



**Downtown Corridor Minutes**  
**Harris Health Corporate Offices**  
4900 Fournace Place  
Bellaire, TX 77401  
December 5, 2025



#### **A. Call to Order**

Michael Olivier called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm.

#### **B. Approval of Minutes (C101)**

Mr. Olivier requested review and approval of the October minutes. Solomon Guerrero (Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Houston) made a motion to approve the minutes, Michael Carrier (Memorial Hermann Southwest) seconded the motion, and the corridor members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

#### **C. New Business**

- **University of Texas Police – FIFA Update**  
Captain Michael Redmond shared an update on UT Police’s preparations for the upcoming World Cup, noting that Houston is continuing to conduct training exercises and hold partner meetings to ensure coordinated readiness for the event.

#### **D. HPP Capabilities Review**

- **Pulsara Update**  
Lisa Spivey will be collaborating with Pulsara to incorporate the nationalities of designated teams in our region, enabling hospitals to record patients’ nationalities to support the jurisdictions with a more streamlined process for locating patients.
- **World Cup 2026**  
Ms. Spivey noted that SETRAC, together with our colleagues in Dallas, held a call with Philadelphia, another World Cup host city, to discuss their preparations. Encouragingly, Philadelphia is implementing many of the same measures we are working on, including tabletop exercises, CHEMPREP, family reunification planning, and communication drills. The only area they had not yet considered was Metro, specifically the public transportation component.  
  
The Philadelphia group raised the topic of language apps, though it was unclear whether the platform in question is regional or national. If it is a national platform, we would like to know how many other cities are currently using it. Aaron Velasquez (Harris Health) offered to contact his Language Department to see if they can provide that information.

#### **E. EMTF Update**

EMTF continues to provide force protection for the search and recovery efforts in Kerrville, the SMA has been extended to 01.10.2025. EMTF 6 currently has 1 Task force leader, 1 Ambulance Strike Team Leader, 2 Ambulances and 1 UTV staffed with Paramedics. Activations are increasing as EMTF leans forward with repositioning for severe weather threats. We continue to work on regional blue-sky engagements through training and exercise. If there is something your agency/facility would like to see let us know.

10.15.2025 - MMU 2.0 was on display at the SETRAC Symposium. They are working with the SCO to house it beginning in Q1 of 2026 for training prior to the World Cup.

10.23.2025 - EMTF completed its initial hotwash of the Texas Hill Country response — a few good takeaways for improvement.

10.28.2025 - EMTF 6 Held regional Workgroups at Humble Fire Rescue. Discussions on future trainings and regional program development.

11.12.2025 - MMU Training at the Medical Center of SETX in Port Arthur, TX. Great success excited to have such a large Turnout. Students successfully unloaded and deployed a quad and an 860 brief overview of EMTF and MMU Operations were discussed and then the Team demobilized both tents and packed them away.

11.19/11.20 - EMTF MIST Training in San Antonio Region.6 added 5 New MIST.

11.23.2025 - EMTF Workgroups at the EMS conference.

12.03/12.04 -Palo Duro Wildland Medical Provider Course.

12.16.2026 - EMTF Regional Workgroups will be held at SETRAC 5115 Roslyn RD 08:30 until 13:00. They will be discussing future of EMTF 6 (requirements to attend EMTF overhead courses), also Warehouse Day. Updating MMU and hospital IDRU inventory.

01.27.26 TX EMTF Workgroups San Antonio.

02.04.2026 - EMTF prehospital IDRU / UTMB Joint Training at UTMB biocontainment unit.

02.10.26/02.11.2026 - EMTF IDRU hospital Augmentation Team training at the Medical Center of Southeast Texas in Port Arthur.

02.16.26 - Regional EMTF Workgroups (Location TBD).

02.24-28, 2026 Reveille Peak Ranch EMTF/TFS WLFS training.

#### Recurring Trainings

- A. TX EMTF WebEOC training: 2nd Thursday of the month at 14:00 & 18:00.
- B. TX EMTF Pulsara Training: 4th Thursday of the month at 1400.
- C. WAVE Drill: 4th Thursday of the month at 1500.

### **G. Training and Exercise**

The Training and Exercise Schedule was distributed to the corridor members, and Timothy Chapman highlighted the following:

- December 18<sup>th</sup> is the “go live” day for Nexus and it will be available via mobile, laptop, and iPads devices as well.
- The recent “Off the Grid” drill went well.
- SETRAC is collaborating with the CHEMPREP Team to schedule a workshop toward the end of February 2026. This workshop will serve as a lead-in to the regional tabletop exercises and the regional functional exercise, which will focus on the Medical Countermeasures (MCM) plan and the distribution of PPE or antibiotics from the SETRAC warehouse. Additionally, John Fleming from the Houston Health Department recommended incorporating a scenario to exercise the distribution of oxygen.
- SETRAC has circulated a training calendar through the listservs outlining upcoming courses, including 300- and 400-level classes as well as a countermeasures course scheduled for February at Fort Bend OEM. Once finalized, SETRAC will also provide the City of Houston’s training schedule.
- Human Trafficking information is being shared on the SETRAC website along with resources for SANE exams.

Ms. Spivey encouraged the facilities to inform SETRAC of their exercises for calendar sharing.

### **H. Special Populations Update**

- Upcoming FIFA Special Populations meeting December 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 Zoom Call.
- Meeting with new agencies’ leadership team on RHPC overview and Special Populations initiatives.

- Developing a checklist for SP for FIFA preparedness.

## **I. Inventory Update**

The WAVE app was discontinued on November 21. Using end-of-year funding, SETRAC purchased approximately twenty-five radios. After reviewing the participating facilities, SETRAC provided radios as replacements for those facilities that were compliant.

## **J. Partners Updates (C101)**

John Fleming with the Houston Health Department (HHD) gave an update as follows:

### ***VIRAL RESPIRATORY SEASON (aka flu season)***

Houston weekly Flu reports: <https://www.houstonhealth.org/services/data-reporting/flu-reports>

HHD are seeing an uptick in flu activity from our syndromic data looking at general trends of flu-related encounters to healthcare facilities onboarded to our syndromic surveillance system, ESSENCE. It appears we are experiencing an initial wave, and it is occurring slightly earlier than it did last season (i.e., 2024-2025 season's first wave began around mid-late December 2024). Flu A wastewater data is also increasing. This increase is occurring at a similar time compared to the increases in Flu A wastewater data for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 flu seasons.

There has been a lot of discussion in the media about the subclade K flu A virus and the flu vaccine. The UK published a vaccine effectiveness report that does show evidence of reduced reactivity to A(H3N2)subclade K; however current vaccines are still effective against hospital admissions at typical levels (70-75% for children and 30-40% for adults). It may be particularly important to drive vaccination efforts into that pediatric population, which may have indirect protective effects against other age groups.

Listed below is a link to the UK's vaccine effectiveness report:

UK report - Early influenza virus characterization and [vaccine effectiveness in England](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/691349457a0ccd6a3aad7fa9/_Flu_interimVE_2526_.pdf) in autumn 2025  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/691349457a0ccd6a3aad7fa9/\\_Flu\\_interimVE\\_2526\\_.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/691349457a0ccd6a3aad7fa9/_Flu_interimVE_2526_.pdf)

### ***Meningitidis***

With viral respiratory season upon us, HHD sometimes sees a concurrent increase in cases of *N. meningitidis*. HHD has *not* seen an increase at this time – but did want to take this moment to remind providers that we have Ciprofloxacin resistance in *Neisseria meningitidis* isolates in our region and Cipro should NOT be used as post-exposure prophylaxis to close contacts of patients with invasive meningococcal disease. Providers should prescribe rifampin or ceftriaxone as post-exposure prophylaxis instead. Azithromycin may also be used as an alternative.

Patients with suspected or confirmed invasive meningococcal disease should be immediately reported to the local health department where the patient lives.

Providers should continue to ensure that all people for whom meningococcal vaccinations are recommended are up to date on meningococcal vaccination.

### ***MPOX***

HHD is seeing increased reporting of mpox cases – we had 15 reported in October and 10 in November (in 2024, we had 1 in October 6 and in November). We want providers to keep mpox in their differential and continue to have conversations with their patients about vaccination for mpox, particularly. We are seeing most cases in males, aged 20-44, but we have had cases reported in females. Importantly only 26% of cases this year have had evidence of receiving at least one dose of the mpox vaccine. The vaccine is available commercially for those with insurance. For those without insurance, the health department may

provide free or low case vaccines to those who qualify. You can call the HHD call center at 832-393-4220 for assistance.

**CDC Health Alert Network (HAN) Re: Marburg Virus outbreak in Ethiopia:** [First Reported Outbreak Caused by Marburg Virus in Ethiopia | HAN | CDC](#)

**Safewatch Firearm Injury Dashboard:** <https://www.houstonhealth.org/safewatch>

No other updates were provided to be added in the minutes. Anyone wanting their partner update included in the minutes should send their update via email to Roxie Ward at [roxie.ward@setrac.org](mailto:roxie.ward@setrac.org). This will ensure updates are documented accurately in the minutes.

## **K. Open Discussion/Other Business**

- **Meeting Benefit**

Ms. Spivey emphasized the importance of SETRAC receiving input from corridor members. She noted that the value of meetings depends on the quality of information exchanged and she encouraged members to provide feedback and suggestions to help strengthen and expand the coalition in future meetings and training sessions.

- **Meeting Participation Sign-In**

The participation process was reviewed with the corridor members. At the end of each meeting, attendees must sign in to receive participation credit by using the QR code included on the agenda. When completing the sign-in, it is important to select the correct meeting date and corridor, and to enter the password that is announced at the conclusion of the meeting. To ensure proper processing, all information must be submitted within twenty-four hours, and it is recommended that participants use the QR code before leaving the meeting.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, Mr. Olivier adjourned the meeting at 2:23 pm. The next Downtown Corridor meeting is scheduled for Friday (February 6<sup>th</sup>) in person at Harris County OEM/TranStar, 6922 Old Katy Road, Houston, Texas 77024.

**ATTENDEES:** Lisa Spivey, Aaron Velasquez, Paul James, Rod Moses, Kevin Guerrero, Danielle Calhoun, Michael Olivier, Corey Bowers, John Fleming, Solomon Guerrero, Lasandra Brown, Jenny Pfannes, Michael Carrier, Timothy Chapman, Michael Redmond