfalling tropical cyclones along the coast of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the District, a conservation and reclamation district authorized by the Texas Legislature and whose mission is to provide flood damage reduction projects that work, with appropriate regard for community and natural values, is responsible for collecting high water marks in Harris County from inland flooding and inundation near Galveston Bay and can provide expertise and equipment support (assistance) to other areas of the United States related to storm surge; and

WHEREAS, the NWS requests the District's assistance in other areas of the country if those services are needed and only if the District is able to provide the support and there are no forecasted severe weather impacts to the Harris County area, including the threat of a tropical cyclone in the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the District desires to volunteer its expertise and equipment to help NOAA/NWS and will pay its own costs incurred in providing this assistance; and

WHEREAS, this non-binding Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") documents the intentions of the District to assist NOAA/NWS if requested and if able, at the sole discretion of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1: The recitals set forth in this order are true and correct.

Section 2: County Judge Lina Hidalgo is hereby authorized to execute for and on behalf of the Harris County Flood Control District, an Agreement by and between the Harris County Flood Control District and National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration/National Weather Service, Said Agreement Being Incorporated Herein by reference for all purposes as though fully set forth verbatim herein.

hod NWS mou 2022-16.docx