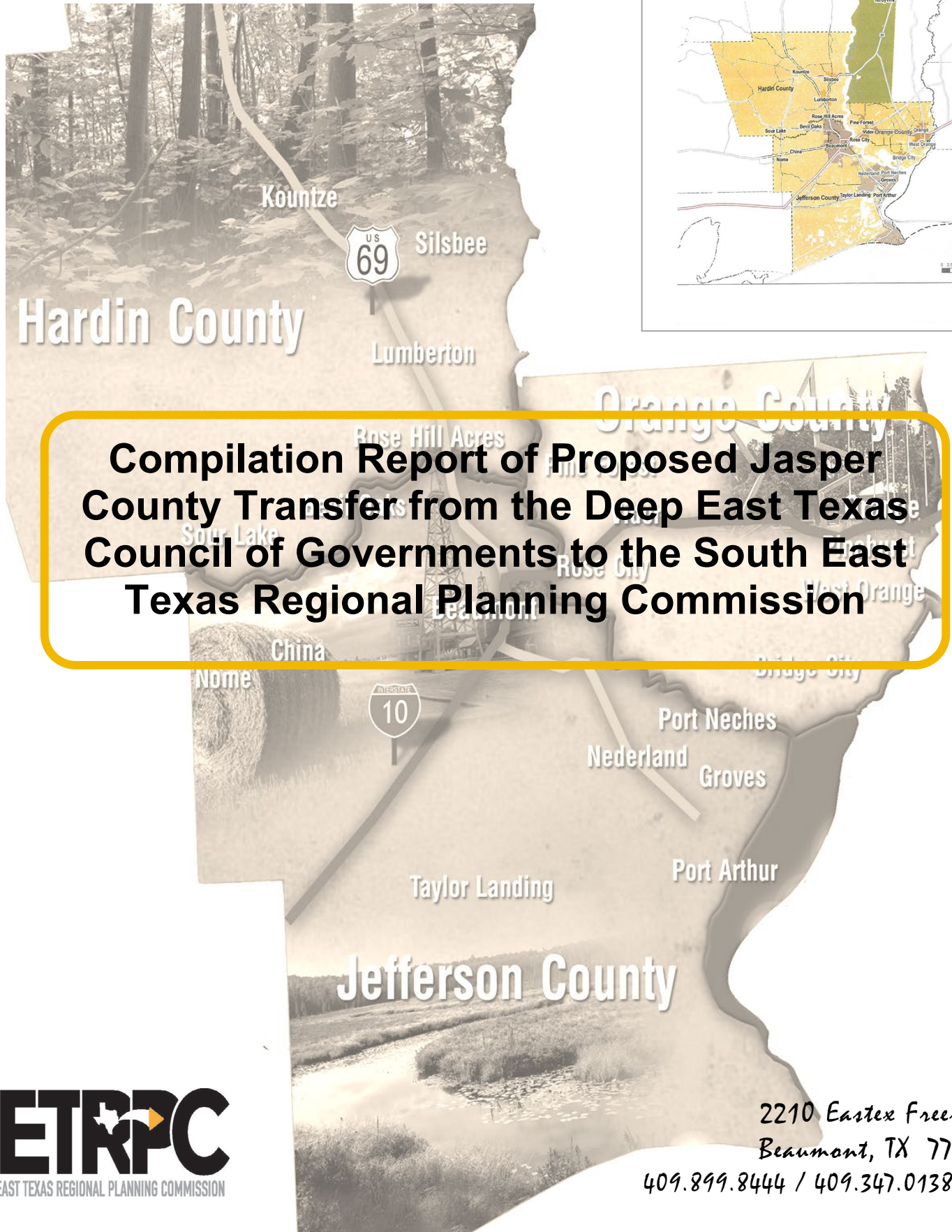
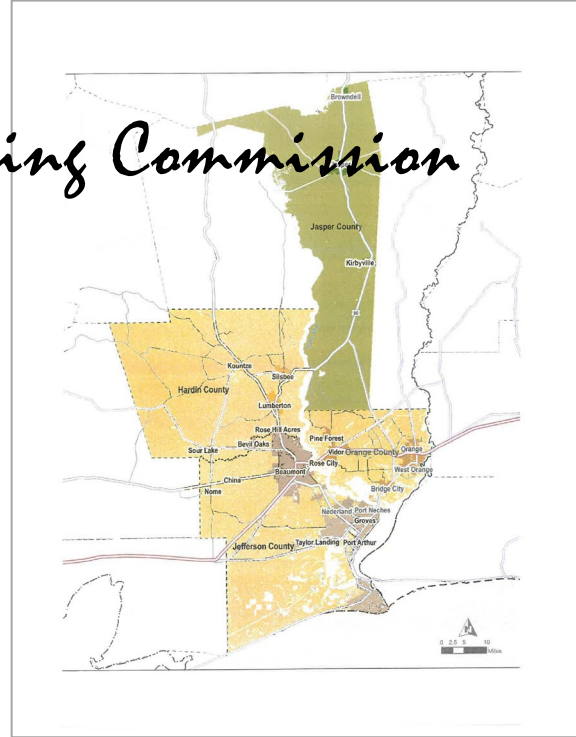


South East Texas Regional Planning Commission



South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
Compilation Report of Proposed Jasper County Transfer from the Deep East Texas
Council of Governments to the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
July 2020

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Introductory Section





To Interested Parties:

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) is committed to serving the needs of its members and the citizens of Southeast Texas and upholding the Core Values, General Purpose and Mission Statement set forth by the elected officials, directors and staff of the SETRPC.

The SETRPC is composed of a team of professionals guided by the principals of honesty, integrity, responsiveness and vision, who combine their talents and efforts to promote the best interests of the region and its residents.

As a voluntary association of local governments, the SETRPC facilitates regional communication and cooperation among member governments in a manner which works to advance common interests and enhances the health, safety and welfare of its citizens.

Our mission as an organization is to serve all members through innovative development and implementation of superior programs and services which contribute to the improvement of the health, safety and economic welfare of the region's citizens.

Our staff has been asked to compile information regarding the transfer of Jasper County from the Deep East Texas Council of Governments (DETCOG) to the SETRPC.

Following is our best effort to provide perspective to all stake holders. The information has been compiled with the ideal that all residents will receive the high level of services our staff strives to deliver. We also believe it will assist all stake holders in making a fully informed decision.

Information for this report has been gathered from the staff of SETRPC and DETCOG, working groups, State and Federal agencies, and a report issued by Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc.

Following is a compilation of information for your review and consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shanna Burke
Executive Director

Jim Borel
Finance Director

President – Rebecca Ford, Bevil Oaks | 1st VP – Mary Adams, Kountze | 2nd VP - Terri Gauthier, Bridge City
3rd VP – Michael Sinegal, Jefferson County | Treasurer – Wayne McDaniel, Hardin County | Secretary – Johnny Trahan, Orange County

Executive Director – Shanna Burke

2210 Eastex Freeway Beaumont, Texas 77703-4929

(409) 899-8444 | (409) 347-0138 fax

setrpc@setrpc.org | <http://www.setrpc.org>

SETRPC Executive Staff

Executive Director Shanna Burke

Executive Assistant Suzanne Carver

Director, Disaster Recovery/Human Resource Manager Glenda Lacy

Director, Finance Jim Borel

Director, Community Services / Area Agency on Aging Colleen Halliburton

Director, 9-1-1 Emergency Network Pete De La Cruz

Director, AARP Experience Corps SE Texas Program Stephanie Pearson

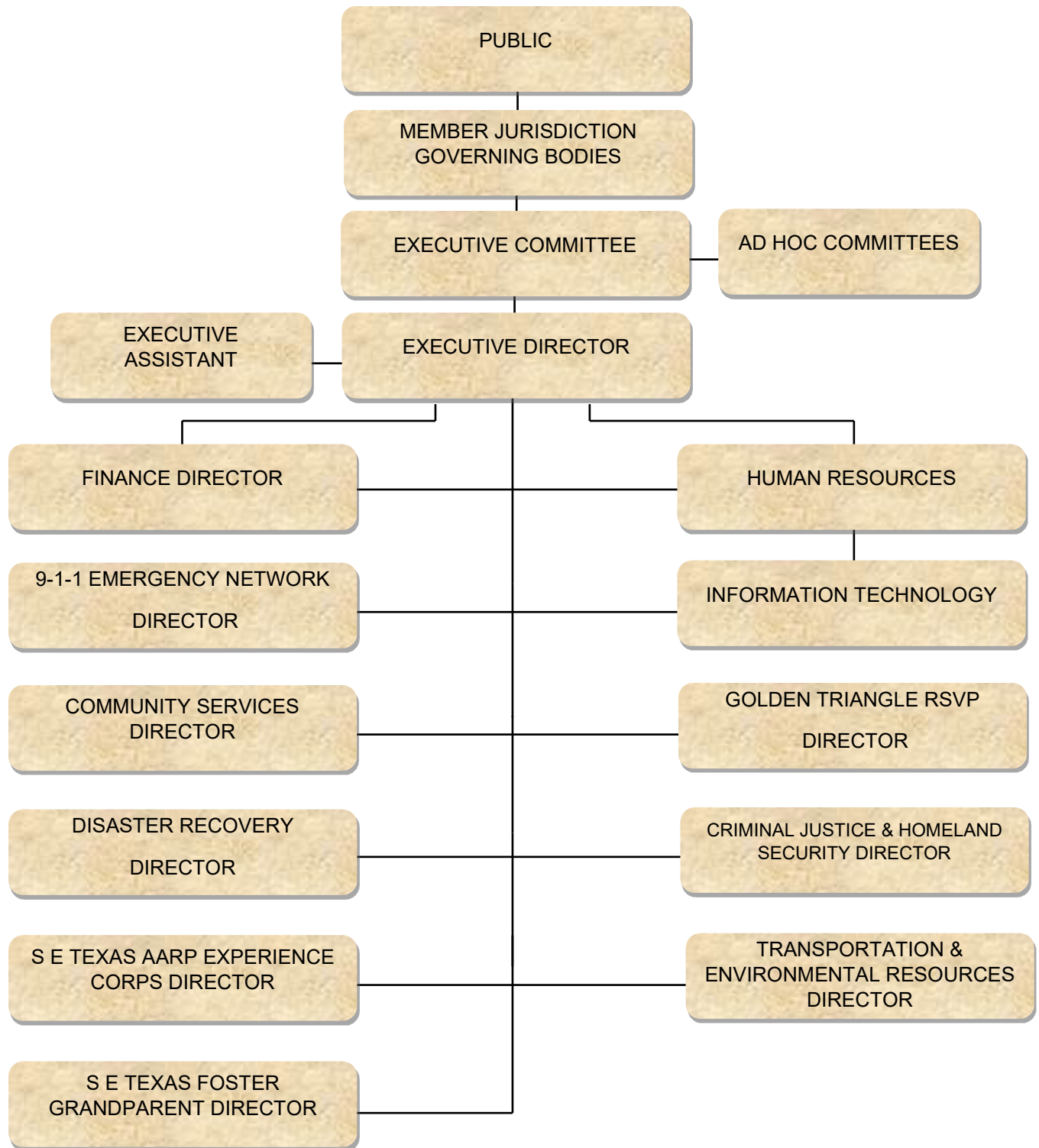
Director, Golden Triangle RSVP Crystal Petry

Director, Foster Grandparent Program Tyronna McKenzie

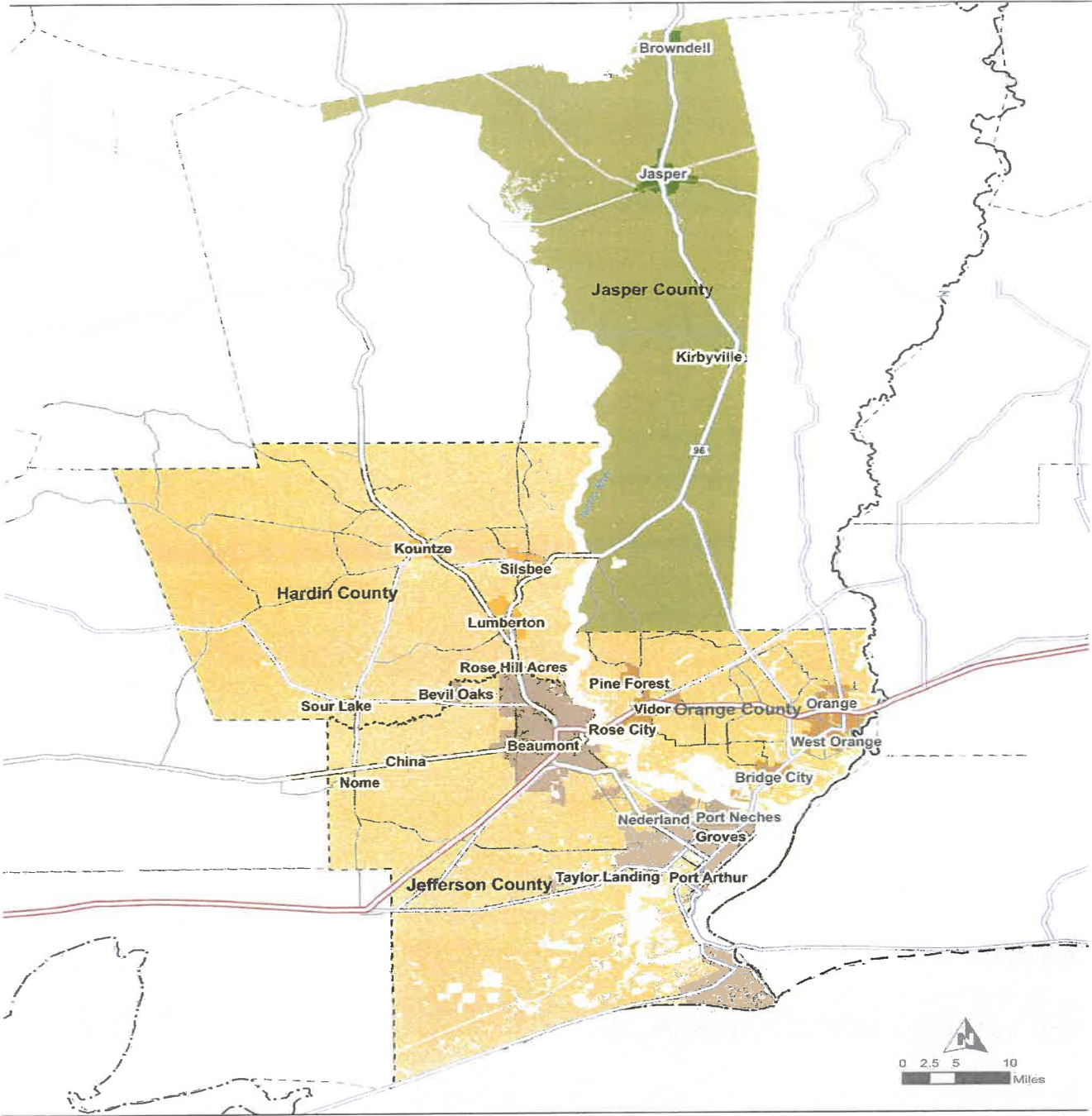
Director, Homeland Security / Emergency Management Planning / Public Safety Steve Curran

Director, Transportation & Environmental Resources Bob Dickinson

SETRPC Organizational Chart



Proposed Regional Boundaries





JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC ENTITIES

Incorporated Cities:

Jasper	Current COG Member
Kirbyville	Current COG Member
Browndell	Non-Member

School Districts:

Jasper ISD	Current COG Member
Kirbyville Consolidated ISD	Current COG Member
Buna ISD	Current COG Member
Evadale ISD	Current COG Member

Special Districts:

Jasper Hospital District	Non-Member
Jasper-Newton Counties Public Health District	Non-Member
Jasper County Development District #1	Non-Member
Jasper County Water Control & Improvement District #1 Buna	Current COG Member
Evadale Water Control & Improvement District #1	Non-Member
Brookeland Fresh Water Supply District	Non-Member
Rayburn Country Municipal Utility District	Non-Member
Jasper-Newton Counties Soil & Water Conservation District #441	Current COG Member
Jasper County Appraisal District	Non-Member
Jasper Emergency Services District #1 (Buna)	Non-Member
Jasper County Emergency Services District #2 (Evadale)	Non-Member
Jasper County Emergency Services District #3 (Kirbyville)	Non-Member
Jasper County Emergency Services District # 4 (Jasper)	Non-Member
Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District (Hardin, Jasper, Newton & Tyler Counties)	Non-Member

River Authorities:

Lower Neches River Authority	Current COG Member
Angelina-Neches River Authority	Current COG Member
Sabine River Authority	Current COG Member

Electric Cooperatives:

Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative	Current COG Member
Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative	Current COG Member



JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC ENTITIES

(Continued)

Corporations:

Jasper Economic Development Corporation	Current COG Member
South Jasper County Water Supply Corporation (Buna)	Non-Member
South Kirbyville Rural Water Supply Corporation	Non-Member
Harrisburg Water Supply Corporation	Non-Member
Angelina Water Supply Corporation	Non-Member
Southeast Texas Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.	Non-Member

Chambers of Commerce:

Jasper-Lake Sam Rayburn Chamber of Commerce	Non-Member
Kirbyville Chamber of Commerce	Non-Member
Buna Chamber of Commerce	Non-Member

Hospitals:

Christus - Jasper Memorial Hospital	Current COG Member
-------------------------------------	--------------------

Source: Jasper County

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Program Summaries



Criminal Justice and Homeland Security Programs

The Working Group's mission was to evaluate impacts to major programs within the CJHSD and provide a written report to the SETRPC Executive Committee. The objective of this report is to enable the Executive Committee Members to make an informed decision regarding Jasper County's transfer to the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission. Jasper County is now part of the Deep East Texas Council of Governments.

Working Group Members

Joel Ardoin, Emergency Management Coordinator, Orange County
Aaron Tupper, Emergency Management Coordinator, Hardin County
Mike White, Emergency Management Coordinator, Jefferson County
Bart Bartkowiak, Chief Technology Director and Public Works Director, City of
Beaumont
Dale Jackson, Fire Chief/Emergency Management Coordinator, City of Groves
Michael Stelly, City Manager, Police Chief, Public Works Director, City of West Orange

SETRPC Staff Facilitating Meetings

Sue Landry, Director
Steve Curran, CCTA Preparedness Coordinator/Interim Regional Emergency Planner

Subject Matter Experts Providing Background Information

Billy Ted Smith, Emergency Management Coordinator, Jasper County
Mike Claude, Deep East Texas Council of Governments
Denise Kelly, City Manager, City of Jasper
Mike Wise, Bear Communications (Formerly Kay Electronics)

Working Group Meeting Dates

November 14, 2019; December 11, 2019; January 23, 2020

Programs and/or Factors Evaluated Included

Interoperable Communications
Southeast Texas Alerting Network (STAN)
Homeland Security Grant Funding (SHSP/LETPA)
Emergency Management Planning Advisory Committee (EMPAC)
Hazard Mitigation Action Plan
Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack (CCTA)
CJD Funding (JAG, VOCA, VAWA/RJA)
Criminal Justice Strategic Plan
Sabine Neches Chiefs Association (SNCA) Membership

Criminal History Disposition for Jasper

The Criminal History Disposition affects Homeland Security and Criminal Justice Division funding and counties must maintain a 90% attainment for both adults and juveniles. Failure to attain this percentage results in all jurisdictions and agencies seeking funding within the county being disqualified from doing so. The most recent statistics available for Jasper County are from 1-13-2020 and are as follows:

Jasper County Criminal History Dispositions:

Year 2014	Adult	98%	Juvenile	100%
Year 2015	Adult	95%	Juvenile	100%
Year 2016	Adult	96%	Juvenile	100%
Year 2017	Adult	86%	Juvenile	94%
Year 2018	Adult	50%	Juvenile	92%

Impact: As detailed above Jasper County is within the required attainments except for Years 2017 and 2018. For those years they were out of compliance with Adult. Failure to meet the 90% threshold could impact funding for all jurisdictions in Jasper County.

Emergency Management Planning Advisory Committee (EMPAC)

Impact: The Jasper Working Group noted a change to the committee would impact the dynamics of that committee however, the structure of the committee would not be impacted.

With the transfer of Jasper County to SETRPC an additional part-time staff person would be necessary to ensure we meet the needs of the citizens of our new member at an estimated cost of \$54,492 requiring additional local funding to cover these costs. (NOTE: this position would be shared with the Homeland Division as explained later)

Mitigation Action Plan

Impact: Because of the timing of each County's Plan updates, Jasper County would be required to become part of the Mitigation Action Plan update for SETRPC which will expire in 2022. This will require an increase of \$50,000 in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds which will be submitted with Imelda DR 4466.

Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack Initiative

Impact: Jasper County would participate as an observer.

Sabine Neches Chief Association

Impact: (SNCA): With the transfer of Jasper County to SETRPC, the SNCA would be required to vote to include Jasper County to the organization.

Regional Juvenile Alternatives Program

Impact: It's our estimate \$4,142.78 of Regional Juvenile Alternatives funds would be shifted from the current three counties to Jasper County: These funds are generally shared with the County Juvenile Probation Departments.

Regional Police Academy

Impact: According to Jimmy LeBoeuf, Regional Police Academy Director, an additional \$24,789 will be required to train peace officers from Jasper County.

Criminal Justice Grant Programs

Impact: While the impact of the Jasper County's transfer is difficult to quantify, it's important to note that all agencies of the expanded region would be able to apply for all Criminal Justice Division grants. Comparing the SETRPC amounts to the Jasper County Criminal Justice Division the amounts listed below provides context for any shifting of future awards. Obviously, the transfer will have an impact on the current region funding allocation.

For Example:

VAWA Grants: Jasper County currently has a \$30,508 grant according to Deep East Texas Council of Governments. With the transfer of Jasper County, they would become eligible to compete for \$216,105 impacting funds now allocated to the current region. Jasper would not be restricted to the \$30,508.

VOCA: Jasper currently has a \$62,433 VOCA grant. With the transfer of Jasper County there would be no restriction on the amount Jasper County would be eligible to apply for. Currently the eligible allocation for the region is 841,991 in VOCA funds. Obviously, there could be a shifting of eligible funds within the new region however, at this time we are unable to quantify any changes in the allocation of funds.

Criminal Justice Grants (Formerly Justice Assistance Grants): Jasper currently receives \$27,348.75 with the integration they would be eligible to apply for up to \$159,289.70 which includes their allocation amount and the current SETRPC jurisdiction amounts.

Regional Planner

Included in the Jasper budget is a 50% Full Time Equivalent (FTE). This includes salary, benefits, indirect, supplies, rent, travel, and initial start-up equipment (laptop, printer, cell phone). The part-time planner would devote 10 hours per week to the Homeland Security Programs of the Department and 10 hours per week to the Criminal Justice Program of the Department. The budget reflects this will be ¼ time of an FTE included in each program with other costs also divided equally.

Criminal Justice Programs Budget

	Regional Criminal Justice <u>Interlocal</u>	Regional Police <u>Academy</u>	Regional Juvenile <u>Alternatives</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries	\$ 10,764	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,764
Benefits	\$ 5,630	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,630
Total Personnel	\$ 16,394	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,394
Indirect	\$ 4,672	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,672
Subcontractor Services	\$ -	\$ 24,789	\$ 4,143	\$ 28,932
Rent	\$ 3,180	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,180
Travel	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500
Printing Publications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Volunteer Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies/Other	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500
Total Applications	\$ 27,246	\$ 24,789	\$ 4,143	\$ 56,178
Local Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Additional Local Dues	\$ 27,246	\$ 24,789	\$ 4,143	\$ 56,178
Transfers (To) From	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Carryover From (to) Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Program Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Special Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Inkind Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Sources*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Sources	\$ 27,246	\$ 24,789	\$ 4,143	\$ 56,178

Personnel Schedule

<u>SETRPC Working Job Title</u>	<u>State Job Title</u>	<u>Salary Group</u>	<u>State Salary Range</u> <u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Planner III - Part-time	Planner III	B23	55,184	90,393

* Includes federal funds administered by the State of Texas.

Homeland Security Programs

Regional Interoperable Communications

Impact: \$6,500,000.00 would be required (estimate) for Jasper County to acquire equipment needed to join the Southeast Texas Regional Radio System. This estimated cost was provided to SETRPC by Bear Comm (formerly Kay Electronics) and Bart Bartkowiak and the City of Beaumont Information Technology. The City of Beaumont is the System Administrator for the Southeast Texas Regional Radio System. Currently there are no funds available for this expansion however SETRPC would work diligently with all jurisdictions and State and Federal agencies to expand the current system as necessary.

Southeast Texas Alerting Network (STAN)

Impact: An annual recurring expense of \$12,732 will be required to add Jasper County to the Southeast Texas Alerting Network (STAN) as provided by the STAN vendor, Blackboard Connect. Additional funds would be needed to cover this annual expenditure through future Port Security Grant Programs and matches by local industry if authorized.

Homeland Security Grant Funding

Impact: The working group expressed concern for the impact on current funding. Of concern was Jasper's impact relative to the current region's heavily industrialized base and the impact of future Homeland Security Grant Funding. The working group also expressed concern regarding current multi-year project funding which may be impacted by the integration.

Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc Report

"Mr. Claude pointed out that Jasper County contracts with Newton and Sabine counties to provide emergency management planning, and the Jasper County emergency management coordinator also serves those counties. Mr. Claude also raised a concern that, in the area of disaster response, the SETRPC counties and Jasper County are currently served by different Texas Division(s) of Emergency Management District Disaster Coordinators."

Homeland Security Programs Budget

	Homeland Security <u>Planning</u>	Port <u>Security</u>	Interlocal <u>Agreement</u>	<u>CCTA</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries	\$ 10,764	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,764
Benefits	\$ 5,630	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,630
Total Personnel	\$ 16,394	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,394
Indirect	\$ 4,672	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,672
Subcontractor Services	\$ -	\$ 12,732	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,732
Rent	\$ 3,180	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,180
Travel	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500
Printing Publications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Volunteer Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies/Other	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500
Total Applications	\$ 27,246	\$ 12,732	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,978
Local Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Additional Local Dues	\$ 27,246	\$ 12,732	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,978
Transfers (To) From	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Carryover From (to) Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Program Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Special Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Inkind Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Sources*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Sources	\$ 27,246	\$ 12,732	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 39,978

Personnel Schedule				
<u>SETRPC Working Job Title</u>	<u>State Job Title</u>	<u>Salary Group</u>	<u>State Salary Range</u>	
			<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Planner III	Planner III	B23	55,184	90,393

* Includes federal funds administered by the State of Texas.

Community Services Programs

Attendees at the AAA / 2-1-1 Workgroup meeting on December 10, 2019

Fred Jackson – Jefferson County
Terri Gauthier – Orange County
Lynda Davis – Hardin County
Sharon Whitley – Hardin County
Lori Wright – Lamar University and Regional Council on Aging and Disabilities Chairperson

After assessing the data, the following items and funding are needed to maintain services in Jasper County at the level they are currently receiving:

Item	Cost
Home-delivered meals	\$ 41,710
1 AAA Staff for Jasper County (salary, fringe and indirect)	\$ 64,576
Staff Mileage	\$ 1,500
Volunteer Ombudsman Mileage (Jasper Volunteers to attend required quarterly training in Beaumont)	\$ 2,800
TOTAL	\$ 107,586

Home-Delivered Meals

Deficit of \$41,710 (7,855 meals). HHSC's home-delivered meal allocation for Jasper County will be \$22,281. Based on the number of home-delivered meals DETCOG purchased in FY19 for Jasper County, SETRPC will have to spend a total of \$63,991 to purchase 12,051 home-delivered meals.

2-1-1 Area Information Center

It does not appear HHSC will allocate any funding for 2-1-1. This service will require staff to conduct outreach to non-profit organizations to collect resource information about services. Also, outreach to the community about 2-1-1's information and referral services.

The SETRPC allocation from HHSC for the following services and staff will be \$33,443.

Transportation

DETCOG provided 10 clients with 871 rides in FY19, mainly through volunteer drivers at an amount of \$11,284. SETRPC does not utilize volunteers for transportation due to liability concerns. A different method would need to be considered.

Residential Repair, Health Maintenance and Income Support

DETCOG spent \$23,103 for 34 clients in these services combined in FY19. There is a fund deficit in this service category to cover all expenses.

Care Coordination

Staff provide case management to clients who receive the services of residential repair, health maintenance and income support.

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

There are 5 facilities (Assisted Living and Nursing Homes) in Jasper that will require a minimum of 35 combined visits per year. Volunteers are required to receive training quarterly.

Benefits Counseling

We do not have numbers of clients for Jasper County. This service will require staff to conduct outreach in Jasper County about Medicare and other public benefits. Also, staff will work one-on-one with clients concerning their Medicare issues and enrolling in Medicare Part D prescription plans. Some of the one-on-one work can be conducted via telephone and the mail.

The following services will not need additional funding:

Congregate Meals

Caregiver Support Coordination and Caregiver In-home Respite

Administration

This is for staff and costs of the Director, Fiscal/Contract Manager and Administrative Assistant.

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Community Services Programs Budget

	<u>Title III Services</u>	<u>Title III HDM</u>	<u>TIRN 2-1-1</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries	\$ 25,171	\$ -	\$ 6,293	\$ 31,464
Benefits	\$ 13,165	\$ -	\$ 3,291	\$ 16,456
Total Personnel	\$ 38,336	\$ -	\$ 9,584	\$ 47,920
Indirect	\$ 10,926	\$ -	\$ 2,731	\$ 13,657
Subcontractor Services	\$ 33,443	\$ 63,991	\$ -	\$ 97,434
Rent	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Travel	\$ -	\$ 4,300	\$ -	\$ 4,300
Printing Publications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Volunteer Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies/Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Applications	\$ 82,704	\$ 68,291	\$ 12,315	\$ 163,311
Local Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Additional Local Dues	\$ 49,261	\$ 46,010	\$ 12,316	\$ 107,587
Transfers (To) From	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Carryover From (to) Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Program Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Special Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Inkind Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Sources*	\$ 33,443	\$ 22,281	\$ -	\$ 55,724
Federal Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Sources	\$ 82,704	\$ 68,291	\$ 12,316	\$ 163,311
Personnel Schedule				
<u>SETRPC Working Job Title</u>	<u>State Job Title</u>	<u>Salary Group</u>	<u>State Salary Range</u> <u>From</u> <u>To</u>	
AAA Jasper County Coordinator	Case Manager 1	B11	24,910	41,355

* Includes federal funds administered by the State of Texas.

Transportation Programs

Jasper County Workgroup Details

Jasper County Workgroup Meeting Dates

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Friday, January 24, 2020 11:30 a.m.

Purpose

Provide information to the SETRPC Executive Committee concerning the transfer of Jasper County to SETRPC. This information is provided to all stake holders so they may make an informed decision on the future transfer.

Workgroup Participants

Commissioner Eddie Arnold, Jefferson County

Commissioner Johnny Trahan, Orange County

Commissioner L. W. Cooper, Hardin County

Judge Mark Allen, Jasper County

Adam Jack, Director of Transportation Planning & Development TxDOT Beaumont District

Scott Ayers, Planning and Programming Engineer, TxDOT Beaumont District Shanna

Burke, Executive Director, SETRPC

SETRPC Staff Members

Transportation & Environmental Resources, Bob Dickinson

Transportation & Environmental Resources, Lucie Michaud

Discussions included

- Inclusion of Jasper County into the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and impacts to the current MPO counties and Jasper County
- Creation of a Rural Planning Organization (RPO)
- SETRPC Executive Committee adoption of a resolution to establish a Rural Planning Organization (RPO)
- SETRPC staff to develop a schedule to meet with TxDOT Beaumont district staff for discussion and prioritization of highway improvement projects in Jasper County

South East Texas Rural Transit District

Expansion of South East Texas Transit (SETT) - Rural Transportation Program to Jasper County would require the following:

- Amend South East Texas Rural Transit District Boundary to include Jasper County
- Seek increased funding from TxDOT Public Transportation Division (PTN) to allocate additional resources for the purchase of new transit buses as well as operational funding to expand rural transportation services into Jasper County
- Local share of funding from political subdivision or a non-profit organization in Jasper County

To address the various issues associated with the addition of a fourth County, SETRPC's Transportation & Environmental Resources (T&ER) programs would require an additional full-time transportation planner, increased funding for local travel and for contractual services. The expected additional efforts on the part of SETRPC staff to support a larger region, would necessitate the addition of personnel to supplement existing SETRPC -T&ER employees. This position would handle the increased workload of a larger geographical area while expanding the programs in our department, as well as, the preparations needed to add Jasper County to the SETRPC- MPO and set up a Rural Planning Organization (RPO).

This person would play a key role in the establishment of a Rural Planning Organization (RPO) and collaborate with the TxDOT Beaumont District and Jasper County to ease the transition into the MPO during the multi-year, Jefferson Orange Hardin Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS) Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP) development process. Additionally, this individual would coordinate and work on the necessary steps related to adding Jasper County to the SETRPC-MPO through the development of the JOHRTS-Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) 2050.

The planner would coordinate the following:

- Review and oversee the MPO contractor's staff and work efforts;
- Work with MPO, MPO contractor staff and TxDOT planning staff to develop traffic analysis zone (TAZ) geography for use in travel demand model;
- Work with MPO and TxDOT planning staff in planning travel surveys of residents and businesses in the county for use in travel demand model;
- Provide input to MPO and TxDOT District staff regarding roadway locations for consideration of performing traffic counts in the future;
- Work with MPO and MPO contractor staff, and local elected officials to review census data and recent growth data to establish traffic analysis zone (TAZ) base year population, household and employment data for travel demand model;
- Work with MPO and MPO contractor staff to review roadway configuration information (number of lanes, median design, etc.) to develop travel model road network;
- Work with MPO and MPO contractor staff to develop growth forecasts of population and employment for use in travel modeling of future years to support JORHTS MTP development;
- Work with MPO, TxDOT Beaumont District, MPO contractor staff and local elected officials to identify future road additions and improvements that should be included in travel model road networks representing future road configurations for the JOHRTS Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2050 (MTP).

Transportation Programs Budget

	Regional Transportation <u>Planning</u>	Rural Transportation <u>Program</u>	Regional <u>Coordination</u>	Regional Rideshare <u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries	\$ 31,500	\$ -	\$ 13,500	\$ -	\$ 45,000
Benefits	\$ 16,475	\$ -	\$ 7,061	\$ -	\$ 23,535
Total Personnel	\$ 47,975	\$ -	\$ 20,561	\$ -	\$ 68,535
Indirect	\$ 13,673	\$ -	\$ 5,860	\$ -	\$ 19,532
Subcontractor Services	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000
Rent	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Travel	\$ 2,400	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,400
Printing Publications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Volunteer Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies/Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Applications	\$ 84,047	\$ -	\$ 26,420	\$ -	\$ 110,467
Local Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Additional Local Dues	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Transfers (To) From	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Carryover From (to) Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Program Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Special Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Inkind Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Sources*	\$ 84,047	\$ -	\$ 26,420	\$ -	\$ 110,467
Federal Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Sources	\$ 84,047	\$ -	\$ 26,420	\$ -	\$ 110,467

Personnel Schedule

<u>SETRPC Working Job Title</u>	<u>State Job Title</u>	Salary <u>Group</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Planner I	Transportation Planner I	B17	36,976	58,339

* Includes federal funds administered by the State of Texas.

Community Development and Disaster Recovery Programs

Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

The Disaster Recovery Division administers the Texas Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) whereby funding is received from the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). The CDBG Program is federally funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The purpose of the program is to improve the living conditions for low-to-moderate income persons by improving infrastructure, housing, community facilities and employment opportunities.

This program is currently undergoing changes at the state level. It is unknown how the addition of Jasper County would affect the current program and funding overall.

Community Development Block Grant Disaster Relief Program

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, through a supplemental congressional appropriation for Hurricane relief, allocated special funds to the State of Texas. The Texas General Land Office (GLO) is the entity designated to administer these federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for housing and infrastructure needs in areas impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

Non-housing funds are used by local communities with infrastructure damage with the goal of providing a safe environment for citizens to live and work and to improve and/or ensure health and safety for the community.

Housing funds are used to mediate the needs of overall housing stock in the region damaged as a result of Hurricane Harvey. Activities include demolition; elevation, rehabilitation and reconstruction of single-family owner-occupied structures, rehabilitation and reconstruction of rental structures, and the reconstruction of multi-family rental structures.

All programs associated with this funding are administered by the GLO, who in turn subcontracts for special projects, such as Method of Distribution creation and Quality Control Assurance activities.

Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc Report

The Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc report concluded "Given the fact that Hurricane Harvey Disaster Recovery funds have been allocated and methods of distribution determined at the COG level, Jasper County would continue to work through DETCOG on its CDBG-DR program. Because of this, there would be no impact on SETRPC's CDBG-DR program."

Foster Grandparent Programs

The Southeast Texas Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) provides volunteer opportunities for income-eligible persons age 55 or over. The volunteers serve in schools (Head Start, Pre-K, and K-12), juvenile detention and probation centers, day-care facilities, substance abuse facilities, and juvenile mental health facilities. Currently, we have 72 active volunteers serving Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange Counties.

Volunteers serve one-on-one with children needing individualized assistance to stay on grade-level. Volunteers assist with letter and number recognition, site words, writing, simple math problems, behavioural issues and mentoring. Having a Foster Grandparent volunteer in a classroom has proven beneficial to the child assigned to the grandparent and the entire classroom. Depending on the number of hours a volunteer serves, that volunteer can provide tutoring for up to 8 children per day. Each volunteer stays with their assigned child/children until that child reaches the desired goal as outline by the classroom teacher.

The incorporation of Jasper County means the addition of 4 school districts: Jasper ISD, Kirbyville Consolidated ISD, Buna ISD, and Evadale ISD. If welcomed to provide our volunteer services to these districts, we estimated the addition of 20 Foster Grandparent volunteers. The cost associated with those volunteers are outlined in the enclosed budget.

The proposed budget reflects the cost associated with volunteer stipend and travel reimbursement for volunteer hours served. An additional FGP staff member (part-time) would be needed to adequately handle the additional workload with providing volunteer services. The costs associated with an additional staff person includes salary, fringe benefits, indirect cost, and local travel reimbursement. Providing a work- station for the new staffer means extra budgetary cost for telephone and internet service, as well as, a computer and Microsoft subscription.

After consulting with our assigned CNCS (Corporation for National and Community Service) Program Office, Andrew Lowe, we could not include Jasper County as a new service area at this time. Currently, Jasper County is not a service area for the Foster Grandparent Program for the South East Region. In order for Jasper County to be included in the South East Texas Region we would need to include them in the newly defined service area during the next competitive grant opportunity, which would be in 3 years. During the interim the cost associated with the expansion of the program would require local financial support as outlined in the budget. It is our hope that during the next competitive bidding process we would be able to secure Federal and State funds to defray a portion of these costs.

Foster Grandparent Programs Budget

	Corporation for National & Community <u>Service</u>	Health & Human Services <u>Commission</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries	\$ 24,375	\$ -	\$ 24,375
Benefits	\$ 12,748	\$ -	\$ 12,748
Total Personnel	\$ 37,124	\$ -	\$ 37,124
Indirect	\$ 10,580	\$ -	\$ 10,580
Subcontractor Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rent	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Travel	\$ 938	\$ -	\$ 938
Printing Publications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Volunteer Expense	\$ 76,992	\$ -	\$ 76,992
Supplies/Other	\$ 2,864	\$ -	\$ 2,864
Total Applications	\$ 128,498	\$ -	\$ 128,498
Local Cash	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Additional Local Dues	\$ 128,498	\$ -	\$ 128,498
Transfers To (From)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Carryover From (to) Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Program Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Special Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Inkind Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Sources*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Sources	\$ 128,498	\$ -	\$ 128,498

Personnel Schedule					
<u>SETRPC Working Job Title</u>	<u>State Job Title</u>	<u>Salary Group</u>	State		
			<u>Salary Range</u>		
			<u>To</u>	<u>From</u>	
Volunteer Coordinator -part time	Volunteer Services Coordinator I	B13	29,439	46,388	

* Includes federal funds administered by the State of Texas.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs

The Golden Triangle Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) promotes the utilization of the time and talents of persons aged 55 and over as community resources. The program provides a variety of volunteer opportunities for service and participation throughout Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange Counties. The Golden Triangle RSVP is in its 48th year of operation. In fiscal year ended 2019, RSVP volunteers contributed over 73,000 volunteer hours throughout Southeast Texas. Golden Triangle RSVP has six focus areas in which all our volunteers are placed. These focus areas are disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures and veterans and military families. Golden Triangle RSVP has partnerships with a diverse network of 45 different non-profit agencies in Hardin, Jefferson and Orange County.

The Golden Triangle RSVP program is federally funded by the Corporation for National Community Service (CNCS).

Deep East Texas Council of Governments' (DETCOG) Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is also federally funded by CNCS. Jasper County which is served under DETCOG RSVP has about 200 volunteers that service five different non-profit organizations.

According to the Golden Triangle RSVP Federal Program Manager, Andrew Lowe, for Jasper County to become a viable member of Golden Triangle RSVP a few things would need to take place. During the next CNCS Funding Opportunities Requests for Proposals Competition in 2023, DETCOG RSVP would have to voluntarily release the service area of Jasper County when they submit their narrative for competition. At this time Golden Triangle RSVP would be able to request that Jasper County become a service area. Both items would have to be approved by CNCS.

If Jasper County is included in Golden Triangle RSVP, the service area would increase to four counties-Orange, Jefferson, Hardin and Jasper County. The volunteer base would increase from 450 to 650 with the inclusion of the 200 volunteers currently serving the Jasper County area. The non-profit organizations partnership would increase from 45 to 50 with the inclusion of the five volunteer sites that partner with DETCOG RSVP.

With the increase in volunteers and volunteer sites an additional Volunteer Services Coordinator would be needed.

The volunteer coordinator would be responsible for planning, organizing, and promoting a program of volunteer services and enlisting volunteers to assist in the care, treatment, and rehabilitation of clients. With the inclusion of volunteers, volunteer sites and staff, Golden Triangle RSVP would request an increase in Federal, State and Local funds to help with the increased cost associated with the merger.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Programs Budget

	Corporation for National & Community <u>Service</u>	Health & Human Services <u>Commission</u>	<u>Total</u>
Salaries	\$ 37,260	\$ -	\$ 37,260
Benefits	\$ 19,487	\$ -	\$ 19,487
Total Personnel	\$ 56,747	\$ -	\$ 56,747
Indirect	\$ 16,173	\$ -	\$ 16,173
Subcontractor Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Rent	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Travel	\$ 2,220	\$ -	\$ 2,220
Printing Publications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 527	\$ -	\$ 527
Volunteer Expense	\$ 3,300	\$ -	\$ 3,300
Supplies/Other	\$ 2,022	\$ -	\$ 2,022
Total Applications	\$ 80,989	\$ -	\$ 80,989
Local Cash		\$ -	\$ -
Additional Local Dues	\$ 77,389	\$ -	\$ 77,389
Transfers To (From)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Carryover From (to) Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Program Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Special Contributions	\$ 3,600	\$ -	\$ 3,600
Inkind Contributions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
State Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Federal Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Sources	\$ 80,989	\$ -	\$ 80,989
Personnel Schedule			
<u>SETRPC Working Job Title</u>	<u>State Job Title</u>	Salary <u>Group</u>	State <u>Salary Range</u> <u>From</u> <u>To</u>
Volunteer Coordinator	Volunteer Services Coordinator III	B17	36,976 58,399

* Includes federal funds administered by the State of Texas.

AARP Experience Corps Programs

The mission of AARP Experience Corps South East Texas is to strengthen our community by engaging a critical mass of people 50 years of age and older to actively participate and address the literacy needs of students in our elementary schools while enhancing the volunteer members involvement in community awareness.

AARP Experience Corps® - Southeast Texas is an intergenerational literacy program maximizing the experience and patience of senior citizen volunteers of our community. AARP Experience Corps (AARP EC) volunteer members provide one on one pre- literacy, literacy and math skills to children that have been identified by teachers as being at risk of failure for reasons such as lack of parental involvement or inability to grasp group learning activities. AARP EC has been an active part of the Port Arthur School District since 1995 - 96 school year. Senior volunteers provide one on one service to at-risk, low-income elementary students in all Port Arthur Elementary Schools. The elementary children range from kindergarten to 3rd grade level. The tutors also focus in on the dire need for more parental involvement as this relates to the child's study and learning abilities. We offer comfortable non-threatening opportunities for children to display and improve their reading and academic interaction skills. We also provide extra take home reading / learning material for the summer break.

Surveys conducted throughout previous school years indicate that the presence of the senior volunteer members have made an impact not only on the children's reading abilities but also on their self-esteem and their judgment in making wise learning choices. The support we receive from the community with its in-kind donations and special contributions also have been indisputable to the success of our program.

AARP Experience Corps members agree to a one year 15 hour per week commitment. This enables them to receive a non-taxed monthly incentive which allows them to serve as volunteers without any burdens or extra expenses. All AARP EC volunteer members (new and returning) receive a once a year minimum 45-hour pre-service training as well as a bi-monthly in-service training throughout the school year.

The program currently serves schools in Port Arthur and is wholly funded by the Port Arthur Independent School District.

Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc Report

Ms. Pearson, AARP Experience Corp Program director, said whether Jasper ISD brought the program to the district would depend on the district and her ability to recruit volunteers.

Because the program is funded by participating school districts, Jasper's move from DETCOG to SETRPC should be revenue neutral in this area.

Environmental Resources Programs

Air Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC)

The AQAC was formed to address air quality concerns affecting southeast Texas as well as to keep local elected officials and area citizens informed of the importance of clean air issues. This committee is a diverse, broad based group composed of local elected officials, private industry, government, chambers of commerce, union representatives, concerned citizens and environmental groups. The AQAC works to help meet the air quality challenges facing the region by informing citizens about the immediate and long-range air quality concerns, identifying air quality problems that affect economic growth and develop solutions, recommending public programs regarding existing and proposed federal clean air legislation and working with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and local elected officials to develop air quality plans for southeast Texas

The AQAC also helped established a Regional Meteorological and Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Network in 1989 with funding obtained from area industries. The network is made up of numerous air monitoring stations throughout the area. As a result of the Monitoring Network, a comprehensive database has been developed to provide information on the air quality of the region and accurately evaluate control strategies for meeting the federal clean air standards for ozone.

Jasper County has no current Air Quality issues but could potentially become subject to non-attainment, if the SETRPC area is found to be in non-attainment.

Ozone Action Days Program

The Ozone program runs during the summer months each year and encourages individuals, industry, businesses and local governments to work together to reduce ozone-creating activities. It's a proactive public awareness campaign, which includes television and radio public service announcements, outdoor advertising, newsletters and brochures, encourages participation in reducing ozone-creating emissions.

Jasper County residents can participate in this voluntary program. There would be no budgetary impact.

Solid Waste

The Division develops a regional Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). The purpose of the Plan is to promote coordination among local governments, the private sector, and the public in activities associated with the collection, transportation and disposal of solid waste within the region. In addition to coordinating the collection and disposal of solid waste, the SWMP addresses such detailed activities as recycling, composting, resource reduction, public education and problem products such as used oil, tires, batteries and household chemicals.

With the transfer of Jasper County there would be a wider geographic area to serve and extended time for rotating future Household Hazardous Waste/Scrap Tire Collection Event in the region. The funding for the Regional Solid Waste Grant Program would not change.

Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc Report

According to the Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc Report, DETCOG's "Regional Solid Waste Grants program provides technical assistance to local governments, coordinates the selection for solid waste grants and coordinates outreach, education and training as needed. The program receives funding from TCEQ. The program is currently funding litter/illegal dumping clean-up and recycling programs. The program is a two-year contract (funded by tipping fees at solid waste landfills regionwide). The grant is \$115,000 per year. Mr. Bashaw pointed out TCEQ has established a floor of \$115,000 for COGs statewide. Without the floor, he said DETCOG would receive a much smaller amount. Mr. Bashaw said DETCOG was not likely to lose funding due to Jasper's departure, and SETRPC was not likely to see a significant increase in funding."

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Emergency Communications Programs

The South East Texas Regional Planning Commission's 9-1-1 program has reviewed the impact of the transfer of Jasper County into the SETRPC 9-1-1 program. SETRPC reached out to the Commission on State Emergency Communications, Deep East Texas Council of Government, Motorola Communications and AT&T to gather potential revenue and expenses associated with the integration.

Conversations with DETCOG staff focused on a smooth transition of services to ensure the safety of all Jasper county citizens. The fact that Motorola Vesta is in service in both DETCOG and SETRPC 9-1-1 systems will greatly add to a smooth transition while merging Jasper County Sheriff's office into the SETRPC system.

One difference between the two systems is the use of microwave towers to serve as a backup communication technology. The addition of microwave towers will be needed in Jasper county to implement this backup system and will be a long-term goal due to the non-recurring expense of building the needed towers and the monthly recurring charges associated with maintaining the microwave equipment. We are conducting studies with Motorola Communications to develop multiple solutions to implement a microwave backup system in Jasper County that connects to the existing the SETRPC microwave system.

The Commission on State Emergency Communications estimates that Jasper County, over a five-year period, generates on average \$235,188 in 9-1-1 service fee revenue per year. Estimated recurring and non-recurring expenses associated with operating the Jasper 9-1-1 program per year are \$272,192. The short fall of \$37,004 can be met with Local Dues from Jasper County or reduce participation in the Jasper County aerial imaging. Other cost reduction measures will also be explored to address this issue.

The SETRPC 9-1-1 program in conjunction with the DETCOG 9-1-1 program and the region's 9-1-1 call-takers will ensure the citizens of Jasper County will have access to the most reliable 9-1-1 system possible.

Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc Report

As stated in the Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc Report, Jasper County's equipment ownership would be transferred to SETRPC.

Emergency Communications Programs Budget

	Regional 9-1-1 <u>Services</u>	Total
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -
Benefits	\$ -	\$ -
Total Personnel	\$ -	\$ -
Indirect	\$ -	\$ -
Subcontractor Services	\$ 269,192	\$ 269,192
Rent	\$ -	\$ -
Travel	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Printing Publications	\$ -	\$ -
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ -	\$ -
Volunteer Expense	\$ -	\$ -
Supplies/Other	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Total Applications	\$ 272,192	\$ 272,192
Local Cash	\$ -	\$ -
Additional Local Dues	\$ 37,004	\$ 37,004
Transfers (To) From	\$ -	\$ -
Carryover From (to) Fund Balance	\$ -	\$ -
Program Income	\$ -	\$ -
Special Contributions	\$ -	\$ -
Inkind Contributions	\$ -	\$ -
State Sources	\$ 235,188	\$ 235,188
Federal Sources	\$ -	\$ -
Total Sources	\$ 272,192	\$ 272,192

Personnel Schedule

<u>SETRPC Working Job Title</u>	<u>State Job Title</u>	<u>Salary Group</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>

* Includes federal funds administered by the State of Texas.

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Member Dues and Assessments



Dues and Assessments Explanation

The following information illustrates the estimated dues and special assessments for Jasper County. The special assessments were calculated on the estimated cost by program (see program summaries) and allocated on a pro rata basis. Population for the jurisdictions were totaled and the cost allocated based on the individual jurisdiction's population in relation to the total.

An example for Member Dues and Assessments All Jasper County Jurisdictions is: Criminal Justice Programs – Jasper County $(35,701/50,436) \times \$56,177.78 = \$39,765.31$

An example for Member Dues and Assessments for Current DETCOG Members Only is: Criminal Justice Programs – Jasper County $(35,701/45,433) \times \$56,177.78 = \$44,144.19$

The current dues structure of the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC Dues) is set at \$.12 per capita for general purpose governments and a fixed fee of \$150.00 for special purpose governments.

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Annual Member Dues All Jasper County Jurisdictions

Current DETCOG Member	Special Assessments									
	Population*	SETRPC Dues	Criminal Justice Programs	Homeland Security Programs	Community Service Programs	Foster Grandparent Programs	Retired Senior Volunteer Programs	Emergency Communications Programs	Transportation Programs	Total
Jasper County	35701	\$ 4,284.12	\$ 39,765.31	\$ 28,298.33	\$ 76,155.20	\$ 90,957.00	\$ 54,779.62	\$ 26,193.19	\$ -	\$ 320,432.76
Browndell	197	23.64	\$ 219.43	\$ 156.15	\$ 420.23	\$ 501.91	\$ 302.28	\$ 144.54	\$ -	\$ 1,768.16
Jasper	7590	910.80	\$ 8,454.07	\$ 6,016.20	\$ 16,190.53	\$ 19,337.37	\$ 11,646.10	\$ 5,568.65	\$ -	\$ 68,123.71
Kirbyville	2142	257.04	\$ 2,385.85	\$ 1,697.85	\$ 4,569.18	\$ 5,457.27	\$ 3,286.68	\$ 1,571.55	\$ -	\$ 19,225.43
Buna	2142	257.04	\$ 2,385.85	\$ 1,697.85	\$ 4,569.18	\$ 5,457.27	\$ 3,286.68	\$ 1,571.55	\$ -	\$ 19,225.43
Evadale	1483	177.96	\$ 1,651.83	\$ 1,175.50	\$ 3,163.45	\$ 3,778.30	\$ 2,275.52	\$ 1,088.05	\$ -	\$ 13,310.60
Sam Rayburn	1181	141.72	\$ 1,315.45	\$ 936.12	\$ 2,519.24	\$ 3,008.89	\$ 1,812.13	\$ 866.48	\$ -	\$ 10,600.01
Jasper Hospital District		150.00								150.00
Jasper-Newton Counties Public Health District		150.00								150.00
Jasper County Development District #1		150.00								150.00
Jasper County Water Control & Improvement District #1 (Buna)		150.00								150.00
Evadale WCID #1		150.00								150.00
Brookeland Fresh Water Supply District		150.00								150.00
Rayburn Country Municipal Utility District		150.00								150.00
Jasper-Newton Counties Soil & Water Conservation District #441		150.00								150.00
Jasper County Appraisal District		150.00								150.00
Jasper County Emergency Services District #1 (Buna)		150.00								150.00
Jasper County Emergency Services District #2 (Evadale)		150.00								150.00
Jasper County Emergency Services District #3 (Kirbyville)		150.00								150.00
Jasper County Emergency Services District #4 (Jasper)		150.00								150.00
Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District		150.00								150.00

*Source: 2010 Census, Texas State Demographic Center

Continued
Annual Member Dues All Jasper County Jurisdictions

Current DETCOG Member	Special Assessments								
	Population*	SETRPC Dues	Criminal	Homeland	Community	Foster	Retired	Emergency	Total
			Justice	Security	Service	Grandparent	Senior	Communications	
			<u>Programs</u>	<u>Programs</u>	<u>Programs</u>	<u>Programs</u>	<u>Programs</u>	<u>Programs</u>	
Angelina-Neches River Authority		150.00							150.00
Sabine River Authority		150.00							150.00
Lower Neches River Authority		150.00							
Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative		150.00							150.00
Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative		150.00							150.00
Jasper Economic Development Corporation		150.00							150.00
South Jasper County Water Supply Corporation (Buna)		150.00							150.00
South Kirbyville Rural Water Supply Corporation		150.00							150.00
Harrisburg Water Supply Corporation		150.00							150.00
Angelina Water Supply Corporation		150.00							150.00
Southeast Texas Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.		150.00							150.00
Jasper-Lake Sam Rayburn Chamber of Commerce		150.00							150.00
Kirbyville Chamber of Commerce		150.00							150.00
Buna Chamber of Commerce		150.00							150.00
Christus - Jasper Memorial Hospital		150.00							150.00
Kirbyville Consolidated ISD		150.00							150.00
Buna ISD		150.00							150.00
Brookeland ISD		150.00							150.00
Evadale ISD		150.00							150.00
Jasper ISD		150.00							150.00
Total Member Dues & Assessments	<u>50,436</u>	<u>\$11,152.32</u>	<u>\$ 56,177.78</u>	<u>\$ 39,978.00</u>	<u>\$ 107,587.00</u>	<u>\$ 128,498.00</u>	<u>\$ 77,389.00</u>	<u>\$ 37,004.00</u>	<u>\$ 457,636.10</u>

*Source: 2010 Census, Texas State Demographic Center

Annual Member Dues Current DETCOG Members Only

	Population*	Special Assessments								Total
		SETRPC Dues	Criminal Justice Programs	Homeland Security Programs	Community Service Programs	Foster Grandparent Programs	Retired Senior Volunteer Programs	Emergency Communications Programs	Transportation Programs	
Jasper County	35701	\$ 4,284.12	\$ 44,144.19	\$ 31,414.49	\$ 84,541.27	\$ 100,973.02	\$ 60,811.85	\$ 29,077.54	\$ -	\$ 355,246.47
Jasper	7590	910.80	\$ 9,385.01	\$ 6,678.69	\$ 17,973.40	\$ 21,466.77	\$ 12,928.54	\$ 6,181.86	\$ -	75,525.08
Kirbyville	2142	257.04	\$ 2,648.58	\$ 1,884.82	\$ 5,072.33	\$ 6,058.21	\$ 3,648.61	\$ 1,744.60	\$ -	21,314.19
Jasper County Water Control & Improvement District #1 (Buna)		150.00								150.00
Jasper-Newton Counties Soil & Water Conservation District #441		150.00								150.00
Lower Neches River Authority		150.00								150.00
Angelina-Neches River Authority		150.00								150.00
Sabine River Authority		150.00								150.00
Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative		150.00								150.00
Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative		150.00								150.00
Jasper Economic Development Corporation		150.00								150.00
Christus - Jasper Memorial Hospital		150.00								150.00
Kirbyville ISD		150.00								150.00
Buna ISD		150.00								150.00
Evadale ISD		150.00								150.00
Total Member Dues & Assessments	<u>45,433</u>	<u>\$ 7,251.96</u>	<u>\$ 56,177.78</u>	<u>\$ 39,978.00</u>	<u>\$ 107,587.00</u>	<u>\$ 128,498.00</u>	<u>\$ 77,389.00</u>	<u>\$ 37,004.00</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 453,885.74</u>

*Source: 2010 Census, Texas State Demographic Center

Dues Paid by Jasper County Jurisdictions as members of
Deep East Texas Council of Governments

Counties

Jasper County	\$ 3,905.55
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Incorporated Cities

Browndell	
Jasper	\$ 838.09
Kirbyville	\$ 250.00

Census Designated Areas

Buna	\$ -
Evadale	\$ -
Sam Rayburn	\$ -

Special Taxing Entities (Other than City and ISD)

Jasper Hospital District	\$ 200.00
Jasper-Newton Counties Public Health District	\$ -
Jasper County Development District #1	\$ -
Jasper County Water Control & Improvement District #1 (Buna)	\$ 100.00
Evadale WCID #1	\$ -
Brookeland Fresh Water Supply District	\$ -
Rayburn Country Municipal Utility District	\$ -
Jasper-Newton Counties Soil & Water Conservation District #441	\$ -
Jasper County Appraisal District	\$ -
Jasper County Emergency Services District #1 (Buna)	\$ -
Jasper County Emergency Services District #2 (Evadale)	\$ -
Jasper County Emergency Services District #3 (Kirbyville)	\$ -
Jasper County Emergency Services District #4 (Jasper)	\$ -
Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District	\$ -

Dues Paid by Jasper County Jurisdictions as members of
Deep East Texas Council of Governments
(Continued)

River Authorities

Lower Neches River Authority	\$ 1,000.00
Angelina-Neches River Authority	\$ 1,000.00
Sabine River Authority	\$ 1,000.00

Electric Cooperatives

Jasper-Newton Electric Cooperative	\$ 150.00
Deep East Texas Electric Cooperative	\$ 200.00

Corporations

Jasper Economic Development Corporation	\$ 150.00
South Jasper County Water Supply Corporation (Buna)	\$ -
South Kirbyville Rural Water Supply Corporation	\$ -
Harrisburg Water Supply Corporation	\$ -
Angelina Water Supply Corporation	\$ -
Southeast Texas Resource Conservation & Development, Inc.	\$ -

Chambers of Commerce

Jasper-Lake Sam Rayburn Chamber of Commerce	\$ -
Kirbyville Chamber of Commerce	\$ -
Buna Chamber of Commerce	\$ -

Hospitals

Christus - Jasper Memorial Hospital	\$ 400.00
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Independent School Districts

Kirbyville	\$ 400.00
Buna	\$ 400.00
Brookeland	\$ 250.00
Evadale	\$ 250.00
Jasper	\$ -

Total Dues and Special Assessments	\$ 10,493.64
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Source: Deep East Texas Council of Governments

Supplemental Information



Regional Planning Commission Transfer Request Information

Approval Process

Local Government Code:

WITHDRAWAL FROM COMMISSION Local Governmental Code Chapter 391.015

A participating governmental unit may withdraw from a commission by majority vote of its governing body unless it has been otherwise agreed.

JOINING COMMISSION AFTER WITHDRAWAL Local Governmental Code Chapter 391.016

(2) the governmental unit submits a written request for approval of the transfer to the governor that:

(A) is in the form and manner prescribed by the office of the governor; and

(B) demonstrates the transfer furthers the purpose of this chapter as described by Section 391.001; and

(3) the governor approves the transfer.

REQUEST TO GOVERNOR:

<https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/budget-policy/COG-Transfer-Form-Fillable.pdf>

Required Information About Governmental Unit and Regional Planning Commissions

1. Current/Prior Chapter 391 Regional Commission: Deep East Texas Council of Governments
Date Joined
Date transfer approved by current/prior regional planning commission
Include documents from the relevant governing bodies approving the transfer
2. Prospective Chapter 391 Regional Planning Commission: South East Texas Regional Planning Commission
Date transfer approved by governing body of governmental unit (Jasper County & Other Jurisdictions):
Date transfer approved by prospective regional planning commission (SETRPC):
Again, include documents from the relevant governing bodies approving transfer

Request for Transfer

1. Pursuant to Sec. 391016(2)(B), Local Governmental Code, please explain how the proposed transfer will further the purposes described in Sec. 391.001, Local Government Code
2. Are the affected regional planning commissions requesting a change in the geographic boundaries of their respective state planning regions or subregions as a result of the proposed transfer pursuant to Sec. 391.003, Local Government Code? If so, please state the request and explain the reasoning for such a change below and attach documentation for the governing bodies of both the current/prior and prospective regional planning commission requesting the change.

NOTE: any change to the geographic boundaries of regional planning commissions are made at the end of a state biennium in accordance with Sec. 391.003(b)(2), Local Government Code. A transfer between regional planning commissions will be given effect at the same time as any such change in geographic boundaries, if applicable.

3. Please list the amount of funds that in the last year was allocated by the current/prior regional planning commission to the governmental unit and would be transferred to the prospective regional planning commission upon approval of a transfer.
4. Please describe and attach any additional supporting documentation that could assist the Office of the Governor in its review of this request.

Regional Planning Commission Transfer Request Information (Continued)

Current (SETRPC) Region's Responsibilities

Resolution approving the transfer <https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/budget-policy/COG-Transfer-Form-Fillable.pdf>

Previous Transfer Requests

McMullen County sought to transfer from the Coastal Bend COG to the Alamo Area COG. The Alamo Area COG submitted the request for realignment to the Governor in May 2013. The Governor approved the request in September 2013.

More recently, requests by other counties to transfer COGs have been pending in the Governor's Office for extended periods.

(Reference Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc Report Page 18 section 22)

Timeline for integration

As illustrated in this presentation It's difficult to determine a timeline for the integration component because of the varying contract deliverables and the different sense of emphasis placed on it by the various Local, State and Federal agencies.

Funding Adjustments/Impacts

As presented **REQUIRED FOR APPLICATION.**

Census Impact

The hope is for a net neutral impact.

Geographic Impact

DETCOG's geographic area encompasses 10,303 square miles with a population of 387,061. Jasper County's population is approximately 35,872 and makes up about 9.3 percent of DETCOG's total population. (Reference Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc. Report page 2 section 3)

According to the Texas Association of Counties County Information Project, Jasper County's area is 969.7 square miles, of which 938.9 are land and 30.9 are water. (Reference Griffith Moseley Johnson & Associates, Inc Report page 3 footnote 5)

SETRPC's current geographic area encompasses 2,207 square miles with a 2010 population of 388,745.

(Reference SETRPC Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the year ended September 30, 2019)

Logistical Impact

As presented.

IMPACTS OF JASPER COUNTY'S PROPOSED MOVE
from
THE DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
to
THE SOUTHEAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

Presented by
GRIFFITH MOSELEY JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.

JUNE 2019

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IMPACTS OF JASPER COUNTY'S PROPOSED MOVE *from*
THE DEEP EAST TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
***to* THE SOUTHEAST TEXAS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

1. INTRODUCTION

Jasper County officials approached the Executive Committee of the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission in early 2018 to explore the possibility of shifting its affiliation from the Deep East Texas Council of Governments to the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission.

While the SETRPC board was generally open to a conversation about the possibility of Jasper County moving from DETCOG to SETRPC, the board asked for an evaluation of the process by which that move might be accomplished, as well as how the move would impact funding and service levels, budget, demands on SETRPC staff, and other considerations.

The purpose of this report is to explore those issues, focusing on major program areas. The executive directors of SETRPC and DETCOG arranged for meetings with directors of program areas that could be impacted by Jasper's move to SETRPC. The program information contained in this report came from the program directors, as well as each COG's website, budget and other printed materials.

At the recommendation of then-Executive Director Shaun Davis, I contacted Mr. Gary Pitner, retired Executive Director of the Panhandle Region Planning Commission for technical support. I confirmed with Executive Director Shanna Burke that she concurred with Mr. Davis' recommendation.

Mr. Pitner agreed to review the preliminary report and offer guidance, as needed. His suggestions have been incorporated into this document.

Mr. Pitner added that the biggest consideration when contemplating a move of this nature is whether the incoming county would be a good fit in the culture of the receiving COG. If it would, and everyone involved wants the affiliation to occur, the technical aspects will work themselves out.

2. BACKGROUND

Regional councils were authorized by the state Regional Planning Act of 1965.¹ The State of Texas is divided into 24 geographic planning regions, each consisting of two or more adjoining counties that have in common issues of transportation, water supply, drainage, and/or land use; similar, common, or interrelated forms of urban development or concentration; or special problems of agriculture, forestry, conservation, or other matters.

This regional framework is intended to encourage local governmental units to join and cooperate to improve the health, safety, and general welfare of their residents; to plan for the future development within regions so that the planning of transportation systems is improved; to provide adequate street, utility, health, educational, recreational, and other essential facilities; to recognize the needs of agriculture, business, and industry; to provide healthful surroundings for family life in residential areas; for the preservation of historical and cultural values, and to ensure the efficient and economical use of public funds is commensurate with the growth of communities within each region.

3. DETCOG

DETCOG is made up of 12 counties in a geographic area of 10,303 square miles and a population of 387,061 (2017 est.).² Member counties include:

Angelina	Newton	San Jacinto
Houston	Polk	Shelby
Jasper	Sabine	Trinity
Nacogdoches	San Augustine	Tyler

With a population of approximately 35,872,³ Jasper County makes up approximately 9.3 percent of DETCOG's total population.

4. SETRPC

SETRPC is made up of three counties in a geographic area of 2,389 square miles and a population of 390,786 (2017 est.).⁴ Member counties include:

Hardin
Jefferso
Orange

¹ "Regional Councils," Handbook of Texas Online, Texas State Historical Commission; <https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/mwrfg>. Last accessed May 3, 2019² Texas Association of Regional Councils website. <https://txregionalcouncil.org/regional-councils/>.³ Texas Association of Counties County Information Project, 2018 population estimate for Jasper County, <http://www.txcip.org/tac/census/profile.php?FIPS=48241>⁴ Texas Association of Regional Councils website. <https://txregionalcouncil.org/regional-councils/>

The addition of Jasper County would change the SETRPC geographic area to 3,359 square miles⁵ and its population to 426,658, of which Jasper would represent 8.4 percent of the total population.

5. FUNDING MECHANISMS

Programs at both SETRPC and DETCOG are funded exclusively by state and federal grants. Member dues make up a small portion of each organization's budget. Funding mechanisms vary from program to program, but are generally based on some combination of population, income level, age, ethnicity and other demographic or regional characteristics.

I gathered information on funding from published budgets and from program directors. Where possible, I also contacted the grant making organization for information on funding formulas. In some cases, I was either unable to contact the funding organization or the organization was not readily able to determine the fiscal impacts of Jasper County's move to SETRPC.

In some cases, the funding organization hypothesized that funding would simply move from DETCOG to SETRPC based on Jasper County's population as a percentage of DETCOG's regional population. As it turns out, that does yield reasonably accurate results in some cases, but does not accurately reflect the complexity of funding formulas in other programs.

In some cases, citizens and entities in Jasper County are receiving a level of services that exceeds its 9.3 percent of the regional total population. Given that, it appears that Jasper County could see a reduction in services in some programs as a result of a move to SETRPC, assuming that the county received services at a level consistent with its 8.4 percent of the SETRPC regional population.

In other cases, the funding organization said it would be difficult to determine the impacts of the move until the move takes place and funding is recalculated. In most cases, given Jasper County's size and the levels of funding at issue, the funding organizations did not anticipate significant impacts from the move.

Each program has different funding cycles so, if Jasper County does affiliate with SETRPC, there will be a transition period during which Jasper County would continue to receive services from DETCOG until the end of the current funding cycle. This may or may not require a memorandum of understanding between Jasper County and DETCOG, as DETCOG's funding level for the current funding cycle is based in part on Jasper County's population and other demographic characteristics.

Mr. Pitner cautioned that state agencies would not automatically update funding formulas to reflect Jasper's move from DETCOG to SETRPC and that program staff at SETRPC should be diligent in ensuring those formulas are updated to reflect increased population and other demographic considerations.

⁵ According to the Texas Association of Counties County Information Project, Jasper County's area is 969.7 square miles, of which 938.9 are land and 30.9 are water. <http://www.txcip.org/tac/census/profile.php?FIPS=48241>

6. PROGRAM DIFFERENCES

While SETRPC and DETCOG have many programs in common, each has programs that the other does not. Even within program areas, the priorities of each region are reflected in differences in how the programs are delivered. In addition, there were differences in budget presentation. These differences make it difficult to do a line-by-line comparison of programs across COGs.

For example, DETCOG operates the housing authority that serves most of the DETCOG region. SETRPC does not have a housing authority program. If Jasper County were to affiliate with SETRPC, Jasper would likely have to enter into a memorandum of understanding with DETCOG for continuation of housing services. There is a precedent for this, as both Hardin and Orange counties already contract with DETCOG for housing program services (Orange County receives only Veterans Administration Supportive Housing services). In addition, there are people residing in Jefferson County receiving housing services from DETCOG (see the section on DETCOG's housing authority, below, for further explanation).

DETCOG is also the service provider for the STAR Program (Services To At-Risk youth) in the DETCOG region, while SETRPC is not involved in that program. The service provider for that program in Southeast Texas is Buckner Children and Family Services.

SETRPC has foster grandparent and Experience Corps programs, while DETCOG

does not. Other program differences are explored in more detail, below.

PROGRAM DETAILS

7. SETRPC CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND HOMELAND SECURITY

Sue Landry, Program Director

SETRPC combined its Criminal Justice and Homeland Security programs into a single program in 2013. The state adopted this structure in 2016-17 and DETCOG merged its programs at the beginning 2019.

Funding for the Criminal Justice and Homeland Security Program comes from the Departments of Justice and Homeland Security and the Public Safety Division of the Office of the Governor, which includes the Criminal Justice Division and Homeland Security.

SETRPC's 2018 and 2019 budgets included:

Proposed Program Applications	FY18 BUDGET	FY19 BUDGET
Public Safety Program	\$227,246	\$201,931
Homeland Security	\$902,774	\$701,297

A. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

SETRPC is designated by the Governor's Office as the agency responsible for regional criminal justice planning. Each community identifies problems through a local planning process.

SETRPC then assists them in developing projects to address those problems and provides technical assistance in preparing grant applications. SETRPC also reviews and prioritizes grant applications and then forwards those priorities to the Governor's Office.

SETRPC has six programs within Criminal Justice, including:

- Criminal Justice Interlocal (JAG)
- Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP)
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
- Regional Police Academy
- Regional Juvenile Alternatives

Grant funding for JJDP, VOCA and VAWA does not flow through SETRPC. SETRPC's role in these grants is to score and prioritize local applications and provide technical assistance to grant recipients. This activity is funded in the Regional Criminal Justice Interlocal line item in the SETRPC budget.

Funding for the Regional Police Academy is based broadly on regional population, number of agencies and number of officers. The Governor's Office delegates determination of funding allocations for this program to the Texas Association of Regional Councils.

The Criminal Justice program formerly had two additional programs, the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and ARISE. Those programs have been discontinued.

While there are six programs within Criminal Justice, only three programs receive funding in the FY19 Criminal Justice and Homeland Security Budget, including:

Regional Criminal Justice Planning	54,443
Regional Police Academy	\$99,157
Regional Juvenile Alternatives	\$48,331
TOTAL	\$201,931

Ms. Landry explained that funding formulas for CJD programs are based generally on Uniform Crime Reports statistics.

The Regional Juvenile Alternatives funding provides psychological assessments, counseling, substance abuse treatment, placement funding and funds for drug tests. SETRPC sub-contracts with county juvenile probation departments for these services.

SETRPC contracts with Lamar Institute of Technology to deliver the regional police academy program.

B. HOMELAND SECURITY

Ms. Landry described the funding formula Homeland Security as very complex, with factors including miles of Interstate highway, whether the region has any seaports, and other terrorism- related factors.

There are four programs included in SETRPC's FY2019 Homeland Security budget,

including: Homeland Security Planning \$110,000

Port Security	\$202,025
Interlocal Agreement	\$30,492
CCTA	\$358,799
TOTAL	\$701,296

Ms. Landry explained the planning grant averages \$110,000 to fund all regional planning that reduces capability gaps.

Port Security Grant Funding is \$500,000 for a two-year cycle (the figure above is one-year funding). This funds technology to administer the PSG program, including access to Southeast Texas Alerting Network technology and data for all agencies.

The Interlocal grant is funded at \$30,000 to provide technical assistance and coordinate the emergency management planning advisory committee.

The Complex Coordinated Terrorist Attack grant (CCTA) is a three-year funding cycle with total funding of approximately \$1.3 million. The purpose of the grant is to fund statewide homeland security exercises.

Grants funded through the Port Security Grant program funded the SETRPC regional interoperable two-way public safety radio system. Ms. Landry expressed concern about the cost to agencies in Jasper County of bringing those agencies onto the regional radio system.

Public Safety agencies in Jasper County currently utilize a VHF radio system. It is not clear that those agencies would seek to migrate to the SETRPC regional system.

8. DETCOG PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM (fmrly Criminal Justice and Homeland Security) Mike Claude, Program Director

A. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

DETCOG administers the Law Enforcement Training (LET) Grant, a reimbursement grant. Funding levels are set for every agency in the region at the beginning of the funding cycle based on population and number of officers. Agencies are then reimbursed after sending personnel to training. Funding for the FY2017-19 funding cycle was \$182,961.

Agencies in Jasper County are eligible for \$10,376 in funding, or 5.7 percent of the total.

DETCOG is in the process of reapplying for the LET grant and plans to change how funding is allocated and training is delivered. DETCOG will become a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement training provider and, rather than sending officers for training, will bring training to the region. Classes will be open to all agencies in the COG at no cost.

DETCOG also provides Criminal Justice Planning technical assistance to grant recipients in the region.

DETCOG receives Juvenile Justice grant funding for the juvenile probation grant for mental health assessments and counseling for clients. FY2018-19 Juvenile Justice funding was \$24,990 for all DETCOG counties. Jasper County's Juvenile Probation Department also serves Newton, Sabine and San Augustine counties (1st Judicial District, which received \$5390 out of the \$24,990).

DETCOG's criminal justice budget for FY2019 totaled \$182,961.

B. HOMELAND SECURITY

The Homeland Security Planning Grant is an annual grant from the Department of Homeland Security. It funds the councils of governments' work in assisting emergency management coordinators in keeping plans current.

DETCOG's homeland security budget for FY2019 was \$202,919.15.

Mr. Claude pointed out that Jasper County contracts with Newton and Sabine counties to provide emergency management planning, and the Jasper County emergency management coordinator also serves those counties. Mr. Claude also raised a concern that, in the area of disaster response, the SETRPC counties and Jasper County are currently served by different Texas Division of Emergency Management District Disaster Coordinators.

THE GOVERNOR'S PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE

I spoke with Reilly Webb, the director of the Governor's Criminal Justice Division within the Public Safety Office. Mr. Webb provided regional budget estimates for FY2020 for VOCA, VAWA, JAG and JJDP for both DETCOG and SETRPC, including estimates for each COG were Jasper County to realign with SETRPC. Based on current estimated funding levels, approximately \$93,300 in CJD grant funding would move from DETCOG to SETRPC. This represents grant funding to agencies. SETRPC's allocation would be some percentage of total grant funding.

Mr. Webb said Jasper's proposed move would not have much impact on funding from CJD for administrative costs for either COG.

I spoke with Robert Cottle in the Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division. While CJD funding is based generally on population and crime statistics, Homeland Security funding is based on a more complex formula. These include, for example, population, critical infrastructure, the number, size and nature of special events in the region, transient population (number of people coming into the region, tourists, etc.), presence of military assets, designated transportation corridors, ports and others. These are used to gauge the relative risk of a terrorist attack, which is the basis for funding allocations.

Mr. Cottle said his office could begin to work on projections of how grant funding might shift if Jasper moved to SETRPC, but he would need a request directly from the COGs.

9. SETRPC 9-1-1

Pete De La Cruz, Program Director

The SETRPC 9-1-1 Emergency Network provides emergency telephone access to citizens of the SETRPC region and funds the infrastructure and equipment, as well as oversight, administration and maintenance of 13 public safety answering points (PSAPs) across the region.

Funding is generated through a 50-cent per telephone line fee and a one percent equalization fee applied to intra-state long distance charges. Allocations are made by the Commission on State Emergency Communications and are based on population and number of wired lines. Feeds from wireless lines are allocated statewide based on percentage of population.

SETRPC's FY2019 budget includes \$3,016,479 for Regional 9-1-1 services.

Mr. De La Cruz has already been in communication with his counterpart at DETCOG. He explained that DETCOG has the same equipment as SETRPC so consolidation of equipment would not require the purchase of new computers. He believes SETRPC's 9-1-1 program would not have any major issues integrating Jasper County to the system.

Mr. De La Cruz did raise the issue that SETRPC is the addressing authority responsible for unincorporated areas of the Southeast Texas region. This involves receiving phone calls from the public and using aerial imagery to document a physical address to ensure calls will be routed to the proper first responder agency. He suggested Jasper County may be able to enter into a memorandum of understanding whereby DETCOG would continue providing that service, at least for some transitional period.

Mr. De La Cruz also pointed out that the COGs contract every two years for aerial imagery of the region. Imagery is used to do addressing and is also available at each 9-1-1 dispatch position. The COGs cost-share the imagery with the county appraisal districts. To add Jasper County to SETRPC's contract would be approximately \$126,000 every 2-3 years.

Finally, Mr. De La Cruz pointed out that plans are underway to implement next generation 9-1-1, which will involve new technology and be more expensive.

10. DETCOG 9-1-1

Van Bush, Program Director

As indicated above, Mr. Bush and Mr. De La Cruz have discussed the process by which 9-1-1 services in Jasper County could be transitioned from DETCOG to SETRPC

Mr. Bush estimated it would take SETRPC 45-60 days to get an ethernet connection off of the SETRPC network into Jasper. SETRPC would also have to do some programming on its server to add the Jasper PSAP to the SETRPC network.

DETCOG and SETRPC use the same equipment, Mr. bush explained, so DETCOG would just sign over the ownership of the equipment to SETRPC.

The emergency service numbers (the routing numbers that tell the system which agency to send the call to) would be passed on to SETRPC and all of the billing for the PSAP (from ATT) would be transferred. SETRPC would then start getting the State Commission on Emergency Communications funding for Jasper County.

9-1-1 is funded through the Commission on State Emergency Communications. Service fees are assessed on both cellular and wired phone lines. The cellular fees are distributed statewide based on percentage of the population of the state of Texas the entity represents. Fees from wired lines are distributed based on the number of connections in the county. There is a third funding source for counties areas that don't generate enough fees to fund their 9-1-1 operation, but neither DETCOG nor SETRPC participate in that funding.

DETCOG's 9-1-1 budget for FY2019 is \$3,091,655.

Mr. Bush said impacts on either COG would be relatively neutral.

COMMISSION ON STATE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

I spoke with Lorrain Meek, financial manager at CSEC. She confirmed that wireless fees are allocated statewide based on percentage of population. She also confirmed that fees for landlines are based on the number of lines in each county, but that the provider reports to the State Comptroller are broken down by COG and not by county. She said CSEC doesn't fund at the county level, but makes assumptions based on a county's population as a percentage of the COG total population. In FY18, DETCOG was allocated just over \$3.3 million in fees, including \$2.7 million in wireless fees and \$630,000 in landline fees.

Based on its population, Ms. Meek estimated fees attributable to lines in Jasper County (both wireless and landline) in FY18 totaled just over \$297,000, which funding would move to SETRPC in the event Jasper County moved to SETRPC.

11. SETRPC RSVP

Crystal Petry, Program Director

RSVP is a federally funded non-profit funded by the Corporation for National Community Service. The program provides volunteers at non-profit organizations including schools. SETRPC's RSVP is currently serving 48 different non-profit organizations in the region with close to 500 volunteers.

I was not able to contact anyone at CNCS for estimates of impacts.

There are two programs in SETRPC's FY2019 RSVP budget,

including:

Corporation for National and Community Service	\$291,227
CNCS State Services	\$32,531
TOTAL	\$323,758

Ms. Petry said she expects she would probably have to hire someone in Jasper, possibly a part-time position.

12. DETCOG RSVP

Renee Ricks, Program Director

RSVP is a federally funded non-profit funded by the Corporation for National Community Service. The program provides volunteers at non-profit organizations including schools. DETCOG's RSVP is currently serving approximately 200 different non-profit organizations in the region with close to 1300 volunteers, with 800 very active volunteers. In Jasper County, Ms. Ricks estimates she has approximately 200 volunteers serving at five non-profit organizations.

I was not able to contact anyone at CNCS for estimates of impacts, but the level of volunteerism in Jasper County would tend to verify Ms. Petry's expectation that she would need additional staff resources.

DETCOG's RSVP budget for FY2019 is \$151,197.

13. SETRPC TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Bob Dickinson, Program Director

The Transportation and Environmental Resources Division administers federal and state funds for the planning and implementation of programs, projects, and policies related to air quality, various modes of transportation, solid waste management and economic development for the three-county region.

The Transportation program includes four major programs, including Regional Transportation Planning, Rural Transportation, Alternative Fuel and Regional Rideshare Program.

SETRPC is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for transportation planning in the SETRPC region, the Jefferson Orange Hardin Regional Transportation Study (JOHRTS) area. The purpose of the MPO is to maintain a transportation plan on a 20-year planning horizon, which is updated every five years. Any proposed transportation project involving the expenditure of federal funding must go through the MPO process and be included in the plan.

SETRPC also has a rural transportation district, which provides transportation services in Orange, Hardin and rural Jefferson counties. Mr. Dickinson pointed out that Jasper County does not have rural transportation service.

The Rideshare program promotes carpooling as a means of reducing both congestion and air pollution.

SETRPC's air quality program works to educate the public on air quality issues. The program also manages the regional air quality monitoring program in support of the region's air quality plan.

The regional solid waste program promotes coordination between the public and private sector, as well as the general public, on issues relating to solid waste management. SETRPC also manages a hazardous waste collection events, which rotates collection events throughout the three-county region.

SETRPC is also designated as an Economic Development District and receives a planning grant to develop the three-county region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

According to Mr. Dickinson, due to SETRPC's current work on requirements relating to transportation conformity regulations, it would not be feasible to modify MPO planning boundaries to add Jasper County until sometime in the future. Ideally, that would coincide with development of a new long-range plan.

SETRPC's Transportation Planning budget for FY2019 was \$2,309,164.

Mr. Dickinson expressed the opinion that, given Jasper County's population, the addition of Jasper County to SETRPC would not have a significant fiscal impact on transportation and environmental planning funding levels.

14. DETCOG REGIONAL SERVICES

Bob Bashaw, Program Director

DETCOG's Regional Services includes Community Development Block Grant, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Texas Department of Transportation funding, as well as the Economic Development loan program (Hurricane Ike loan program).

TxCDBG/Regional Review Committee reviews and scores CDBG grant applications based on project priorities. The committee also coordinates public hearings to receive input when establishing local objectives and scoring criteria.

The Regional Solid Waste Grants program provides technical assistance to local governments, coordinates the selection for solid waste grants and coordinates outreach, education and training as needed. The program receives funding from TCEQ. The program is currently funding litter/illegal dumping clean-up and recycling programs. The program is a two-year contract (funded by tipping fees at solid waste landfills regionwide). The grant is \$115,000 per year. Mr. Bashaw pointed out TCEQ has established a floor of \$115,000 for COGs statewide. Without the floor, he said DETCOG would receive a much smaller amount. Mr. Bashaw said DETCOG was not likely to lose funding due to Jasper's departure, and SETRPC was not likely to see a significant increase in funding.

Transportation planning is funded by TxDOT for development of a five-year public transit plan for the region. Funding is indeterminant and funding levels vary. Mr. Bashaw explained that because funding varies so much from cycle to cycle, he was not sure anyone would ever know if there was a funding change due to Jasper affiliating with SETRPC.

DETCOG also provides administrative support to the Deep East Texas Rural Transportation Planning Organization.

DETCOG does not operate a public transit program and six of the 12 DETCOG counties, including Jasper County, have no public transit service.

Regional Services also coordinates DETCOG's economic development work, primarily through the Economic Development District (affiliation with EDA). This includes writing and administering EDA grants for member entities and non-profits in the region. Funding is for a three-year planning grant at \$71,000 per year with a 70-30 match (in-kind or unencumbered local money). This also includes development of the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Plan.

DETCOG's regional services budget for FY2017 was \$306,038.

15. SETRPC COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

Colleen Halliburton, Program Director

The Community Services Division includes four units: the Area Agency on Aging, the 2-1-1 Area Information Center, Transition out of Poverty, and the Special Needs Programs.

The Area Agency on Aging serves seniors age 60 and over, as well as persons with disabilities of any age. AAA has five programs, including LinkAGE, Benefits Counseling, Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Nutrition and Transportation Contracts, and Medication Management.

Funding for AAA originates from the Older American Act and the Department of Health and Human Services to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Statewide, it is

distributed to 28 AAAs based on a funding formula that weighs a rural component, the number of seniors in the region, and other factors.

The 2-1-1 area information center is a free and confidential helpline connecting callers to community service providers. Funding for 2-1-1 is provided by the Texas Information and Referral Network and local donations.

The Aging and Disability Resource Center maintains a database of long-term services and supports for seniors and individuals with disabilities who are seeking access to long-term programs, services and supports.

Transition Out of Poverty (TOP) is a case management program designed to help families and individuals achieve self-sufficiency with support for education and other expenses.

The Division also oversees a special needs program (Lighthouse) that provides home weatherization in Pt. Arthur, a small money management program and the Southeast Texas Homeless Coalition.

Both DETCOG and SETRPC provide health education programs, but they are different programs.

SETRPC contracts with Nutrition and Services for Seniors for Hardin and Jefferson and with Orange Community Action Association for congregant and home-delivered meals, as well as transportation services.

Ms. Halliburton said the addition of Jasper County to the Community Services Division service area would impact several AAA programs, which are required to do outreach, home visits and in-home assessments throughout area for certain services. AAA cannot capture travel time in its unit rate. The increased travel to and from Jasper will cause the unit rate to increase.

There are three major funding areas in SETRPC's FY2019 Community Services budget, including:

Title III (AAA)	\$1,857,768
TIRN (211)	\$339,547
ADRC	\$279,783
TOTAL	\$2,477,098

Ms. Halliburton was able to get the Office of Area Agencies on Aging to calculate that were Jasper to affiliate with SETRPC, based on Jasper County's demographics and other factors, AAA funding to SETRPC would increase by approximately \$129,900. This would represent an increase in funding for AAA of 6.5 percent. We note, however, when Jasper County's \$30,000 annual contribution to the Nutrition program is included (see below), funding for Jasper County would be approximately 7.9 percent of AAA funding.

We were not able to determine how the other two programs would be impacted.

16. DETCOG AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Holly Anderson, Program Director

DETCOG's Area Agency on Aging also manages the Aging and Disability Resource Center and 211.

The ADRC provides information, assistance and options counseling to older persons and persons of all ages with a disability to help them gain access to long-term care programs, services and support so that they might continue to live in their own communities.

The 2-1-1 area information center is a free and confidential helpline connecting callers to community service providers. Funding for 2-1-1 is provided by the Texas Information and Referral Network.

DETCOG's Nutrition program in Jasper County is delivered through a contract with the Jasper County Committee on Aging, which operates three congregant sites in Jasper, with a central kitchen in Kirbyville. They also provide home-delivered meals to about 100 clients in Jasper Co.

The counties are allocated by funding formula based generally on population and people over 75, minority status and poverty levels. This is the formula for all services. They try to mimic the state formula as much as possible. Ms. Anderson said DETCOG provides resources in Jasper County beyond what they would receive were resources allocated regionwide based on population.

For example, in the Nutrition program, Jasper receives more services than the funding formula would dictate. Ms. Anderson said, according to her records, the Nutrition program's cost in Jasper County is approximately \$92,000 while, based on the funding formula (age and income level) , their allocation would be about \$80,000.

County Judge Mark Allen pointed out that Jasper County partially underwrites the DETCOG Nutrition program in Jasper County with a \$30,000 annual contribution directly to the Jasper County Committee on Aging. This amount has been budgeted in the county budget for many years. Judge Allen said he anticipates that would continue if Jasper moves to SETRPC. Judge Allen also said the Jasper County program receives additional funding support.

DETCOG's AAA program manages a number of other smaller programs, including:

- Transportation services. This is a new pilot project and provides eligible recipients with transportation through the use of volunteers, who are reimbursed for their mileage. Total funding for the region is \$65,000. Ms. Anderson estimates \$6,000-\$8,000 of that goes to Jasper County.
- Medical transportation. This is a subset of transportation. This is on a client by client basis. Ms. Anderson estimates this program is funded at about \$1,000 per year in Jasper.
- Homemaker services. This provides non-medical assistance in the home for eligible recipients getting over injuries or illness, including cooking meals, housework and

laundry. Total funding for the region is \$26,223. According to Ms. Anderson, Jasper received \$3,373, or 13 percent of total funding.

- Health maintenance. Regional total: \$11,673. Jasper received \$3,335.75, or 29 percent of total funding.
- Income support. Utilities and propane. Regional total: \$29,359.73. Jasper received \$9,664.54, or 33 percent of total funding.
- Transportation. This is an additional transportation service. This was a new program in FY 18. The regional total for FY18 was \$35,561. Jasper received \$1,296, or 4%. This program will be much larger in FY19.
- Residential repair. Regional total in FY18: \$261,171. Jasper received \$43,588, or 17%.

There are a number of areas, including administrative costs, ombudsman, information referral and assistance, case management, family care giver case management, legal assistance, benefits counseling and Medicare enrollment, that cannot be broken down by county.

Ms. Anderson reiterated that Jasper received funding in excess of the amount that would be dictated by their population as a percentage of the region's total population, particularly in the residential repair, income support, health maintenance and transportation programs.

Ms. Anderson estimated that 25-27 percent of the AAA budget goes to serve recipients in Jasper County, even though Jasper County represents only about 10 percent of the region's total population.

We note that, as Ms. Anderson explained it, funding for AAA and its related programs is not based on total population; rather, it is based on number of factors, including age, income levels, minority status and other factors.

As Judge Allen pointed out, it may be the case that utilization by Jasper County citizens is higher than its population might suggest because the programs are based in Jasper County and that, when those programs are relocated to Lufkin, utilization may well decrease.

Total funding for DETCOG's AAA in FY2018 was \$2,257,260.

17. CDBG DISASTER RECOVERY

Given the fact that Hurricane Harvey Disaster Recovery funds have been allocated and methods of distribution determined at the COG level, Jasper County would continue to work through DETCOG on its CDBG-DR program. Because of this, there would be no impact on SETRPC's CDBG-DR program.

SETRPC PROGRAMS WITH NO DETCOG COUNTERPART

18. SETRPC FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

Tyronna McKenzie, Program Director

The Foster Grandparent Programs provides volunteer opportunities for income-eligible person age 55 or over, and places volunteers in schools, hospitals, drug treatment and correctional facilities, Head Start and child care centers. The program currently has approximately 80 volunteers and is always recruiting. DETCOG does not have a Foster Grandparent Program.

In-school volunteers are assigned to a teacher and the teacher decides who needs help. The program provides one-on-one tutoring and mentoring within classroom.

The majority of the schools being served are in Beaumont, but the program is in four elementary schools and one middle school in Port Arthur, and two elementary schools in Orange.

Other sites include Minnie Rogers and Hardin County during the summer, Buckner, Franklin House North substance abuse, and Baptist Fannin Pavilion for Mental Health. The program also places volunteers at the city park summer feeding program.

SETRPC's FY2019 budget includes \$528,666 in funding for the Foster Grandparent Program, including:

Corporation for National & Community Service	\$521,900
Department of Aging and Disabilities Services	\$6,766
TOTAL	\$528,666

Funding for the Foster Grandparent Program is a three-year grant cycle. The new cycle started April 2019.

In terms of adding Jasper County, Ms. McKenzie raised several issues. She pointed out that training is currently provided in Beaumont. Jasper volunteers would either have to travel to Beaumont or they would have to identify a satellite location in Jasper. In addition, there are monthly in-services. She expressed concern that asking volunteers to travel that distance could present issues. She also raised the issue of staff time, including travel time, it would take to cover Jasper, and estimated it would require additional staff services.

19. SETRPC EXPERIENCE CORPS

Stephanie Pearson, Program Director

AARP Experience Corps is an intergenerational, volunteer-based tutoring program that engages adults age 50 and older as literacy tutors for struggling students in public schools.

While there are other Experience Corps programs around the country, SETRPC's program is the only one in Texas. It places senior citizen volunteers in elementary schools for one-on-one tutoring. Volunteers provide three days per week service and 30-minute one-on-one tutoring sessions with students referred by faculty. Volunteers receive mileage and a meal stipend.

The program currently has seven schools in Port Arthur (for 25 years) and one school in Beaumont.

The SETRPC FY2019 budget includes funding totaling \$231,454 for Experience Corps.

The program receives no state or federal funds; rather, it is funded by participating school districts. Ms. Pearson said whether Jasper ISD brought the program to the district would depend on the district and her ability to recruit volunteers.

Because the program is funded by participating school districts, Jasper's move from DETCOG to SETRPC should be revenue neutral in this area.

DETCOG PROGRAMS WITH NO SETRPC COUNTERPART

20. DETCOG SERVICES TO AT-RISK YOUTH (STAR) PROGRAM

Jeff Reed, Program Director

The STAR Program is delivered through a contract with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. DETCOG runs the program with in-house staff and resources.

The program services at-risk youth and their families with crisis intervention counseling, as well as training in parenting skills, coping and anger management. Referrals come primarily from schools and churches, Head Start programs and Boys & Girls clubs. A parent can self-refer, as well. Mr. Reed described the program as a last resort before the juvenile justice system.

The program serves approximately 500 families annually, including approximately 30-50 families in Jasper County.

Funding formulas are based on number of clients served for the entire service area. The current four-year funding cycle started in 2019 and will run through 2023.

DETCOG's STAR budget for FY2017 was \$736,644.

SETRPC does not provide the STAR program. It is provided by Buckner's in the SETRPC region. Jasper County would need to enter into an agreement with DETCOG at the end of the current funding cycle for continuation of those services.

21. DETCOG HOUSING AUTHORITY

Janett Lewis, Program Director

The DETCOG Housing Authority has a total of 1,982 clients, including approximately 201 in Jasper County. That number represents approximately 10.1% of DETCOG's public housing participants.

DETCOG has a housing waiting list of approximately 1,000, including many who live outside of the region. If someone living in the DETCOG service area is on the waiting list and their name comes up, they can take their voucher anywhere in the U.S. By the same token, anyone anywhere in the U.S. can apply for housing in the DETCOG region. Someone living in California, for example, can apply for a place on the DETCOG list. When their name comes up, however, they have to move to the region for at least one year.

The DETCOG Housing Authority also serves Hardin County and Orange County (only veteran's housing in Orange County). In addition, DETCOG has 150 clients in Jefferson County. This was the product of a lawsuit a number of years ago that ruled that public housing clients could move from Jasper County to Jefferson County without porting (transferring paperwork from DETCOG to BHA).

DETCOG's regional housing authority budget for FY2017 was \$11,296,850.

Because SETRPC does not operate a regional housing authority, Jasper would have to secure housing services from DETCOG through a memorandum of understanding or some other contractual arrangement.

22. PRECEDENT FOR CHANGE IN AFFILIATION

Though the make-up of the COGs has remained largely stable during the 45-50-year history of regional councils in Texas, there have been changes.

When it was formed in 1968, DETCOG included 13 counties. In 1973, however, the Governor moved Hardin County from DETCOG to SETRPC due to its designation as part of the Beaumont-Port Arthur-Orange Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area.⁶

McMullen County sought to transfer from the Coastal Bend COG to the Alamo Area COG. The Alamo Area COG submitted the request for realignment to the Governor in May 2013. The Governor approved the request in September 2013. More recently, requests by other counties to transfer COGs have been pending in the Governor's Office for extended periods.

The statute governing regional planning commissions contemplates that a participating governmental unit might withdraw from a COG, the only requirement being a majority vote of its governing body.⁷

⁶ "Celebrating 50 Years of Service; Deep East Texas Council of Governments and Economic Development District," (2016); provided by DETCOG.

⁷ Sec. 391.015, Tex. Loc. Gov't Code

State law provides that regional planning commission boundaries be consistent with the geographic boundaries for state planning regions or sub-regions that are delineated by the governor and that are subject to review and change at the end of each state biennium.⁸

23. JASPER COUNTY'S RATIONALE FOR THE REQUEST TO REALIGN WITH SETRPC

Elected leaders in Jasper County have come to recognize over the past several years that, for the purposes outlined in the regional framework, above, Jasper County has become increasingly more aligned with the counties of the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission and that its regional identity is tied more closely with the Southeast Texas region.

This alignment is evidenced by Jasper County's geographic proximity to the SETRPC counties, with its southern border adjacent to two of the three SETRPC counties. It is also the case that Jasper County's work migration patterns are more southerly than northerly, with more than 2,700 Jasper County residents commuting to work in the three-county Southeast Texas region, while fewer than 1,000 Jasper County residents commute to work in all of the other 11 DETCOG counties combined.⁹

Residents of Jasper County travel to Southeast Texas to receive healthcare. According to data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service, fully 50% of hospital days involving Jasper residents in Medicare-funded hospital stays in 2017 were in Hospitals in Jefferson County. The second largest concentration of Medicare-funded hospital days for residents of Jasper County during that period was at the Texas Medical Center in Houston. By comparison, Hospitals in Lufkin had fewer than 10 percent of Jasper County residents' Medicare-funded hospital days in 2017.¹⁰

The regional tie is also demonstrated in the large numbers of residents of Southeast Texas who travel north for leisure and recreation. According to data provided by the Jasper County Appraisal District, there are more than 3,500 separate real property accounts in Jasper County with property owners whose principal mailing address is in Jefferson, Hardin or Orange counties.

It has long been understood anecdotally that Jasper County residents are more likely to travel South to shop, to pursue higher education, and receive veteran's administration and other services in the Southeast Texas region.

Finally, one of the primary evacuation routes out of Southeast Texas in the event of a hurricane or other large-scale natural disaster is through Jasper County, which requires ongoing collaboration, planning and coordination between officials in Jasper County and officials in the Southeast Texas region.

⁸ 391.003(2) Tex. Loc. Gov't Code⁹ County to County Commuting Flows for the United States and Puerto Rico, 2009-2013, U.S. Census Bureau, <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/commuting/commuting-flows.html>

¹⁰ Hospital Service Area File 2017 Medicare Inpatient, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Service, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; <https://data.cms.gov/Medicare-Inpatient/Hospital-Service-Area-File-2017/v5j4-xu4h>

24. STATE AGENCY DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

State law requires that regional planning commission boundaries be consistent with the geographic boundaries for state planning regions or sub-regions.¹¹

Many, but not all, state agencies have designated regions or districts for organizational purposes. These regional/district boundaries do not conform to regional planning commission boundaries. In a number of cases, planning commission regions are bisected by state agency regional boundaries.

In the case of Jasper County, state agency regional boundaries in several cases either group Jasper County with SETRPC counties or group DETCOG and SETRPC counties in the same region.

- The TxDOT Beaumont district includes Jasper County along with the three SETRPC counties, while 10 of the 11 remaining DETCOG counties are in TxDOT's Lufkin district.
- The Region 5 Education Service Center region includes school districts in Jasper County, along with those in SETRPC, while districts in 10 of the 11 remaining DETCOG counties are in Region 7 to the north.
- TCEQ Region 10 based in Beaumont includes the counties of DETCOG and SETRPC.
- Region 5 of the Department of Family and Protective Services includes the counties of DETCOG and SETRPC.
- Region 3 of the Department of Agriculture includes Jasper and 41 other counties, including all of those in DETCOG and SETRPC.
- Region 2 of the Department of Public Safety includes all of the counties of DETCOG and SETRPC.
- Region 3 of the Alcoholic Beverage Commission includes the counties of SETRPC as well as Jasper and six other southern tier counties of DETCOG.
- The State Department of Health Services groups the counties of DETCOG and SETRPC into a single region for its Regional Healthcare Partnership regions.
- The State Department of Health Services groups Jasper County with the counties of SETRPC and other Gulf Coast counties for its Trauma Service Area Regional Advisory Committee, while 10 of the other 11 DETCOG counties are grouped in a region to the north.

¹¹ Sec. 391.003(2) Tex. Loc. Gov't Code

- The CHIP (Medicaid) program groups Jasper and four other southern tier DETCOG counties into the same service area with the counties of SETRPC and other counties to the south and west, while the seven northern tier DETCOG counties are grouped into a service area to the north.
- The Higher Education Coordinating Board groups the counties of DETCOG and SETRPC into a single region for purposes of regional higher education strategic planning.
- The Water Development Board grouped the counties of DETCOG and SETRPC into a single region for purposes of state water planning, and groups those counties together with counties to the west for purposes of regional water project development.
- The Ninth Court of Appeals serves the counties of SETRPC, as well as Jasper and four other southern tier DETCOG counties. The seven northern tier DETCOG counties are served by the Twelfth Court of Appeals in Tyler.

It appears Jasper County's disaffiliation with DETCOG and affiliation with SETRPC would be consistent with geographic boundaries for state planning regions.

25. CONCLUSION

The largest program in terms of total funding flowing to the regions currently being administered by both SETRPC and DETCOG is the CDBG-Disaster Recovery program. Because funding is already allocated to the COG level and within the COGs to the city and county level, that program as it relates to Jasper County would remain with DETCOG and would have no impact on SETRPC's CDBG-DR program.

The largest program (aside from CDBG-DR) in DETCOG is the regional housing authority. Because SETRPC does not operate a housing authority, there would be no impact on SETRPC if Jasper County moved from DETCOG to SETRPC.

The regional 9-1-1 program directors have evaluated the potential impacts of Jasper's proposed move and have determined that impacts would be negligible. We note that, according to CSEC, it would swing approximately \$297,000 in funding from DETCOG to SETRPC.

The Governor's Office Criminal Justice Division estimated a swing in CJD grant funding of approximately \$93,000 (based on FY20 estimates) from DETCOG to SETRPC if Jasper County moved to SETRPC. CJD also said there shouldn't be much impact to either COG in terms of contractual funding for administration.

The Governor's Office was not able to estimate the impacts on Homeland Security funding to the regions. The formula is complex and based on a number of factors. Considering DETCOG's current funding levels and Jasper County's profile as it relates to the factors outlined by the Governor's Homeland Security Grants Division to gauge an area's relative risk (see page 7,

above), it appears Jasper County could be integrated into the SETRPC Homeland Security planning and exercise program with minimal impacts.

SETRPC's Transportation and Environmental program director expressed some reservations about the feasibility of integrating Jasper County into the SETRPC MPO until the next long- range planning cycle, which would be 2024. Beyond that, he said he did not envision Jasper County moving to SETRPC would have significant impact on the transportation or environmental programs.

This is consistent with a multi-year transition from DETCOG to SETRPC and programs with three- to five-year funding cycles. In those cases, again, because DETCOG's funding was based in part on Jasper County's inclusion, DETCOG would continue serving Jasper County until the end of the current funding cycle and, in some cases potentially thereafter through memoranda of understanding.

The directors of the Area Agencies on Aging and its related programs (2-1-1 and ADRC) in both COGs expressed concerns about whether the shift in funding levels would be adequate to ensure service levels would remain consistent in Jasper County. They also expressed concerns about how staff demands would shift, particularly with programs that are required to do outreach, home visits and in-home assessments for certain services. Because AAA cannot capture travel time in its unit rate, the increased travel to and from Jasper for SETRPC staff would cause the unit rate to increase. Jasper County actively supports the DETCOG AAA Nutrition program in Jasper County with an annual contribution that has been in the county budget for many years. The county judge anticipates that funding will continue.

The director of SETRPC's foster grandparent program also raised concerns about travel between Beaumont and Jasper, for both SETRPC staff and volunteers, and estimated extending the program to Jasper would require additional staff.

SETRPC's Experience Corps director said extending the program to Jasper would depend on participation and funding by Jasper ISD and that the impacts on SETRPC would be neutral.

The STAR program is not managed by SETRPC in the Southeast Texas Region, so there would be no impacts on SETRPC.

The addition of Jasper County to SETRPC would represent a population increase of 8.4 percent and an increase in area from 2,389 square miles to 3,359 square miles. The addition would place additional demands on SETRPC staff, but the move would also bring increased funding. It may mean citizens of Jasper County who have relied on DETCOG programs could see some reduction in services, but there is no indication the move would lead to a reduction in services to citizens of SETRPC counties.

In some cases, DETCOG will likely continue providing services in Jasper County. This is true in the case of the housing authority and could be true with programs SETRPC also delivers.

The transition would be a gradual process, in some cases taking up to three to five years depending on funding and planning cycles. DETCOG and SETRPC staff already have close working relationships and are dedicated to the communities they serve. Even as some expressed reservations, all of them expressed a commitment to a smooth transition. The transition time would afford ample opportunity for them to work at the program level to ensure to the extent possible that the people who depend on the services those programs provide are served with minimal disruption.

There is no blueprint for a change of this nature. To borrow again from Mr. Gary Pitner, retired executive director of the Panhandle Region Planning Commission, the biggest consideration when contemplating a move of this nature is whether the incoming county would be a good fit in the culture of the receiving COG. If it would and everyone involved wants the affiliation to occur, the technical aspects will work themselves out.

After reviewing the draft of this report, Mr. Pitner added that, in considering a change, potentially the most difficult transition will be in AAA and RSVP, primarily in terms of the people who are served by and volunteer in those programs. He said change at the program delivery level is not always well received. “If there’s a negative effect on congregant meal locations, for example, there may be some issues at the client level,” he said. “That makes it incumbent on the staffs of the two AAAs to fully understand how things are working in both COGs, so those things can be mitigated before they impact the client groups more than they have to. There may be some impacts,” he added, “but if you can mitigate those changes as far as what the public sees, it makes things run more smoothly.”

Mr. Pitner reiterated the importance of SETRPC staff working with their funding agencies to ensure Jasper County’s population is moved from DETCOG to SETRPC as new funding cycles come around. “A lot of these funding formulas are buried in an excel spreadsheet in a pc sitting on somebody’s desk,” he said. “Be sure the right counties are in the right places and the right populations in those counties are in the right places.”

“There are going to be 1,001 opportunities along the way for all of the parties find ways to make it work or find opportunities for it not to work,” he concluded. “What they’ve got to do is find ways to make it work. With every issue you’ve explored—and those you haven’t explored— there’s ways to make it work, and pretty equitable ways.”

