

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE February 14, 2020

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Current Status of October 2019 Tornado-Impacted Area**

Following the EF-3 tornado that impacted a large segment of our City on October 20, 2019, various City departments and external agencies engaged in immediate tornado response and longer-term recovery efforts. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the recovery efforts and the current strategies being used to address public safety, health, and cleanup concerns.

Code Compliance

In a good faith effort to serve affected residents, the Department of Code Compliance has waited until this month to begin enforcement activities on properties that are not in compliance with City code. However, as several months have passed and health & safety concerns become more pronounced, Code Compliance will be mailing a letter to 100+ residents in the coming days alerting them to their violations and stressing the importance of taking proactive steps to address them, with the understanding that citations will be forthcoming.

Tornado Impact on Property Values

As communicated in a previous [memorandum](#), due to the tornado and the reappraisal process, the City of Dallas' 2019 taxable value declined by approximately \$92 million. This will reduce our FY 2019-20 property tax revenue by approximately \$700,000. This information is preliminary since values may change further through the appeals process. For tax year 2020 (FY 2020-21), the Dallas Central Appraisal District will release preliminary values in April and certified values by July 25, 2020.

Dallas Central Appraisal District (CAD)

The Dallas CAD has completed the disaster reappraisal for the October 20, 2019 tornado. A 2019 Disaster Reappraisal notice was mailed to the affected property owners and authorized property tax agents on December 19, 2019. The adjusted prorated disaster values are currently reflected as Market Value on their website in the value section of residents' property account. The protest deadline was January 21, 2020. If you have any questions concerning the reappraisal of property damaged in the disaster area, please e-mail the Dallas CAD at tornado@dcad.org.

Sustainable Development & Construction (SDC)

As of February 13, 2020, SDC has released permits for 98 percent (129 out of 131) of the applications received in the impacted area and is actively working to assist with the few outstanding permit applications.

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Office of Emergency Management – Major Disaster Declaration

The City continues to work with FEMA on validating our damage estimates. We are also engaged with DISD and their process in getting their numbers validated. While we have not yet reached the threshold of \$38.5M to officially qualify for a Presidential Disaster Declaration, on Monday, January 13, 2020 Governor Abbott sent a request to the president requesting a Major Disaster Declaration.

Texas Trees Foundation (TTF)

Prior to the October 2019 tornado, the City partnered with TTF to develop the City's first Urban Forest Master Plan, will serve as a road map for the City, providing detailed information, recommendations and resources needed to proactively manage and grow the City's tree canopy. Following the tornado, they have undergone a post-storm assessment to better understand the extent of the damage in the area and the cost to address it in the future. They have also created a dedicated webpage to educate impacted residents on caring for damaged trees: <https://www.texastrees.org/resource/dfw-post-storm-response-and-tree-care/>.

Tornado Recovery Resource Page

City staff continues to maintain a resource webpage with updates on the recovery and available resources at <https://dallascityhall.com/tornado>.

Staff will provide periodic updates on future City efforts. The Government Performance and Financial Management Committee will receive an update on the financial aspect of the recovery effort on Monday, February 24, 2020. Please contact Assistant City Manager, Majed Al-Ghafry, if you have any questions or concerns.



T.C. Broadnax
City Manager

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| Chris Caso, City Attorney (Interim) | Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager |
| Mark Swann, City Auditor | Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer |
| Biliera Johnson, City Secretary | Michael Mendoza, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services |
| Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge | M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer |
| Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager | Laila Aleqresh, Chief Innovation Officer |
| Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager | Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion |
| Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager | Directors and Assistant Directors |