



# **MEMORANDUM**

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

To: Municipal Drainage Advisory Committee

From: Public Works

Date: 1/20/2026

Subject: Master Drainage Study update

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### Background

A master drainage study is a long-term planning tool used to evaluate stormwater and flood risks, identify infrastructure deficiencies, and guide future capital improvements. It assesses both existing and future drainage needs to support effective flood mitigation and infrastructure planning.

In 2016, the Public Works Department retained Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI) to evaluate Farmers Branch Creek. The resulting Farmers Branch Creek Watershed Study (July 30, 2018) identified erosion and flood control projects focused solely within that watershed, many of which have since been completed.

As the remaining high-priority projects near completion from the FNI 2018 Study, the Public Works department is commissioning a new master drainage study to address flooding concerns in other areas of the City.

This study will evaluate flood risks and potential improvements in the following areas:

- Rawhide Creek (Valley View Lane to Webb Chapel Road)
- Stream 6H1 (Winn Park/Midway Road area)
- FEMA Zone A upstream areas of Farmers Branch Creek (Midway/Proton Rd Area)
- Maybrook Channel
- Bee Street culvert crossing at Cooks Creek

The study will use detailed hydraulic modeling to assess existing conditions and develop targeted flood mitigation recommendations. It will include opinions of probable construction costs, project prioritization for future capital improvements, and benefit-cost analyses consistent with FEMA guidelines to support future grant funding. The study will provide a framework for efficient capital planning and protection of public safety and infrastructure.

### Progress so far

The Public Works Department has secured a professional Services agreement with Kimley Horn for a master drainage study. Kimley-Horn began the initial phases of the project with the review and study of existing information regarding the study areas. Kimley-Horn will be performing site visits of the study areas in January, and a formal kickoff meeting will be held with Public Works staff on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026.