



LOCAL PROGRAM ASSESSMENT **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

1. *What is the purpose of a Local Program Assessment (LPA)?*

Answer: The purpose of the Local Program Assessment is to:

- Evaluate the local floodplain management program;
- Evaluate local community mitigation measures;
- Determine TCRFC membership level;
- Identify areas of concern;
- Provide on site technical assistance and recommendations; and
- Recognize effective local programs and program managers.

2. *Must my community undergo a Local Program Assessment?*

Answer: Any community, which adopts the TCRFC Interlocal Agreement and becomes a member of the coalition, agrees to submit their local floodplain management program for a thorough program assessment and evaluation.

3. *What is the time line for the LPA and who will do the assessment?*

Answer: The time line for completion of assessments for all coalition members is June 30, 2002. At the present time, staff members of the LCRA's Flood & Emergency Preparedness Group will conduct the assessments. This assessment does not constitute a Community Assessment Visit (CAV) by FEMA or TNRCC, but may assist the community in preparing for an official CAV or assessing Community Rating System (CRS) activities.

4. *Is there any type of mandatory requirements involved with a LPA?*

Answer: It is mandatory that all members of the TCRFC will, at a minimum, adopt and enforce the FEMA NFIP criteria for regulating development within the identified 100-year floodplain.

5. *What are the membership levels mentioned in the answer to Question 1?*

Answer: Upon completion of the LPA, the assessment team will evaluate a community's local floodplain management program and rate it according to the following levels:

- Level 1 - Mandatory minimum FEMA NFIP criteria for developments in the regulatory floodplain;
- Level 2 - Additional criteria above NFIP minimum standards for developments in the regulatory floodplain;
- Level 3 - Additional criteria for developments outside the regulatory floodplain.

6. *What recognition will be given to communities participating in the TCRFC after evaluation of the local floodplain management program?*

Answer: Once it has been determined what level of participation the community is currently operating under, the Local Program Assessment program provides a rating for each community. The ratings are:

Excellent Rating - Communities at Level 1 with a floodplain management program that is fully compliant with NFIP minimum requirements;

Superior Rating - Communities at Level 2 with a floodplain management program that exceeds the minimum NFIP requirements by enforcing more stringent mitigation measures for developments in the regulatory floodplain;

Outstanding Rating - Communities at Level 3 with a floodplain management program that exceeds the minimum NFIP requirements by enforcing more stringent mitigation measures for developments outside of the regulatory floodplain.

7. *How will these ratings be recognized?*

Answer: The results of the assessment ratings will be recognized at the annual meeting of the TCRFC and posted on the coalition web site.

8. *The LPA will recognize effective local programs, but what about the local managers who run those programs?*

Answer: The coalition has established an award recognition program for local floodplain administrators and emergency management coordinators to recognize individual achievements. The TCRFC will annually select from among its members a Floodplain Manager of the Year and Emergency Management Coordinator of the Year for efforts above and beyond the minimum required by the NFIP. These awards will be presented at the coalition's annual awards ceremony and posted on the web site.

9. *How can my community move up in the Rating Levels?*

Answer: Once the community adopts the necessary criteria for higher participation levels in an enforceable ordinance or court order, the community floodplain manager can contact the TCRFC and ask for a reevaluation of the local program. This will be conducted as time permits and adjustments to the ratings will be made at the following annual meeting.

10. *How do I schedule a LPA for my community?*

Answer: The TCRFC assessment team will be contacting you to schedule a visit. Again, these assessments must be completed by June 30, 2002 so several communities will be scheduled each month and grouped by location within the basin.

11. *Where do I find more information about the Local Program Assessment process?*

Answer: Refer to the TCRFC "Floodplain Management Program Assessment Guidance Manual" and visit www.tcrfc.org.