



Downtown Corridor Minutes
February 6, 2026
City of Houston Emergency Center
Houston, Texas 77019
1:00 – 3:00 pm



A. Call to Order

Michael Olivier called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

B. Approval of Minutes (C101)

Mr. Olivier requested review and approval of the December minutes. Carrie Cox (Texas Children's Hospital) made a motion to approve the minutes, Jenny Pfannes (MD Anderson) seconded the motion, and the corridor members carried the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

C. New Business

• **Winter Weather Review**

The discussion centered on the winter weather response process, particularly the vetting and transfer of patients to warming centers. SETRAC discussed challenges with the current system, including access issues for case managers and the need for more accurate capacity reporting. The group agreed to improve the process by allowing case managers to access the form directly and ensuring jurisdictions update shelter capacity in WebEOC. They also discussed the importance of coordinating transportation and avoiding unnecessary transfers of patients. SETRAC emphasized the need for feedback from hospitals and jurisdictions to continue improving the system.

There was focus on the operation and management of warming centers during cold weather events. SETRAC emphasized the need to clarify the differences between warming centers, cooling centers, and shelters to avoid confusion and ensure appropriate resource allocation. They discussed the criteria for opening warming centers, which typically occur when temperatures drop to 24-25 degrees or when there are two hours of sustained temperatures below 15 degrees. SETRAC also highlighted the importance of educating hospitals and healthcare providers about the types of services offered at different centers to prevent inappropriate patient discharges. The conversation ended with a discussion about the need for better coordination between hospitals and warming centers to ensure safe transitions for patients without stable housing.

• **SETRAC Regional Healthcare Restructuring Plans**

Dr. Kevin Schulz, RHPC Chair, visited the meeting to thank participants for their work and announce restructuring plans for RHPC. The goal is to empower quarter-level meetings to handle local issues while pushing broader regional concerns up through Michael to the SETRAC board. SETRAC also provided an update on EMTF activities, including IDRU infectious disease response training with UTMB in Galveston and efforts to build hospital partnerships for patient transport.

D. HPP Capabilities Review

• **Pulsara Update**

SETRAC discussed preparations for the World Cup, focusing on adding a nationality identification feature to their system and increasing Pulsara drill participation. They identified potential events in Houston and The Woodlands during the tournament and clarified that hospital partners can no longer join incidents directly from their side of the system. The team also

addressed questions about handling foreign patients during the World Cup, confirming that their standard care policies would not change due to the event.

- **World Cup 2026**

The meeting discussed preparations for an upcoming soccer event in Houston, with SETRAC highlighting potential challenges due to large crowds and time zone differences. SETRAC emphasized the need for hospitals and healthcare providers to consider staffing and patient flow during the event, particularly around game times and FanFest activities. The discussion also touched on accommodation issues, with SETRAC noting that almost every hotel and Airbnb room in the Dallas Metroplex was reportedly booked, suggesting a potential increase in travel distances for attendees. SETRAC encouraged healthcare facilities to plan accordingly and consider additional revenue opportunities by offering empty beds as a second source of income.

The SETRAC team discussed surveillance and access challenges during a major event expected to last 5 weeks, with concerns about traffic congestion and emergency response. They reviewed security protocols for NRG stadium and fan zones, noting that Secret Service would lead security inside the inner perimeter due to event security levels. The team identified Captain Reece Hardy at HPD as the point of contact for FanZone security, while Marty would handle surveillance access requests for FanFest.

E. EMTF Update

EMTF 6 currently has 1 ambulance and 1 medical UTV (MUTV) activated in Kerrville. The SMA has been extended into February. Rightsizing has begun and will continue over the coming weeks.

EMTF 6 regional workgroup was held Dec 16th at the SETRAC warehouse. Great attendance from across the entire region. Discussions and agreement on EMTF meeting participation requirements as well as looking to 2026 trainings exercises and blue-sky introductions. Following the meetings the MMU Supply cache was replaced and restocked to be operational for 2026.

Regional Ambulance Strike Team Leader (ASTL) course is in development and will be rolled out prior to hurricane season.

Upcoming Meetings and Trainings:

January-February

1. 01.23 EMTF 101 / Deployment Basics presentation (Virtual)
2. 01.27 - 01.28 TX EMTF Workgroups @ STRAC (San Antonio)
3. 02.04 EMTF6 Prehospital IDRU / UTMB SPECTRE joint training at the biocontainment unit at UTMB
4. 02.10-02.11 EMTF IDRU Hospital Augmentation Team (Medical Center of Southeast Texas)
5. 02.17 EMTF6 Regional Work Groups
6. 02.24 - 02.28 TX EMTF WLFS Reveille Peak Training
7. 02.27 Disaster Day (TEEX)
8. 03.04 - 03.05 TX EMTF MIST Course

Monthly:

1. TX EMTF WebEOC training: 2nd Thursday of the month at 14:00 & 18:00
2. MSAT Drill: 3rd Wednesday of the Month at 1330
3. Pulsara Training: 4th Thursday of the month at 1400
4. WAVE Drill: 4th Thursday of the month at 1500

G. Training and Exercise

The Training and Exercise Schedule was distributed to the corridor members (*filed in Downtown Corridor minutes binder*).

A large-scale exercise is planned for May, which will include multiple hospital departments, Houston Police Department's special task force, and Houston Christian nursing students as actors. SETRAC

explained that the exercise will test decontamination processes, traffic patterns for emergency services, and communication systems, with the goal of preparing for FIFA-related events. SETRAC advised there is a DSHS Public Health bed report scheduled for February 17th.

H. Special Populations Update

- Upcoming FIFA Special Populations meeting was held on December 15th at 2:30 pm Zoom Call. The follow-up meeting will be held in January or early February.
- We have been receiving many new inquiries about SP facilities requesting meetings with their leadership team on RHPC overview and Special Populations initiatives
- Checklist for SP for FIFA preparedness is posted on our website under FIFA Information
- Will be working with FSED to increase Pulsara education and trainings.
- Held a meeting with the NAFEC/TAFEC leadership to increase FSED participation in our region as it relates to disaster preparedness and FIFA planning.
- Working with dialysis corporate to increase preparedness and access to EMResource.

I. Inventory Update

Discussion took place regarding the replacement of decon hoods.

J. Partners Updates (C101)

Discussion focused on various initiatives updates, including the World Cup preparations, Special Pops coordination, and inventory management. They highlighted the need for hospitals to prepare for whole blood implementation and encouraged interest in the World Cup checklist available on their website. SETRAC also mentioned upcoming Instagram exercises in collaboration with the simulation center to prepare for FIFA.

The need for a contact center to be assigned before sending out the customer agency amendment was also addressed. Danny Shine encouraged hospitals to become partners with the National Disaster Medical System by signing a mutual understanding agreement (MOA).

No 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. This will ensure updates are documented accurately in the minutes.

K. Open Discussion/Other Business

• Tabletop Exercise Meeting Date

Mr. Olivier noted that the tabletop exercise was originally scheduled for Friday, April 3rd, which falls on Good Friday. He consulted the corridor members about postponing the meeting to the following Friday, April 10th, to ensure strong participation, and they unanimously agreed to the change.

• ASPR-CHEMPACK Training

SETRAC will distribute a reminder for the upcoming ASPR-CHEMPACK training once the details are confirmed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Olivier adjourned the meeting at 2:23 pm. The next Downtown Corridor meeting is scheduled for Friday (April 10th) in person with the location to be determined. This meeting will be dedicated to the tabletop exercise.

ATTENDEES: Corie Marquez, Lisa Spivey, Richard Dunn, Bernard Smith, Katherine Samuel, Lezli Giancarlo, Cynthia Crespo-Bonaparte, Michael Carrier, Michael Olivier, Kimberly Hobson, Rollanz Edwards, Fidel Calvillo, Danny Shine, John Fleming, Timothy Chapman, Carrie Cox, Janeana White, Kevin Guerrero, Jenny Pfannes, Kenton Barnett, Gisela Cinta

Downtown Corridor Meeting (February 6, 2026)

		Downtown Corridor Meeting (February 6, 2026)			
First Name	Last Name	Organization Name (Downtown)	Downtown Corridor Meeting	How did you attend?	Meeting Code
Corie	Marquez	Memorial Hermann Southwest	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Lisa	Spivey	SETRAC	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Richard	Dunn	Gulf Coast Blood	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Bernard	Smith	Michael E. DeBaKey VA Med Center	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Katherine	Samuel	SETRAC	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Lezli	Giancarlo	Memorial Hermann Greater Heights	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	Oem
Cynthia	M Crespo-Bonaparte	UTHealth Houston BSC (HCP/DCB)	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Michael	Carrier	Memorial Hermann Southwest	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Michael	Olivier	Childrens Memorial Hermann Hospital & Memorial Hermann Rockets Orthopedic Hospital	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Kimberly	Hobson	Harris County Public Health	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Rollanz	Edwards	CHI Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Fidel	Calvillo	SETRAC	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM.
Danny	Shine	VHA OEM	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
John	Fleming	Houston Health Department	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Timothy	Chapman	SETRAC	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Carrie	Cox	Texas Children's Med Center	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Janeana	White	Houston Health Department	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Kevin	Guerrero	The Harris Center	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Jenny	Pfannes	UT- M. D. Anderson	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Kenton	Barnett	Texas Department of State Health Services	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM
Gisela	Cinta	City of Houston - MOPSHS	Downtown 2/6/2026	In person	OEM