

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Technical Mapping Advisory Council
Charter

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 statutory committee is established in accordance with and operates under the provisions of the *Federal Advisory Committee Act* (FACA) (Title 5, United States Code, chapter 10).

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:

- 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.

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 Management Directorate 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 \$500,000 for FY2023 and \$500,000 for FY2024. This includes surge support for all direct and indirect expenses. Three staff directly support the TMAC for a total of 1.5 FTE. One half-time, and two part-time FTEs.

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 FEMA Administrator may also appoint one or more Alternate DFOs. 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 and Designation:

Members of the Council are defined by Section 100215(b)(1) of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 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.

In order for the Department to fully leverage broad-ranging experience and education, the FEMA Technical Mapping Advisory Council must be diverse with regard to professional and technical expertise. 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 U.S. Army 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; and
- 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), and must comply with all that requires (such as the annual filing of a new entrant Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (OGE 450)). 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).

Members may serve terms of office of up to three consecutive years. The FEMA Administrator or his Designee may reappoint or extend members for additional terms up to a cumulative total of six consecutive years. When the TMAC terminates, all appointments to the Council shall terminate.

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.

13. 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.

14. Recordkeeping:

The records of the TMAC, established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the Council, shall be maintained and handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2, or other approved

agency records disposition schedule. These records are available for public inspection and copying, in accordance with the *Freedom of Information Act* (Title 5, United States Code, section 552).

15. Filing Date:

8/1/2023
Department Approval Date

8/1/2023
CMS Consultation Date

8/3/2023
Date Filed with Congress