

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

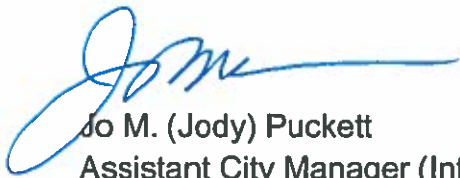
DATE February 7, 2018

TO The Honorable Members of the Mobility Solutions, Infrastructure and Sustainability Committee: Lee M. Kleinman (Chair), Rickey D. Callahan (Vice-Chair), Sandy Greyson, Adam Medrano, Casey Thomas, II and Tennell Atkins

SUBJECT **Dallas Floodway System Update**

On Monday, February 12, 2018, you will be briefed on Dallas Floodway System Update. The briefing materials are attached for your review.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.



Jo M. (Jody) Puckett  
Assistant City Manager (Interim)

[Attachment]

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Larry Casto, City Attorney  
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor  
Bilieraë Johnson, City Secretary (Interim)  
Daniel F. Solis, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Chief of Community Services  
Raquel Favela, Chief of Economic Development & Neighborhood Services  
Theresa O'Donnell, Chief of Resilience  
Directors and Assistant Directors

# Dallas Floodway System Update

**Mobility Solutions,  
Infrastructure &  
Sustainability  
Committee**

**February 12, 2018**

**Sarah Standifer, Director  
Trinity Watershed  
Management**



# Presentation Overview

- Purpose
- Background/History
- Current Activities
- Path Forward
- Proposed Actions
- Next Steps

# Purpose

- Overview of partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and City
- Status of current operations, planning and construction activities underway in the Dallas Floodway System
- Update on planned next steps

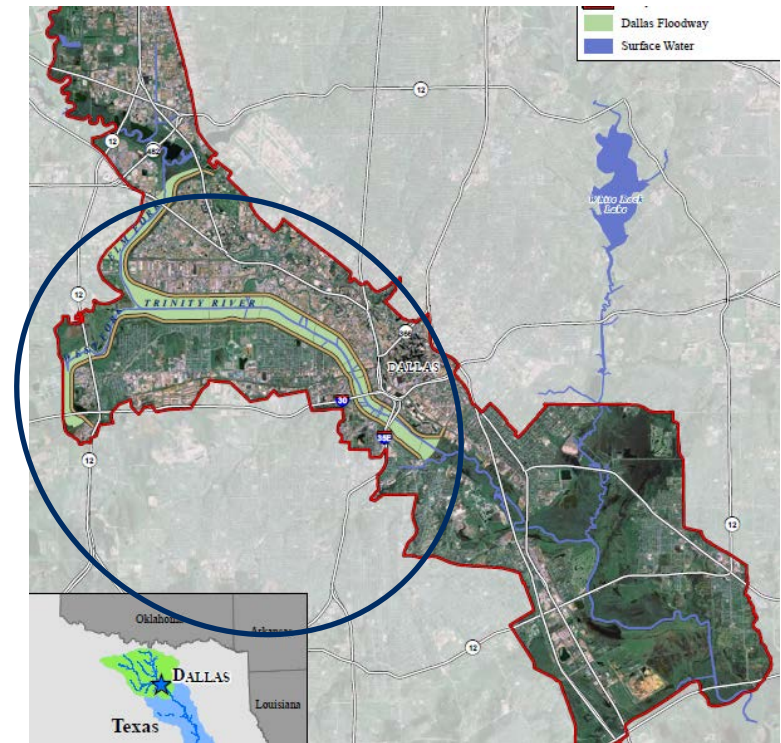
# Background/History

- City owns the land associated with the Dallas Floodway System, including Dallas Floodway and Dallas Floodway Extension
- Corps regulates these lands to ensure the primary purpose of flood risk management is upheld
  - City is responsible for maintaining flood risk management features and certain ecological features in accordance with Corps' regulations
  - City is responsible for minor and major improvements to flood risk management features and certain ecological features

# Dallas Floodway

Dallas Floodway  
geographic boundary:

- West and Elm Forks through the confluence of the Trinity River to the ATSF bridge near the DART line at 8th Street/Riverfront



# Background/History, continued

- Dallas Floodway levees established in 1920s
- Partnership with Corps began in 1945 with improvements to the system and official entry to federal program
- Transfer from Dallas County Flood Control District to the City occurred in 1968
- Dallas maintained the Dallas Floodway and began work on upgrades to the levees with the Corps in 1996

# Background/History, continued

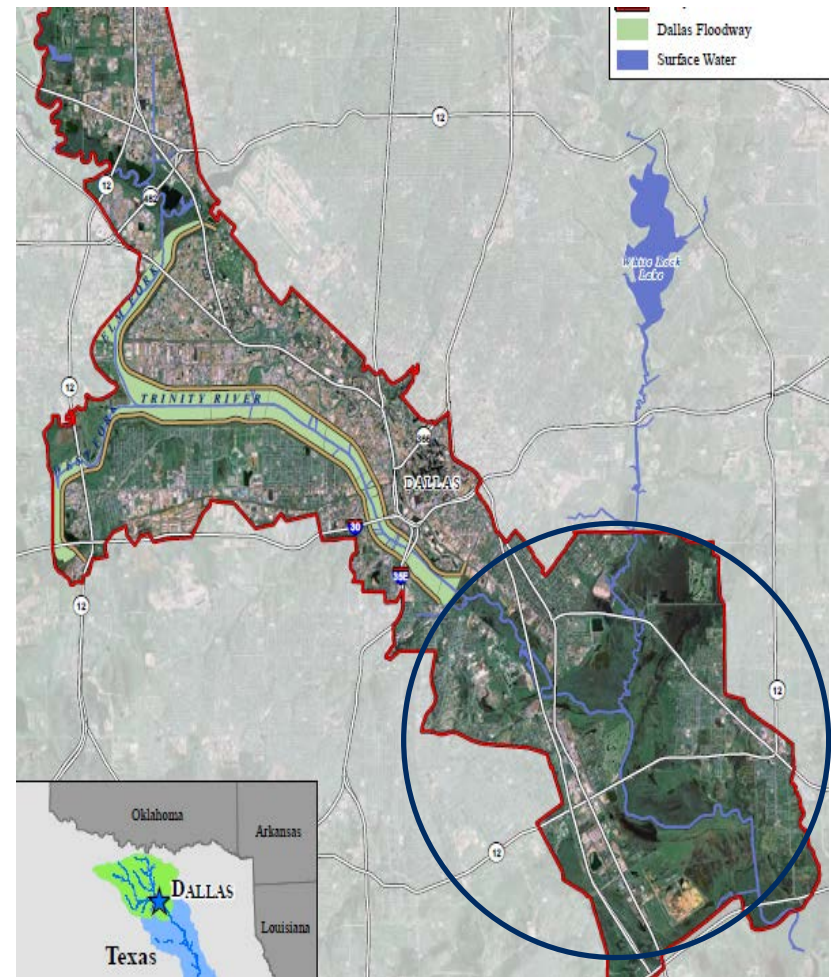
- Water Resources Development Act of 2007 established the current project known as the Dallas Floodway Project
- Final approvals and a record of decision (ROD) were issued in 2015, which allow for design and construction to begin
- 2015 decision outlines:
  - Federal cost share project (\$673M – 65% federal and 35% local)
  - Non-federal cost share project
  - Project implementation order
  - Project funded through workplan, no federal funding to date



# Dallas Floodway Extension

Dallas Floodway Extension geographic boundary:

- ATSF bridge near the DART line at 8th to IH20/Dowdy Ferry



# Background/History, continued

- Dallas Floodway Extension was authorized in 1965 as part of the partnership with the Corps
- Dallas maintained a floodway condition and began working with the Corps on the Dallas Floodway Extension study to provide additional flood protection in the early 1990s
- Major flooding in the late 1980s and early 1990s resulted in the City building the Rochester Levee and making major improvements to the Central Wastewater Treatment Levee ahead of the Corps' study completion
  - Water Resources Development Act of 1996 added these levees to the federal levee system and provides for credit/reimbursement to the City

# Background/History, continued

Dallas Floodway Extension ROD, issued in 1999, defines:

- Federal cost share project (\$159M – 75% federal and 25% local)
- Project is under construction
- Costs have escalated to approximately \$459M in 2017 dollars
- Project funded through City and federal appropriations, approximately \$100M to date

# Current Activities

- Operations and maintenance of the system are ongoing (pump stations, sumps, levees, outfalls, pressure sewers, etc.)
- Corps and City are completing:
  - 2017 Annual Inspection Report, anticipated to be available in March/April 2018
  - Levee Safety Action Classification Report, anticipated in early Summer 2018
- City construction of Able Pump Station and Corps oversight ongoing
- Corps construction of Upper Chain of Wetlands and associated joint use maintenance trails ongoing

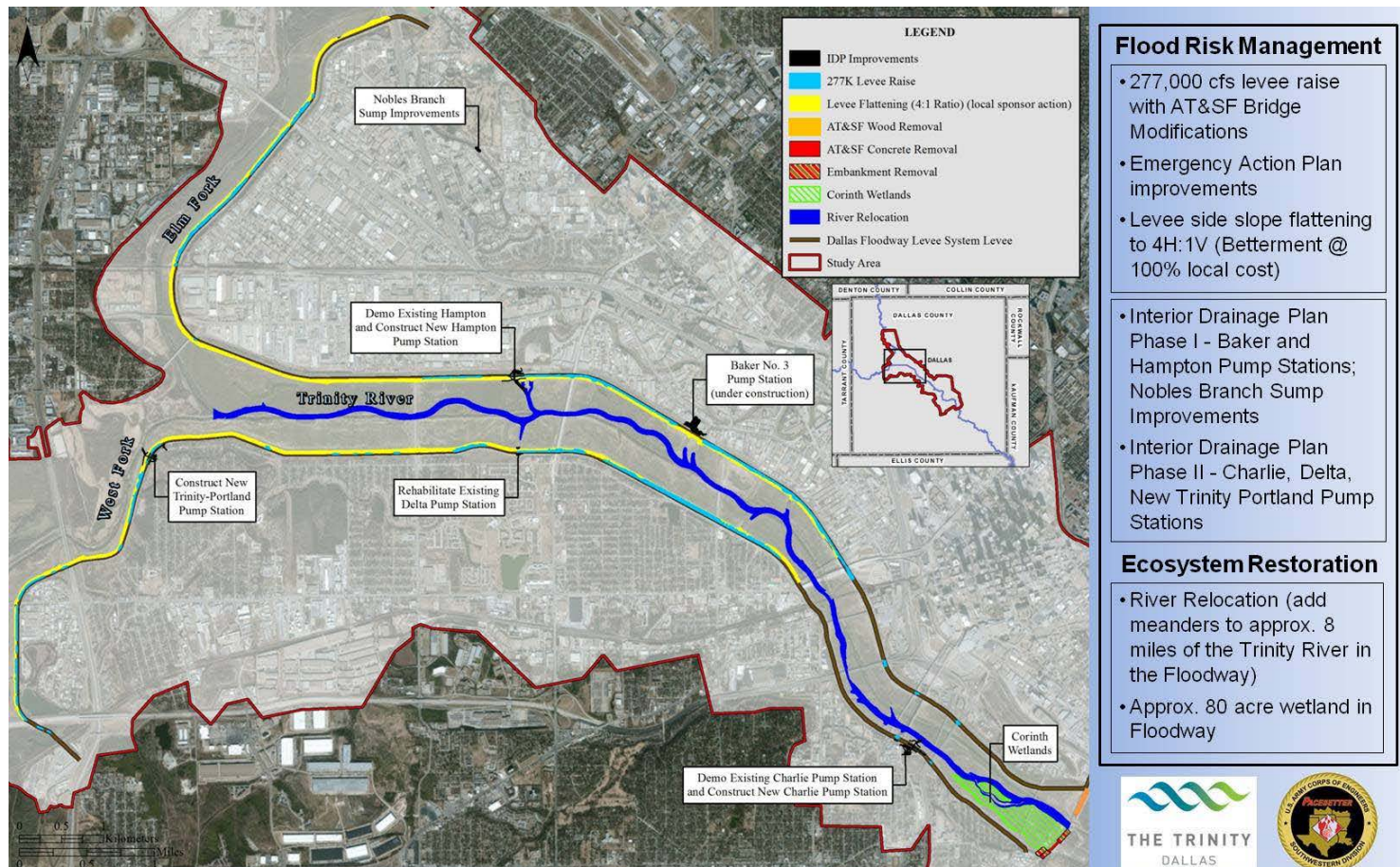
# Path Forward

Dallas Floodway Project details for implementation by the City, Corps or other partners include:

- Flood Risk Management (FRM): Levee raises, removal of ATSF Bridge to ensure 277,000cfs flow of water
- Ecosystem Restoration (ER): River relocation, Corinth Wetlands
- Interior Drainage Plan (IDP)
  - Baker, Charlie, Delta, Hampton, Trinity Portland Pump Stations and Nobles Branch Sump
  - Can be advanced at any time
  - Recreation (REC): Approved as part of Corps' study but to be implemented by others, not part of cost share with Corps



# Dallas Floodway Project – Federal Project





# Dallas Floodway Project – Recreation



With its 2,300 acres, the Trinity Lakes area of the Balanced Vision Plan will augment, by more than 10 percent, the city's overall green space assets, more than doubling the miles of trails and outdoor venues. No other city green space will match the variety of activities or the richness in landscape—both urban and natural—of the Trinity Lakes area.

Although the existing Trinity River floodplain is already an altered landscape and will be further altered through the construction of the project, the design intent is to create or re-create, self-sustaining, viable and high ecologically functioning landscapes that reflect the native landscapes of the region.



The Trinity Lakes area is the portion of the Trinity River Corridor Project between the confluence and the B&M Bridge. The area is 2.5 times larger than New York's Central Park.



CITY OF DALLAS BALANCED VISION PLAN RENDERINGS – THE TRINITY RIVER CORRIDOR DESIGN GUIDELINES (200?)

# Path Forward, continued

- To move forward with any construction in the Dallas Floodway, the City must complete the permitting process with the Corps
  - Permitting process includes all proposed improvements for the federal project and the recreation
  - Includes regional and federal permitting
  - Estimated to take six-eight months from application
- This path will allow coordination and evaluation with the Corps for development of future recreation projects with Trinity River Corridor LGC



# Proposed Action

- Development agreements between the City and Corps are necessary to move the project forward
- Corps and City are pursuing an agreement that provides:
  - Flexibility for design and construction to be completed by City or Corps
  - Preserves the right to receive credit and/or reimbursement for eligible activities in the future
  - Minimizes time to implement project
- Current development agreement is known as an Advance Funding Agreement

# Proposed Action, continued

- Use 1998 Bond Funding (approximately \$48.3M) for flood risk management activities to begin permitting, design and construction
- Completing the flood risk management activities will return the levees flood capacity to the original condition (277,000cfs) and ensure City regulatory compliance with the Corps
- Advancing flood risk management allows opportunity to advance other project elements

# Next Steps

During the next four to eight months:

- Complete permitting and contract negotiations with Corps (March-November)
- Initiate flood risk management design in conjunction with the Corps (estimated September)
- Continue coordination activities with other partners on ecological and recreation features (ongoing)

# Next Steps, continued

## Contract actions:

- Depending on costs, consideration of contract to complete permitting associated with Dallas Floodway
- Consideration of contract documents between City and Corps
- Continue legislative activities to seek Dallas Floodway and Dallas Floodway Extension funding

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# Appendix





# Federal Dallas Floodway System

