Sponsor: City of Kennedale
Reducing damage from chronic flooding along Village Creek

Type of Project: Section 205, Local Flood Damage Reduction

Authorization: 1948 Flood Control Act, as amended

Latest Project Milestone: In Feasibility Study Phase

Status: Completing gathering existing conditions data before initial formulation of alternatives

Background: Village Creek winds 1.4 miles through Kennedale, Texas, a growing community in Tarrant County just southeast of Fort Worth. The 2010 census, showing 6,723 residents, was 15.6 percent higher than in 2000. That growth continues with residential areas quickly expanding.

The city suffers chronic flash flooding with at least 20 major events from 1916 to 2010. Many damaged residential and commercial structures. The May 1989 rainfall exceeded 12 inches in the watershed, closing Kennedale Parkway (U.S. Business 287) over Village Creek and requiring the evacuation of at least three mobile home parks. Many homes were lost. Storms of similar magnitude occurred in 1922 and 1957. In 2010, Tropical Storm Hermine flooded Dick Price Road south of Kennedale Parkway. Spring storms in 2015 damaged structures and required evacuations by city crews. A 2012 Halff and Associates study determined flooding damages averaged $564,000 a year. It identified 133 buildings with finished floor elevations below the 100-year flood elevation.

There is an opportunity to reduce or minimize the economic impacts of flooding in the study area. A range of alternatives will be examined that could combine non-structural buyouts and structural solutions in a federal Section 205 project. Such a project would effectively reduce the risk to life and property, be acceptable to the community and be compatible with the environment.