

**Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Technical Mapping Advisory Council**

1. Committee's Official Designation:

Technical Mapping Advisory Council

2. Authority:

Pursuant to section 100215 of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012, Public Law 112-141, 126 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. § 4101a ("the Act"), this charter establishes the Technical Mapping Advisory Council (TMAC or Council). This committee is established in accordance with and operates under the provisions of the *Federal Advisory Committee Act* (FACA) (Title 5, United States Code, Appendix).

3. Objectives and Scope of Activities:

The TMAC advises the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on certain aspects of FEMA's flood risk mapping activities.

The TMAC recommends to the Administrator:

- A. How to improve in a cost-effective manner the:
 - 1. Accuracy, general quality, ease of use, and distribution and dissemination of flood insurance rate maps and risk data; and
 - 2. Performance metrics and milestones required to effectively and efficiently map flood risk areas in the United States.
- B. Mapping standards and guidelines for:
 - 1. Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs); and
 - 2. Data accuracy, data quality, data currency, and data eligibility;
- C. How to maintain, on an ongoing basis, FIRMs and flood risk identification; and
- D. Procedures for delegating mapping activities to State and local mapping partners.

The TMAC recommends to the Administrator and other Federal agencies participating in the Council:

- A. Methods for improving interagency and intergovernmental coordination on flood mapping and flood risk determination; and
- B. A funding strategy to leverage and coordinate budgets and expenditures across Federal agencies.

The TMAC submits an annual report to the Administrator that contains a description of the activities of the Council, an evaluation of the status and performance of FIRMs and mapping activities to revise and update FIRMs as required by the Act, and a summary of the activities of the Council. In addition, the TMAC must prepare written recommendations in a future conditions risk assessment and modeling report and submit the recommendations to the Administrator. Further, the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act (HFIAA) of 2014 requires additional flood mapping review requirements for the TMAC.

4. Description of Duties:

The duties of the TMAC are solely advisory in nature.

5. Official to Whom the Committee Reports:

The TMAC provides advice and recommendations to the Administrator of FEMA.

6. Support:

FEMA shall be responsible for providing financial and administrative support to the Council. Within FEMA, the Risk Analysis Division of the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration provides this support.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years:

The estimated annual operating cost associated with supporting TMAC's functions is estimated to be \$1,100,000 for FY2015 and \$800,000 for FY2016. This includes surge support for all direct and indirect expenses and 2.0 FTE of staff support. Adequate staffing within the annual operating cost estimate is required to support the TMAC.

8. Designated Federal Officer:

A full-time or permanent part-time employee of FEMA is appointed by the Administrator as the TMAC Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO or an Alternate DFO approves or calls TMAC meetings, approves meeting agendas, attends all committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourns any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chairs meetings when requested in the absence of the Chair.

9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:

Meetings of the TMAC may be held with the approval of the DFO. The Council shall meet a minimum of two times each year at the request of the Chairperson or a majority of its members, and may take action by a vote of the majority of the members.

Council meetings are open to the public unless a determination is made by the appropriate DHS official in accordance with DHS policy and directives that the meeting should be closed in accordance with Title 5, United States Code, subsection (c) of section 552b.

10. Duration:

Continuing

11. Termination:

This charter is in effect for two years from the date it is filed with Congress unless sooner terminated. The charter may be renewed at the end of this two-year period in accordance with section 14 of FACA.

12. Member Composition:

Members of the Council are defined by Section 100215(b)(1), and include four designated members and sixteen appointed members.

The four designated members of the Council serve as Regular Government Employees and consist of:

- The FEMA Administrator or the designee thereof;
- The Secretary of the Interior or the designee thereof;
- The Secretary of Agriculture or the designee thereof;
- The Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere or the designee thereof.

The sixteen additional members of the Council are appointed by the Administrator or designee. These members are appointed based on their demonstrated knowledge and competence regarding surveying, cartography, remote sensing, geographic information systems, or the technical aspects of preparing and using FIRMs.

To the maximum extent practicable, the membership of the Council will have a balance of Federal, State, local, tribal and private members, and include geographic diversity including representation from areas with coastline on the Gulf of Mexico and other States containing areas identified by the Administrator as at high risk for flooding or as areas having special flood hazard areas.

These members are selected from among the following professional associations or organizations:

- a. One member of a recognized professional surveying association or organization;
- b. One member of a recognized professional mapping association or organization;

- c. One member of a recognized professional engineering association or organization;
- d. One member of a recognized professional association or organization representing flood hazard determination firms;
- e. One representative of the United States Geological Survey;
- f. One representative of a recognized professional association or organization representing State geographic information;
- g. One representative of State national flood insurance coordination offices;
- h. One representative of the Corps of Engineers;
- i. One member of a recognized regional flood and storm water management organization;
- j. Two representatives of different State government agencies that have entered into cooperating technical partnerships with the Administrator and have demonstrated the capability to produce FIRMs;
- k. Two representatives of different local government agencies that have entered into cooperating technical partnerships with the Administrator and have demonstrated the capability to produce flood insurance maps;
- l. One member of a recognized floodplain management association or organization;
- m. One member of a recognized risk management association or organization;
- n. One State mitigation officer.

The non-Federal members in a., b., c., d., i., l., m., and n. serve as Special Government Employees as defined in Title 18, United States Code, section 202(a). The members in e., and h., serve as Regular Government Employees. The non-Federal members in f., g., j., and k. serve as representatives of their respective associations or organizations and are not Special Government Employees as defined in Title 18 of United States Code, section 202(a).

The sixteen appointed members serve terms of office of two years. However, up to half (eight) of those initially appointed to the Council may serve one-year terms to allow for staggered turnover. Appointments may be renewed by the FEMA Administrator for an additional one- or two-year period. A member appointed to fill an unexpired term shall serve the remainder of that term and may be reappointed for an additional one- or two-year term. The Administrator has the authority to extend reappoints for an additional one- or two-year period as deemed necessary. In the event the Council terminates, all appointments to the Council will terminate.

13. Officers:

The Council membership shall elect any one member to serve as Chairperson of the Council. The Chairperson shall preside over Council meetings in addition to specific responsibilities authorized under the Act.

14. Subcommittees:

The DFO may establish subcommittees for any purpose consistent with this charter. Such subcommittees may not work independently of the chartered committee and must present their work to the TMAC for full deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees have no authority to make decisions on behalf of the TMAC and may not report directly to the Federal government or any other entity.

15. Recordkeeping:

The records of the TMAC, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the Council, shall be maintained and handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule.

16. Filing Date:

July 20, 2015
Department Approval Date

July 29, 2015
CMS Consultation Date

July 29, 2015
Date Filed with Congress