

# **ANNEX K**

# **PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING**

COMANCE COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF  
COMANCHE, DeLEON, & GUSTINE

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**Jurisdiction**

# APPROVAL & IMPLEMENTATION

## Annex K PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING

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## ANNEX K

### Public Works & Engineering

#### I. AUTHORITY

See Basic Plan Section I.

Texas Government Code, Section 418.023, Clearance of Debris.

[Include any local ordinance or order that provides for emergency purchasing or contracting.]

[Include any local ordinance or order that provides for expedited demolition of damaged structures during emergency situations.]

#### II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this annex is to outline the local organization, operational concepts, responsibilities, and procedures to accomplish coordinated public works and engineering activities during emergency situations

#### III. EXPLANATION OF TERMS

##### A. Acronyms

DEM	Division of Emergency Management
DPS	Texas Department of Public Safety
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
EMC	Emergency Management Coordinator
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
IC	Incident Commander
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
TDH	Texas Department of Health
TNRCC	Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission
TxDOT	Texas Department of Transportation

##### B. Definitions

1. Debris Clearance. Clearing roads of debris by pushing debris to the roadside.

2. Debris Disposal. Placing mixed debris and or the residue of debris volume reduction operations into an approved landfill.
3. Debris Removal. Picking up debris and taking it to a temporary storage site for sorting and/or volume reduction or to a permanent disposal site. Debris removal also includes demolishing damaged structures and removing the remains of such structures.

<b>IV. SITUATION &amp; ASSUMPTIONS</b>
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**A. Situation**

1. See the general situation statement and hazard summary in Section IV.A of the Basic Plan.
2. This jurisdiction can expect to experience emergency situations that could threaten public health and safety and private and public property and necessitate the need for emergency public works and engineering services.

**B. Assumptions**

1. Public Works and Engineering equipment and personnel may be employed prior to a disaster in an attempt to reduce its severity or in the aftermath of a disaster to restore government facilities and infrastructure.
2. Local departments and agencies responsible for the public works and engineering function probably do not have sufficient resources to cope with a major disaster.
3. Public works & engineering departments and agencies can reasonably be expected to accomplish expedient repair and restoration of essential services and vital facilities, but it will probably be necessary to contract for major reconstruction.
4. Public works and engineering will be able to organize and carry out debris clearance in the aftermath of an emergency, but may require external assistance in debris removal there are large quantities of debris or if debris includes hazardous materials.
5. Private construction and engineering firms and equipment rental contractors have staff and equipment resources that may be contracted for to carry out public works and engineering activities during emergency situations. However, local government may have to compete with businesses and individuals seeking those resources for repairs or rebuilding.

6. Assistance may be available from other jurisdictions through inter-local agreements [and from commercial firms through contingency contracts]. Some types of emergency situations, including earthquakes, hurricanes, and floods may affect large areas, making it difficult to obtain assistance from usual sources.
7. Damage to chemical plants, power lines, sewer and water distribution systems, and secondary hazards, such as fires, could result in health and safety hazards that may pose a threat to public works and engineering personnel.
8. Local landfills and waste disposal facilities may be inadequate to deal with large amounts of debris and it may be necessary to use alternate methods and facilities for disposal.

## **V. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

### **A. General**

The general public works and engineering tasks to be performed during emergency situations include:

1. For slowly developing emergency situations, take actions to protect government facilities, equipment and supplies prior to the onset of hazardous conditions.
2. Provide heavy equipment support for search and rescue operations.
3. Survey damage to public facilities, roads, bridges, and other infrastructure.
4. Inspect damaged structures.
5. Clear debris from streets and roads and make repairs to reopen transportation arteries.
6. Make expedient repairs to essential public facilities to restore them to operation or protect them from further damage.
7. Remove debris from public property and manage disposal of debris from public and private property.
8. Assist in controlling public access to hazardous areas.

### **B. Protecting Resources and Preserving Capabilities**

1. For slowly developing emergency situations, it may be possible to employ public works and engineering resources to protect government facilities and equipment and essential utilities and thus prevent or reduce damage. Protective actions may include sandbagging, building protective levees, ditching, installing protective window coverings, or removing vital equipment. Public works and engineering elements are expected to identify buildings and other infrastructure that would benefit from protection and, in coordination with the departments or agencies that occupy those facilities, carry out such protective actions.
2. If time permits, public works and engineering elements are also expected to take action in advance of an emergency situation to preserve response and recovery capabilities by protecting vital equipment and supplies, either in place or by temporarily evacuating it to safer locations. It is desirable that agreements with

other jurisdictions to host local resources at risk be developed in advance of an emergency.

### **C. Search & Rescue (SAR) Support**

Public works and engineering crews may be required to provide heavy equipment support for search and rescue operations, particularly support for search operations in collapsed buildings.

### **D. Damage Assessment**

1. As the primary local government expertise in construction and maintenance of buildings and other infrastructure resides with public works and engineering departments and agencies, public works and engineering personnel are expected to play a primary role in leading the local teams that will make preliminary assessments of damage to public buildings, homes, businesses, roads, bridges, and other infrastructure. Damage assessment procedures and the forms to be used in that process are discussed in Annex J, Recovery.
2. Public works and engineering personnel shall inspect damaged structures. The purpose of such inspections is to identify unsafe structures and post signs and, if necessary, take other actions to restrict entry to and occupancy of such structures.
3. Damaged buildings that pose an immediate threat to public health and safety should be demolished. [[Local ordinance or regulation] provides for expedited demolition of structures that pose a threat to public health during emergency situations.]

### **E. Debris Clearance and Removal**

See Appendix 1, Debris Management.

### **F. Temporary Repairs and Restoration**

1. The public works and engineering staff is expected to make timely temporary repairs to government-owned buildings and other infrastructure that is essential for emergency response and recovery and take action to protect all government buildings and their contents from further damage until they can be repaired. To protect some equipment and records, it may be necessary to relocate them from damaged structures. Personnel should coordinate with building occupants to determine which areas and equipment have the highest priority for protection.
2. Hazardous situations may result in damage to computers which hold vital government records as well as to hard copy records, such as building plans, legal documents, tax records, and other documents. When computers or paper

records are damaged, it is essential to obtain professional technical assistance to restore them as soon as possible.

3. It is generally infeasible to restore buildings that have suffered major damage during the emergency response. Major repairs will normally have to be postponed until recovery operations commence; such repairs will typically be contracted.

## **G. Activities by Phases of Management:**

### 1. Mitigation

- a. Identify vulnerabilities of existing public buildings, roads, bridges, water systems, and sewer systems to known hazards and take steps to lessen vulnerabilities
- b. Reduce vulnerability of new public facilities to known hazards through proper design and site selection.
- c. Develop plans to protect facilities and equipment at risk from known hazards.
- d. Install emergency generators in key facilities and have portable generators available to meet unexpected needs.

### 2. Preparedness

- a. Ensure government buildings, roads and bridges, and public works equipment are in good repair.
- b. Ensure there are an adequate number of personnel trained to operate heavy equipment and other specialized equipment.
- c. Stockpile materials needed to protect and repair structures, roads, bridges, and other infrastructure.
- d. Develop general priorities for clearing debris from roads.
- e. Maintain an adequate quantity of barricades and temporary fencing.
- f. Maintain current maps and plans of government facilities, roads, bridges, and utilities.
- g. Review plans, evaluate emergency staffing needs in light of potential requirements, and make tentative emergency task assignments
- h. Establish and train damage survey teams.

- i. Execute contingency contracts for emergency equipment and services with local contractors and execute agreements with individuals and businesses to borrow equipment.
  - j. Develop procedures to support accomplish the tasks outlined in this annex.
  - k. Ensure that government-owned vehicles and other equipment can be fueled during an electrical outage.
3. Response
- a. If warning is available, take actions to protect government facilities and equipment
  - b. Survey areas affected by a hazard, assess damage, and determine the need and priority for expedient repair or protection to prevent further damage. Report damage assessments to the EOC.
  - c. Upon request, provide heavy equipment support for SAR operations. See Annex R, Search and Rescue.
  - d. Clear roads of debris. See Appendix 2.
  - e. Inspect damaged buildings to determine if they are safe for occupancy.
  - f. Remove debris from public property and manage proper disposal of all debris. See Appendix 2.
  - g. Make repairs to damaged government facilities and equipment, as needed.
  - h. Coordinate with the Energy & Utilities staff to arrange for emergency electrical service, if required to support emergency operations.
  - i. Assist [the Water & Sewer Department/Utility Department/other] in making emergency repairs to government-owned utility systems, as necessary. See Annex L, Energy & Utilities.
  - j. Restrict access to hazardous areas, using barricades and temporary fencing, upon request.
4. Recovery
- a. Repair or contract for repairs to government-owned buildings, roads, bridges, and other infrastructure.
  - b. Support community clean up efforts, as necessary.

- c. Participate in compiling estimates of damage and of response and recovery costs.
- d. Participate in post-incident review of emergency operations and make necessary changes to improve emergency plans and procedures.

<b>VI. ORGANIZATION &amp; ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES</b>
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**A. Organization**

- 1. The function of public works and engineering during emergency situations shall be carried out in the framework of our normal emergency organization described in Section VI.A of the Basic Plan. Preplanning for emergency public works and engineering tasks shall be conducted to ensure that staff and procedures needed to manage resources in an emergency situation are in place.
- 2. The City Public Works Supervisor or County Commissioner shall serve as the Public Works Officer during emergencies. The Public Works Officer is assigned primary responsibility for planning, organizing, and carrying out, with the support of those departments and agencies described below, the public works and engineering tasks outlined in this annex during emergencies.

**B. Assignment of Responsibilities**

- 1. The County or City Public Works Director] serves as the Public Works Officer during emergencies and will:
  - a. Coordinate certain pre-emergency programs to reduce the vulnerability of local facilities and other infrastructure to known hazards. See Annex P, Hazard Mitigation.
  - b. Manage the public works and engineering function during emergency situations.
  - c. Oversee the repair and restoration of key facilities and systems and removal of debris in the aftermath of an emergency.
  - d. Develop procedures for coordinating the efforts of the various local departments and agencies that perform the public works or engineering functions and arrange for appropriate emergency training for local personnel.
  - e. Identify contractors who can provide heavy and specialized equipment support during emergencies and individuals and businesses that may be willing to lend equipment to local government during emergencies.

- f. Assist the Resource Manager in maintaining a current list of public works and engineering resources. See Annex M, Resource Management.
  - g. Maintain this annex.
2. The Public Works Department will:
- a. Carry out pre-disaster protective actions for impending hazards, including identifying possible facilities for debris storage and reduction.
  - b. Conduct damage assessments in the aftermath of disaster.
  - c. Repair damaged government facilities and/or protects such facilities from further damage.
  - d. Provide heavy and specialized equipment support for SAR operations.
  - e. Carry out debris clearance and removal. See Appendix 2.
  - e. With the assistance of the Legal Officer, negotiate inter-local agreements for public works and engineering support.
  - f. Maintain stockpiles of disaster supplies such as sandbags, plastic sheeting, and plywood.
3. The County or City Engineer will:
- e. Develop damage assessment procedures and provide training for damage survey teams.
  - f. Provide engineering services and advice to the Incident Commander and EOC staff.
  - g. Assist in conducting damage assessments in the aftermath of an emergency. See Annex J, Recovery.
  - h. Safeguard vital engineering records.
4. The County and City's will:
- e. Maintain reasonable stockpiles of emergency paving materials.
  - f. Make emergency repairs to county and city roads, bridges, culverts, and drainage systems.
  - g. Supervise debris clearance from the public right-of-way and support debris removal operations.

- h. Emplace barricades where needed for safety.
  - i. Provide personnel and equipment to aid in SAR operations as needed.
  - j. Provide heavy equipment support for protective actions taken prior to an emergency and for response and recovery operations.
  - k. Assist in repairs to government-owned utilities and drainage systems.
5. The Sanitation Department will:
- a. Collect and properly disposal of refuse.
  - b. Support emergency public works and engineering operations with available resources.
6. The Fire Departments Fire Marshals will:
- a. Support damage assessment operations.
  - b. Determine if access to damaged structures should be restricted or if they should be condemned and demolished.
  - c. Inspect expedient shelter and mass care facilities for safety.
7. Public Works Communications will:
- a. Restore damaged communications systems.
  - b. Provide communications support for emergency operations with spare equipment.
8. Parks and Recreation Department will:
- a. Assess damage to parks and recreation facilities and assist in assessing damage to other facilities.
  - b. Provide personnel and light equipment support for public works and engineering operations.
  - c. Upon request, establish and staff a facility to sort and catalog property removed from damaged government-owned facilities.

## VII. DIRECTION & CONTROL

- A. The County Judge or Mayor shall provide general guidance on the management of public works and engineering activities during emergencies and shall be responsible for approving any request for state or federal resources.
- B. The Incident Commander (IC) will manage public works and engineering resources committed to an incident. If the EOC has not been activated, the IC may request additional resources from local departments and agencies and may request those local officials authorized to activate mutual aid agreements or emergency response contracts to do so to obtain additional resources.
- C. When the EOC is activated, the Public Works Officer will manage the emergency public works and engineering function from the EOC. The IC shall direct resources committed to the incident site and coordinate through the Public Works Officer to obtain additional resources. The Public Works Officer shall manage resources not committed to the incident site and coordinate the provision of additional resources from external sources.
- E. The Public Works Officer will respond to mission priorities established by the Incident Commander or the EMC direct the various departments and agencies with public works and engineering resources to accomplish specific tasks, and coordinate the efforts of those departments and agencies in order to achieve overall objectives.
- D. The Public Works Officer will identify public and private sources from which needed resources can be obtained during an emergency and coordinate with the Resource Manager to originate emergency procurements or to obtain such resources by lease, rental, borrowing, donation, or other means.
- E. In the aftermath of a major emergency or disaster which produces substantial debris that will take a lengthy period to remove, it may be necessary to establish a Debris Removal Task Force that continues in operation after the EOC is deactivated to manage debris removal and disposal. See Appendix 2 for the organization and responsibilities of this element.
- F. Normal supervisors of public works and engineering personnel participating in emergency operations will exercise their usual supervisory responsibilities over such personnel. Organized crews from other jurisdictions responding pursuant to inter-local agreements will normally operate under the direct supervision of their own supervisors. Individual volunteers will work under the supervision of the individual heading the team or crew to which they are assigned.
- G. The line of succession for the Public Works Officer is:
  - 1. County Commissioners (4) in the county
  - 2. City Public Works Directors within there city's

## VIII. READINESS LEVELS

### A. Readiness Level 4 - Normal Conditions

See the mitigation and preparedness activities in Section V.G.

### B. Readiness Level 3 - Increased Readiness

1. Review plans and procedures.
2. Inform key public works and engineering personnel.
3. Monitor the situation.
4. Check equipment readiness and correct deficiencies.
5. Check emergency supply status and fill shortfalls.

### C. Readiness Level 2 - High Readiness

1. Monitor the situation.
2. Alert personnel for possible emergency duty.
3. Increase short-term readiness of equipment if possible.
4. Review inter-local agreements and contracts for resource support and alert potential resource providers of possible emergency operations.
5. Identify personnel to staff the ICP and EOC.

### D. Readiness Level 1 - Maximum Readiness.

1. Mobilize selected public works and engineering personnel.
2. Implement plans to protect government facilities and equipment.
3. Ensure equipment is loaded and fueled; consider precautionary deployment of resources.
4. Dispatch personnel to the ICP and EOC when activated.
5. Advise resource suppliers of situation.
6. Continue to monitor the situation.

## X. ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT

### A. Resource Support

1. A listing of local public works and engineering equipment is provided in Annex M, Resource Management.
2. Should our local resources prove to be inadequate during an emergency, requests will be made for assistance from other local jurisdictions, other agencies, and industry in accordance with existing mutual-aid agreements and contracts.
3. If the public works and engineering resources available locally, from other jurisdictions, and from businesses pursuant to contracts are insufficient to deal the emergency situation, assistance may be requested from the State. The [County Judge/Mayor] should approve requests for state aid, which should be forwarded to the Disaster District Committee (DDC) Chair in Waco. Cities must request resource support from their county before requesting assistance from the State.

### B. Resource Readiness

1. During periods of increased readiness, work should be undertaken to keep operational equipment at full readiness (full on-board equipment and fuel) and restore equipment out-of-service due to minor problems to operating condition.
2. To the extent possible, shortages in stocks of emergency supplies should be filled during periods of increased readiness. It is desirable to have sufficient supplies to sustain emergency operations without assistance for at least two days.

### C. Communications

The public works and engineering communications network is depicted in Appendix 1.

### D. Key Facilities

A listing of key local facilities that have general priority for damage assessment, debris clearance, and repair is provided in Annex G, Law Enforcement. The EMC shall determine the specific priority for public works and engineering work on each of these facilities in the aftermath of an emergency.

### E. Reporting

In addition to reports that may be required by their parent organization, public works and engineering departments and agencies participating in emergency operations should provide appropriate situation reports to the IC, or if an incident command operation has not been established, to the EOC. The IC will forward periodic reports to the EOC. Pertinent information will be incorporated into the Initial Emergency Report and the periodic Situation

Report that is prepared and disseminated to key officials, other affected jurisdictions, and state agencies during major emergency operations. The essential elements of information for the Initial Emergency Report and the Situation Report are outlined in Appendices 2 and 3 to Annex N (Direction and Control).

#### **F. Records**

Expenses incurred in carrying out emergency response and recovery operations for certain hazards may be recoverable from the responsible party or, in the event a Presidential disaster declaration is issued, partially reimbursed by the federal government. Hence, all public works and engineering elements will maintain records of labor, materials, and equipment used and goods and services contracted for during large-scale emergency operations.

#### **G. Post Incident Review**

For large-scale emergency operations, the EMC shall organize and conduct a review of emergency operations in accordance with the guidance provided in Section IX.E of the Basic Plan. The purpose of this review is to identify needed improvements in this annex, procedures, facilities, and equipment. Public works and engineering personnel who participated in the operations should participate in the review.

### **X. ANNEX DEVELOPMENT & MAINTENANCE**

- A.** The Public Works Officer and EMC is responsible for developing and maintaining this annex with the support from organizations specified in Section VI.
- B.** This annex will be reviewed annually and updated in accordance with the schedule outlined in Section X of the Basic Plan.
- C.** Departments and agencies tasked in this annex will develop SOPs that address assigned tasks.

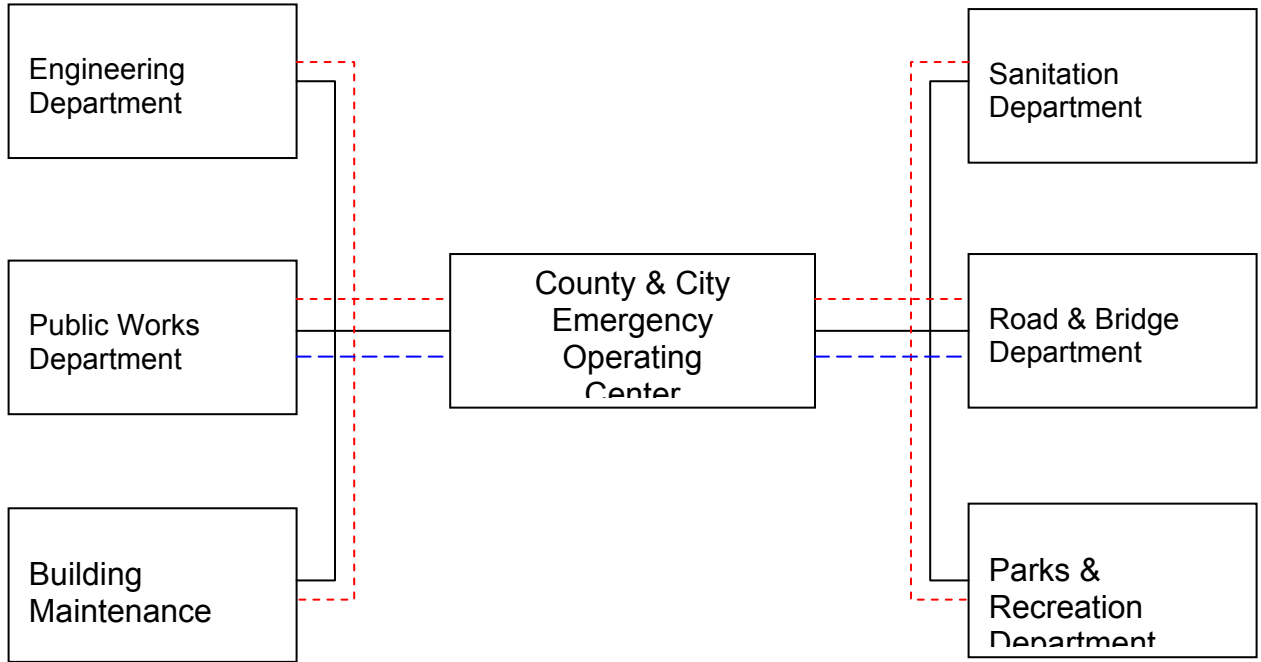
### **XI. REFERENCES**

- A.** DEM, Texas Disaster Recovery Manual (DEM-62).
- B.** FEMA, Debris Management Guide (FEMA-325).
- C.** FEMA, Guide for All-Hazard Emergency Operations Planning (SLG-101).
- D.** FEMA, Reducing Losses in High Risk Flood Hazard Areas: A Guidebook for Local Officials (FEMA-116).

#### **APPENDICES:**

Appendix 1 .....Public Works & Engineering Communications Network  
Appendix 2 .....Debris Management

**PUBLIC WORKS & ENGINEERING COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK**



LEGEND:

- TELEPHONE
- - - RADIO
- - - PAGER

## **DEBRIS MANAGEMENT**

### **1. Objectives**

The objectives of debris management in the aftermath of an emergency are to:

- A. Reopen roads and provide access to facilities that provide essential government and population support services.
- B. Remove debris from public property.
- C. Assist citizens in removing debris from private property.
- D. Reduce the volume of debris going to disposal facilities to extend the life of those facilities and reduce costs.
- E. Ensure hazardous materials are segregated from other debris and properly disposed of.

### **2. Explanation of Terms**

- A. Debris is the remains of things destroyed or damaged as a result of natural or technological disasters. Disaster debris may include yard waste, building materials, household items, personal property, hazardous household products, batteries, automobiles, boats, hazardous chemicals, spoiled food, dead animals, and other materials. Some types of debris pose a threat to health, safety, and the environment.
- B. Categorization of Debris. There are a variety of schemes for categorizing debris. In this appendix, the following categorization is used:
  - 1) Burnable Materials, which include:
    - a) Burnable Natural Debris – generally trees, shrubs, and vegetation
    - b) Burnable Construction and Demolition (C&D) Debris – wooden structural members and other wood products such as roof decking, siding, doors
  - 2) Non Burnable Debris – plastic, glass, metal, sheet rock, roofing shingles, carpet, tires, treated lumber, bricks, concrete, soil, and similar items. Household garbage is a type of non-burnable debris.
  - 3) Hazardous Debris – industrial and household chemicals, paint, materials containing asbestos, batteries, petroleum products, agricultural chemicals, dead animals, and similar products.

### **3. Situation & Assumptions**

#### **A. Situation**

- 1) The type and quantity of debris generated by an emergency situation is a function of the type of event, the location of impact, and the magnitude, intensity, and duration.

- 2) The quantity and type of debris generated, its location, and the size of the area over which it is spread affect the choice of methods to methods to remove and dispose of it, the costs incurred in doing so, and the time it will takes to accomplish the task.

**B. Assumptions**

- 1) An emergency situation requiring debris removal may occur at any time.
- 2) Local government may have insufficient resources to remove the debris created by a major emergency or disaster and accomplish other recovery tasks.
- 3) If local debris removal capabilities are insufficient, the chief elected official may issue a local disaster declaration and request the State assist in debris removal. If the local emergency situation is of such magnitude that the Governor requests a Presidential Disaster Declaration and such a declaration is approved, federal resources could become available.
- 4) For major emergencies or disasters, private contractors will be needed to collect, reduce the volume of, and dispose of debris
- 5) Citizens will assist in removing debris from the immediate area of their homes and businesses, but will generally need government assistance in hauling it away for disposal.
- 6) Citizens are often willing to help their neighbors in removing debris; proper public information can encourage such cooperative action, speeding up the process and reducing costs.

**4. Concept of Operations**

- A. Phased Approach. Debris management shall be conducted in phases, including:

- 1) Phase 1 - Emergency Roadway Clearance
  - a) Following a disaster, the top priority is to clear major roads and routes providing access to key population support facilities such as hospitals, to allow for the movement of emergency vehicles, resumption of critical services, damage assessment. Emergency roadway clearance also facilitates the deployment of external response elements and delivery of emergency equipment and supplies. In initial roadway debris clearance, debris is normally pushed to the side of the road and no attempt is made to remove or dispose of it.

- b) Local government is responsible for clearing city streets and county roads and their rights of way. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is responsible for clearing state and federal highways and the rights of way for such highways and disposing of the debris that results from the clearing process.
  - c) In this phase, crews equipped with chain saws will generally be needed to cut up down trees and heavy equipment will be needed to move the remains. If possible, heavy equipment used for moving debris should be equipped with protective cabs and all personnel should wear protective equipment. Fire hydrants, driveway cutouts, and utility valves should be left unobstructed.
  - d) As electrical systems are often damaged by the same hazards that create substantial debris, public works and engineering crews may need to coordinate their efforts to remove debris with utility crews.
- 2) Phase 2 – Debris Removal and Disposal
- a) Debris Removal from Public Property.
    - (1) In the aftermath of a disaster, debris may have to be removed from a variety of public property, including:
      - (a) Roads and rights of way.
      - (b) Government buildings, grounds, and parking lots.
      - (c) Parks and recreation facilities.
      - (d) Storm drainage systems and reservoirs.
    - (2) If the emergency situation resulted in a Presidential Disaster Declaration, expenses of debris removal from public property may be partially reimbursed by the federal government if the debris must be removed to:
      - (a) Eliminate immediate threats to life, public health and safety.
      - (b) Eliminate immediate threats of significant damage to improved public or private property.
      - (c) Ensure economic recovery of the affected community.
- As large-scale debris removal and disposal operations can be extremely costly, it is vital to determine if federal assistance will be provided and the rules that apply to such assistance before commencing debris removal operations. See the *DEM Disaster Recovery Manual* (DEM-62) for further information.

- (3) State law provides that state resources may not be used to clear or remove debris from local public property unless the local government presents to the State an unconditional authorization for removal.

b) Debris Removal from Private Property.

- (1) Debris removal from private property, including demolishing condemned structures, is generally the responsibility of the property owner, and the cost may be wholly or partly covered by insurance. If there has been a Presidential Disaster Declaration and debris on private property is so widespread that public health, safety, or the economic recovery is threatened, local government may be partially reimbursed for the cost of debris removal from private property. Local government normally has responsibility for picking up and disposing of debris from private property placed at the curb and bears the cost of that effort.
- (2) When the Governor has issued a disaster declaration for an emergency situation, § 418.023 of the Government Code law provides that state resources may be used to remove debris from private property. As a general rule, the property owner must authorize removal of debris, grant unrestricted access, and indemnify the state against any claim resulting from the removal. As the Executive Order of the Governor Relating to Emergency Management provides that county judges and mayors who have issued a local disaster declaration may exercise the emergency powers of the Governor on an appropriate local scale, local governments may remove debris from private property subject to the same conditions cited above. Attachment 1 to this appendix provides a sample Debris Removal Access Agreement that should be used to meet statutory requirements.

B. Preparation for Debris Removal

Considerable time and labor can be saved in the debris removal process by sorting debris from public property and encouraging the public to sort debris from private property before it is picked up. A proactive public outreach program should advise the public of the actions they can take to facilitate pickup, including:

- 1) Sorting debris into categories – burnable natural debris, burnable construction and demolition debris, non-burnable debris, and potentially hazardous debris.
- 2) Placing sorted debris piles at curbside.
- 3) Keeping debris off the road and away from fire hydrants and utility valves.
- 4) Disposing of household garbage in normal refuse containers.

### C. Estimating the Amount of Debris

In determining the means to be used to remove and dispose of debris, it is essential that local officials have a reasonable estimate of the amount of debris that must be removed and eventually disposed of. Attachment 3 to this appendix provides a methodology that may be used to estimate the amount of debris that must be removed.

### D. Determining Debris Removal Strategy

- 1) After an estimate of the amount of debris that needs to be removed is made, options for removing the debris should be evaluated in terms of their cost and timeliness.
- 2) The general strategies for debris removal and processing are:
  - a) Removal and processing of debris by local government
    - (1) Advantages:
      - Direct government control
    - (2) Disadvantages:
      - Normally requires diversion of significant government resources from regular functions and makes them unavailable for other recovery tasks
      - Speed of debris removal may be constrained by the government equipment and personnel available
      - Local government may lack specialized equipment and skills needed to carry out all aspects of debris removal.
  - b) Removal and processing of debris by contractors.
    - (1) Advantages:
      - Speed of debris removal may be increased by contracting for additional resources
      - If local contractors are used, may provide local economic benefit
    - (2) Disadvantages:
      - Requires detailed contracts
      - Requires extensive oversight and inspection
  - c) Removal and processing of debris by a combination of local government and contractors.
- 3) If contractors will be used, the disaster area should be divided into geographic sectors for control purposes and bids solicited based on the estimated quantity of debris in each sector. In defining sectors, it is desirable to group properties of like type, construction, and with similar vegetation together. This will also facilitate estimating the quantity of debris that needs to be removed.

- 4) Debris may be removed by one time collection of all debris at each property or using multiple passes to collect different types of material that have been pre-sorted by the property owner.

#### E. Establishing Temporary Debris Storage and Reduction (TDSR) Facilities.

- 1) The effective disposal of large quantities of disaster debris requires that suitable temporary storage and volume reduction facilities be established. Such facilities hold debris until it can be sorted, reduced in volume, and dispatched to an appropriate disposal facility. Sorting and volume reduction can significantly reduce the costs of disposing of debris and prevent potentially serious environmental problems.
- 2) Sorting. TDSR facilities sort debris and send it to the most appropriate facility for treatment or disposal. Sorting is needed to separate burnable from non-burnable materials and segregate hazardous products for disposal at authorized facilities and identify debris that can be burned, chipped or ground, recycled, or simply disposed of at a landfill without treatment.
- 3) The volume of debris can be greatly reduced by a variety of methods, including:
  - a) Incineration. This method includes open burning, use of air curtain pit incineration (trench burners), or use of portable air curtain incinerators. Incineration of burnable debris typically reduces its volume by 95 percent.
  - b) Chipping and grinding. Chipping and grinding is appropriate for clean, woody debris and typically reduces its volume by 75 percent. However, chipping and grinding normally costs as much as incineration and unless the resulting mulch can be disposed of without cost or at a profit, local government may incur additional costs to have the residual material hauled to a landfill.
  - c) Recycling. Recycling debris may present an opportunity to reduce the overall cost of disposal. Metals, lumber, and soil are the most likely candidates for recycling. Before local government attempts to operate a recycling operation, it is essential to determine if there is, in fact, a market for the materials sorted out in the recycling process; otherwise the output may simply have to be hauled to a landfill. Specialized contractors may be willing to undertake recycling, particularly if for large amounts of debris that are well sorted.
- 4) Site Selection
  - a) Among the criteria that are pertinent in selecting TDSR facilities are:

- (1) Preferably government-owned.
- (2) Large enough to accommodate a storage area, a sorting area, and volume reduction operations area(s).
- (3) Reasonable proximity to disaster areas and debris disposal sites.
- (4) Good road access.
- (5) Not in a residential area or in the vicinity of schools, churches, or other facilities with concentrations of population.
- (6) Not in an environmentally sensitive area, such as wetlands or a water well field.

- b) Local landfills and possible local sites for TDSR facilities are described in Attachment 2 to this appendix. The selection of specific sites to be used for TDSR facilities will normally be made by a team of local, state, and, where appropriate, federal personnel, who are familiar with the local area and the specific environmental regulations governing such facilities. Attachment 3 to this appendix provides methods for determining space requirements for TDSR sites and estimating the quantity of debris that must be disposed of after processing.

#### F. Public Information and Instructions

- 1) In the aftermath of an emergency situation, the Public Information staff should provide the public detailed information on debris removal and disposal plans and procedures. Providing appropriate instructions to the public concerning debris removal can significantly reduce the time and costs involved. Public information on debris removal must start as soon as possible after the disaster – before people start moving and stacking large amounts of debris.
- 2) Public instructions should encourage citizens to:
  - a) Assist their neighbors, particularly the elderly or infirm, in removing debris.
  - b) Move debris to curbside for pickup
  - c) Separate debris into the categories determined by local officials.
  - d) Keep debris piles away from fire hydrant and utility valves.
- 3) Public information should keep citizens advised of:
  - a) Debris pickup schedules and the system of pickup, if various types of debris will be picked up on different days.
  - b) Self help disposal guidelines for citizens and business that wish to haul their own debris to a debris storage area or landfill.
- 4) The normal methods of public information dissemination through the media should be used to provide information to the public. If loss of electric power has occurred, extra effort must be made to reach those without power using door hangers, flyers, signs, and, if necessary, door-to-door outreach.

## G. Regulatory Issues and Technical Assistance

- 1) The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) regulates the disposal of waste, including hazardous waste. TNRCC also issues emergency permits for debris incineration. Hence, the advice and assistance of TNRCC should be obtained in developing and implementing plans for debris disposal.
- 2) The Texas Department of Health (TDH) is the state agency responsible for ensuring food safety. The assistance of TDH should be sought when there are questions regarding the safety of foodstuffs in damaged retail stores, warehouses, and processing facilities. TDH has the authority to condemn unsafe foodstuffs so that they can be disposed of.
- 3) The Texas Animal Health Commission can provide advice and assistance regarding the disposition of dead animals and can help identify stray live animals so they can be returned to their owners.

## 5. Organization

### A. Phase 1 - Emergency Roadway Clearance

During Phase 1, our normal emergency organization as outlined in the Section IV.A of the Basic Plan and this annex should coordinate debris clearance operations. Debris clearance will normally be managed from the EOC. However, if debris is localized, an incident command operation may be established at the incident site to manage debris clearance.

### B. Phase 2 - Debris Removal and Disposal

- 1) For small-scale debris removal and disposal operations, our normal emergency organization as outlined in the Basic Plan and this annex may coordinate debris removal and disposal.
- 2) For major emergencies or disasters that result in large volumes of debris, debris removal and disposal may have to continue for an extended period. For these situations, a Debris Management Task Force, consisting of personnel from those departments and agencies have the required expertise, shall be formed to manage debris removal and disposal operations. The Task Force should be comprised of personnel to perform the following functions:
  - a) Operations: Plan debris removal and processing, manage the use of government resources, and monitor the use of contract resources committed to the task.
  - b) Contracting & Procurement: Develop contracts for services and/or equipment, obtain bids, and award contracts.
  - c) Legal: Contract review, manage authorizations for debris removal, prepare legal documents for building condemnation and land acquisition.

- d) Administration: Provide supply, administrative, and accounting support.
- e) Engineering: Damage assessment, develop scopes of work and specifications for contracts, and prepare cost estimates.
- f) Public Information: Provide information and instructions relating to debris removal to the public.

It may be desirable to organize the Debris Management Task Force as an ICS operation under an Incident Commander.

- 3) If government will use its own resources to remove debris, then primary role of the operations staff is to plan and supervise debris removal. If contractors will be removing debris, then the primary role of the operations staff will normally be to monitor contractor work and ensure that contract provisions are being complied with.

## 6. Task Assignments

### A. Phase 1 - Emergency Roadway Clearance

Task assignments shall be as stated in Section VI.B of this annex.

### B. Debris Removal and Disposal Phase

Task assignments shall be determined by the Debris Management Task Force leader. General tasks of the various components of the Task Force are described in the Chapter 3 of the *FEMA Debris Management Guide* (FEMA-325).

**Attachment 1**

**Debris Removal Access Agreement**

I/We \_\_\_\_\_, the owner(s) of the property

commonly identified as

\_\_\_\_\_,  
(street address)  
\_\_\_\_\_, State of Texas  
(city/town) (county)

do hereby grant and give freely and without coercion, the right of access and entry to said property to the [County/City] of \_\_\_\_\_, its agencies, contractors, and subcontractors thereof, for the purpose of removing and cleaning any or all storm-generated debris of whatever nature from the above described property.

It is fully understood that this agreement is not an obligation to perform debris clearance. The undersigned agrees and warrants to hold harmless the [City/County] of \_\_\_\_\_, State of Texas, its agencies, contractors, and subcontractors, for damage of any type, whatsoever, either to the above described property or persons situated thereon and hereby release, discharge, and waiver any action, either legal or equitable that might arise out of any activities on the above described property. The property owner(s) will mark any storm damaged sewer lines, water lines, and other utility lines located on the described property.

I/We (have \_\_\_\_\_, have not \_\_\_\_\_)(will \_\_\_\_\_, will not \_\_\_\_\_) received any compensation for debris removal from any other source including Small Business Administration (SBA), National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), private insurance, individual and family grant program or any other public assistance program. I will report for this property any insurance settlements to me or my family for debris removal that has been performed at government expense. For the considerations and purposes set forth herein, I set my hand this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

Witness

---

## Attachment 2

### Landfills & Potential Temporary Debris Storage and Reduction (TDSR) Sites

#### 1. Landfills

- a. Name: City of De Leon yard
  - 1) Address: 201 W Woffard De Leon
  - 2) Operated by: City
  - 3) Estimated capacity remaining (cubic yards): unknown
  - 4) Estimated daily processing capacity: unknown
  - 5) Normal operating schedule: Closed
  - 6) Restrictions: Closed
  - 7) Fees: n/a
  - 8) Other Factors: This landfill is closed to the public, but can be used in an emergency.
  
- b. Name: City of Comanche Landfill
  - 1) Address: CR 403 Comanche
  - 2) Operated by: City of Comanche
  - 3) Estimated capacity remaining (cubic yards): unknown
  - 4) Estimated daily processing capacity: unknown
  - 5) Normal operating schedule: Closed
  - 6) Restrictions: Closed
  - 7) Fees: N/A
  - 8) Other Factors: This landfill is closed to the public, but can be used in an emergency

#### 2. Possible TDSR Facilities

- a. Name: Precinct 4 Yard
  - 1) Address: 957 Reynosa Ave De Leon, Texas 76444
  - 2) Owner: Comanche County
  - 3) Site size (acres): 2
  - 4) Fenced? yes
  - 5) Road access: yes
  - 6) Neighbors: none
  - 7) Environmental concerns: no hazardous waste
  
- b. Name: Precinct 2 Yard
  - 1) Address: Hwy 36 north Comanche Tx 76442
  - 2) Owner: Comanche County
  - 3) Site size (acres): 3
  - 4) Fenced? yes
  - 5) Road access: yes
  - 6) Neighbors: no
  - 7) Environmental concerns: no hazardous waste

## Attachment 3

### Debris Estimation

This attachment contains the following tabs:

1. Tab A – Estimating Debris Quantity.

This tab includes two worksheets (Worksheet 1 and Worksheet 2) which outline a methodology that can be used to estimate the quantity of debris produced by a disaster. The methodology allows the user to estimate the debris in various geographic areas (sectors) and then sum the amount of debris in each sector to determine the overall volume of debris that must be dealt with. The sectors developed in this process can be used in operational planning and contracting. To the extent possible, sectors should be drawn to encompass areas with buildings of similar construction and vegetative cover.

2. Tab B – Estimating Debris Removal Time. This tab includes two worksheets (Worksheet 3 and Worksheet 4). The worksheets provide a methodology that can be used to estimate the time in days that it will take to remove specific quantities of debris given a known set of hauling resources and a reasonable estimate of the cycle time for those resources (time spent in pickup, hauling, unloading, and, waiting on one trip).

3. Tab C – Estimating Debris Disposal Quantity. This tab include one worksheet (Worksheet 5) that outlines a method to determine the volume of debris that will have to be disposed of after sorting and volume reduction, given information on the composition of debris that must be disposed of. To utilize this methodology, you must remove a sample of debris in each sector and sort it to determine the characteristics of the debris from that sector. If the sample of debris is not representative of that within the sector, this method will be inaccurate.

4. Tab D – Estimating Requirements for Debris Processing. This tab provides a worksheet (Worksheet 6) that can be used to estimate how much space will be required for temporary debris storage and reduction facilities. This worksheet is based on a US Army Corps of Engineers methodology.

5. Tab E – Estimating Hurricane Debris Quantity. This tab provides a worksheet (Worksheet 7) that can be used to estimate the quantity of debris produced by a hurricane. This worksheet is based on a US Army Corps of Engineers methodology.

## Tab A

## ESTIMATING DEBRIS QUANTITY

Complete a separate Worksheet 1 for each Sector.  
 Transfer results from each Worksheet 1 to Worksheet 2.  
 CF = cubic feet & CY = cubic yards

## Use Tab E for Estimating Hurricane Debris

WORKSHEET 1				
Sector:				
Description:		N = Number	M = Multiplier	CY = (NxM)
A. Homes (1800-2000 square feet)		100	300	30000
B. Mobile Homes		130	80	10400

C. Other Buildings	L = Length/ft	W = Width/ft	H = Height/ft	CF = (LxWxH)	CY = (CF/27) x.33
Apex Center	250	60	10	150000	1833
Anchor Fire Station	100	100	12	120000	1467
Teasdale School	125	100	10	125000	1527
Subtotal [sum the right column]					4827

D. Debris Piles	L = Length/ft	W = Width/ft	H = Height/ft	CF = (LxWxH)	CY (CF/27)
Crystal Creek @ Compton	150	8	4	4800	177
Hungry Hollow Bridge	80	20	8	12800	474
Willow Road @ Newton	100	16	5	8000	296
Subtotal [sum the right column]					947

<b>WORKSHEET 2</b>	<b>Sector A</b>	<b>Sector B</b>	<b>Sector C</b>	<b>Sector D</b>
<i>Debris Volume Estimate (cubic yards/CY)</i>				
A. Homes [from Worksheet 1]	30000	4200		
B. Mobile Homes [from Worksheet 1]	10400	2400		
C. Other Buildings [from Worksheet 1]	4827	1021		
SD = Structural debris (A + B + C)	45227	7621		
V = Vegetation Multiplier [see note]	1.3	1.1		
ST = Subtotal (SD x V)	58795	8383		
D. Debris Piles [from Worksheet 1]	947	1200		
E. SV = Sector Volume (ST + D)	59742	9583		
TOTAL [add entries in row E above]	69325			

Note:

V= Vegetative Multiplier:	<u>Vegetative Cover</u>	<u>V =</u>
	None	1
	Light	1.1
	Medium	1.3
	Heavy	1.5

**Tab B**  
**ESTIMATING DEBRIS REMOVAL TIME**

Worksheets 3 and 4 may be used to estimate the time it will take to remove a quantity of debris given information on the quantity and capacity of the hauling resources available and estimates of the cycle time for those resources. Cycle time is the time it takes a cargo truck to complete a round trip. Cycle time is computed by adding the time it takes to load a truck, the round-trip travel time between the loading point and the off-load point, unloading time, and any unproductive waiting time. This methodology will be most accurate if you use times observed during actual operations, not theoretical numbers.

<b>WORKSHEET 3</b>	<b>Sector A</b>	<b>Sector B</b>	<b>Sector C</b>	<b>Sector D</b>
A. Debris to be Removed in cubic yards (CY) from Worksheet 2 or 7	59742	9583		
<i>Removal Cycle (all times in hours)</i>				
B. Estimated loading time	.2	.2		
C. Estimated travel time (roundtrip)	.4	.6		
D. Estimated unload time	.1	.1		
E. Estimated waiting time	.1	.1		
F. Cycle time (B+C+D+E)	.8	1.0		
G. Daily work period	7.5	7.5		
H. Cycles per day (G / F)	9	7		
<i>Removal Time</i>				
I. Capacity (CY) per cycle [ Worksheet 4]	136	136		
J. Capacity (CY) per day [H x I]	1224	952		
K. Days to Clear Sector [A / J]	48.8	10.0		
L. Days to Clear All Sectors [add entries in Row K above]	58.8			

<b>WORKSHEET 4</b>	<b>A. Truck Capacity (CY)</b>	<b>B. Units Available</b>	<b>C. Group Capacity (AxB)</b>
<i>Equipment</i>			
Dump Truck, Light	6	4	24
Dump Truck, Medium	8	4	32
Dump Truck, Heavy	10	8	80
Capacity Per Cycle (CY) [sum the right column]			136

Note: In estimating units available, it is essential to consider that some equipment may not operationally ready each day. Hence, an out-of-service factor based on local experience should be applied to obtain a realistic estimate of equipment available for use on a daily basis.

**Tab C**  
**ESTIMATING DEBRIS DISPOSAL QUANTITY**

Worksheet 5 provides a method of estimating the volume of debris that will have to be disposed of after volume reduction. It requires taking a **sample of the debris in each sector** to determine the percent of burnable debris (B below), the percent of burnable C&D debris (C below), the percent of non-burnable debris (D below) broken down by recyclable materials (D-1) and other material (D-2), and the percent of hazardous debris. In taking a sample, it is desirable to include debris from at least 10 properties.

<b>Worksheet 5</b>	<b>Sector 1</b>	<b>Sector 2</b>	<b>Sector 3</b>	<b>Sector 4</b>
<i>Sample Debris Characteristics</i>				
A. Debris volume [from Worksheet 2]	59742	9583		
B. % Burnable Natural Debris	.30	.40		
C. % Burnable C&D Debris	.32	.28		
D. % Non-Burnable Debris	.35	.32		
D-1. Potentially Recyclable	.07	.10		
D-2. Landfill	.28	.20		
E. % Hazardous Debris	.03	.02		
<i>Disposal Volume (cubic yards)</i>				
F. Burnable Natural Debris (A x B)	17922	3833		
F-1. Amount to be chipped/ground <sup>1</sup>	200	0		
F-2. Amount to be burned	17722	3833		
G. Burnable C&D Debris (A x C)	19117	2683		
H. Total Burnable (F-2 + G)	36839	6516		
I. Volume for disposal after burning (H x .05)	1841	326		
J. Volume for disposal after chipping or shredding (F-1 x .25)	50	0		
K. Non-Burnable Debris (A x D)	20910	3067		
L. Less Non-Burnables to be Recycled <sup>2</sup>	5400	767		
M. Volume of Non-Burnables for Disposal (K - L)	15510	2300		
N. Volume (Non-hazardous) for Landfill Disposal (I + J + M) <sup>3</sup>	17401	5693		
N. Total for Landfill Disposal [add quantities in row N above]	23094			
O. Volume for Hazmat Disposal (A x E)	1792	191		
P. Total for Hazmat Disposal [add quantities in row O above]	1983			

## Notes:

- Local officials need to decide how much debris to chip or grind instead of burning. The quantity should be based on a) the amount of chipped/ground wood that local government wants to retain for use as mulch and b) the amount that can be disposed of without cost or at some profit to landscape products firms. Since chipping and grinding costs approximately the same as burning and produces a higher volume of residue, there is little reason to chip and grind instead of burning if you also have to pay to have the resulting mulch hauled away.
- This number should be based on the proportion of recyclable materials for which you can determine there is a ready market. Recycling materials for which there is no market simply leaves you sorted debris to haul to the landfill.
- If mulch produced in the chipping and grinding operation is hauled away without cost, do not include it (Item J) in the equation because disposal of that material is no longer your problem.

**Tab D**  
**ESTIMATING REQUIREMENTS FOR DEBRIS STORAGE & PROCESSING SITES**

This methodology may be used to determine the space required for debris storage and processing sites.

It assumes that:

1. Debris will be stacked 10 feet high.
2. 40 percent of a site will be used for storage; 60 percent will be used for sorting areas, separation between debris piles, roads, site buffers, and burn pits

<b>WORKSHEET 6</b>		
A. Debris Volume in cubic yards (CY) [From Worksheet 2 or 7]		69325
B. CY per acre assuming 10' stack height <sup>1</sup>		16117
C. Acres for debris storage only (A/B)		4.3
D. Multiplier for processing, roads, & buffers		1.66
E. Required facility area in acres <sup>2</sup>		7.1

Notes:

1. **If you plan to use a stack height other than the typical 10 feet, use the following formula to compute CY per acre:**

$$\text{CY} = (\text{stack height in feet} / 3) \times 4840$$

2. Where the area requirement is large, the requirement is generally satisfied by establishing several sites that, taken collectively, provided the needed area.

Tab E  
Vacant