

Hopkins Road Flyover



Sweetwater Park

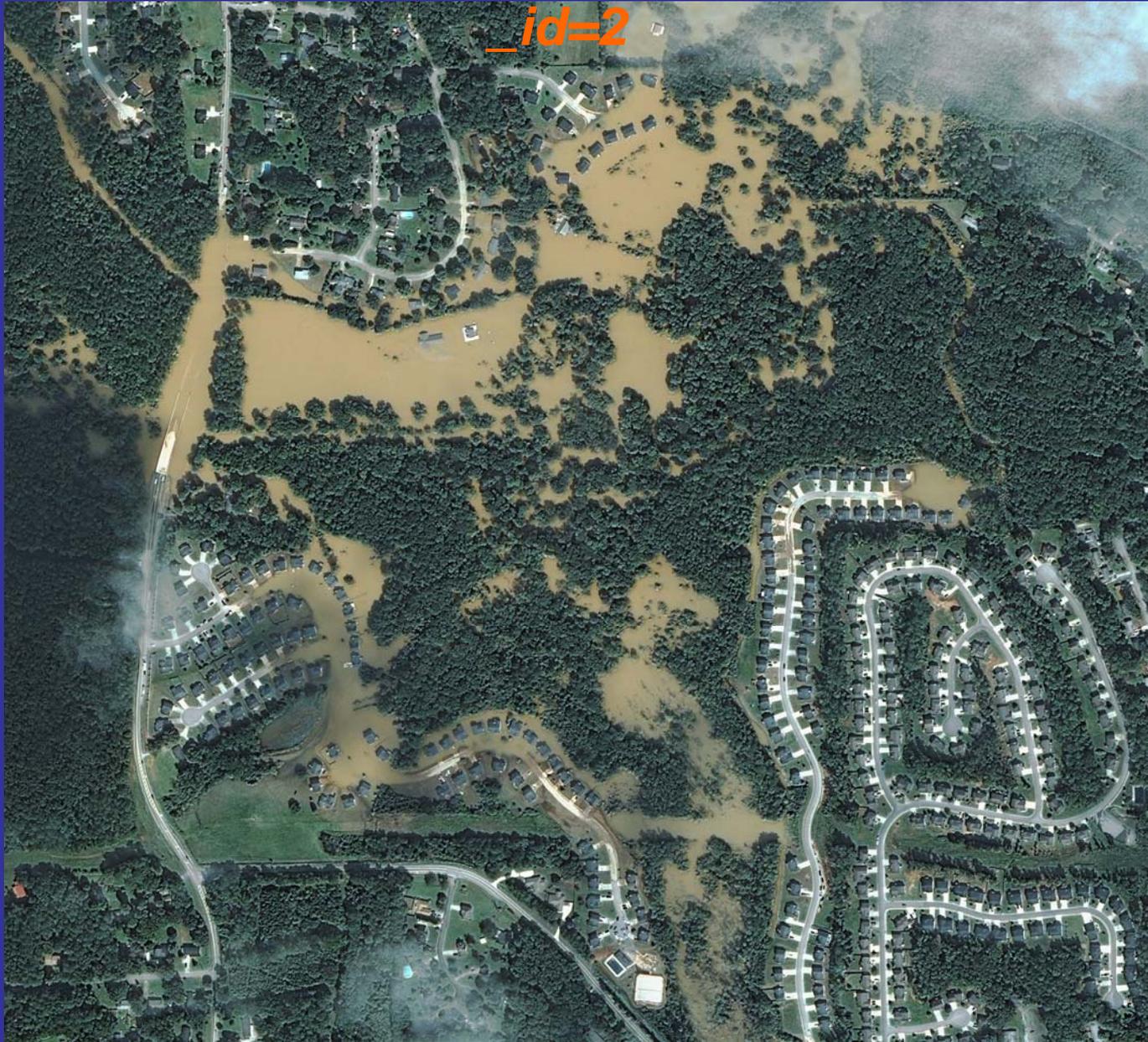








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Pavia Circle



Caraustar Facility



Chastain Meadows Parkway





Austell Powder Springs Road



Lessons Learned

- **After a flooding disaster the public could care less about:**
 - ...how much it rained; or
 - ...what frequency the rain event was; or
 - ...how saturated the ground was; or
 - ...how many culverts became clogged; or
 - ...whether or not they should have had flood insurance

Lessons Learned

- All the general public wants to know is...
...what government will do and how fast

Lessons Learned

- **Many**
 - ...living in the floodplain still do not have flood insurance
 - ...do not understand what the FEMA floodplain maps represent
 - ...private Dam Owners do not understand or accept what their individual responsibilities are...

Statistics

- The rains returned water levels in the region's two largest reservoirs, Lake Lanier and Allatoona Lake to pre-drought levels:
 - Lake Lanier rose by more than 3-ft to Elevation 1068 by September 25th and returned to full pool in October
 - Allatoona Lake rose to Elevation 853.25 on September 23, more than 13 feet above flood Pool at Elevation 840.

Statistics

- **In Cobb County, the following creeks reached or exceeded the 500-year frequency event:**
 - Sweetwater Creek
 - Noses Creek
 - Noonday Creek
 - Butler Creek, and
 - Powder Springs Creek

Statistics

- **On Sweetwater Creek near Austell...**
 - **High Water Marks showed peak stage of record at 30.8 ft**
 - **Previous peak stage recorded (7/11/2005) from Hurricane Dennis at 21.87 ft.**
 - **Peak Flow (31, 500 cfs) was more than double the previously recorded peak flow of record**

Statistics

- **On the Chattahoochee River, the USGS gage at Vinings recorded...**
 - **A Peak Stage of 28.12 feet**
 - **Peak Discharge of 40,900 cfs**
 - **Estimated flood Frequency = 100-200 year**

Statistics

- 794 homes flooded in Unincorporated Cobb
 - 497 homes with 100-yr floodplain on all or part of property
 - 297 properties were outside the 100-year floodplain
 - 112 “Substantially Damaged” (SD)
 - FEMA Buyout Grant awarded for **35 SD homes in floodplain**
 - 67 SD home outside floodplain **were not funded**
- 700 + Homes flooded in the City of Austell
- 100 + Homes flooded in City of Powder Springs
 - 16 “Substantially Damaged”

Thankfully...

- **Although there were 10 deaths in Georgia no one perished in Cobb County.**
- **No dams failed in Cobb County...why?**
 - **Georgia Safe Dams Program?**
 - **Storage Volume Purchase program?**
 - **Cobb County Development Standards?**
 - **Good Luck?**
- **Previous home buyouts were not there to be flooded again**
- **USGS Continuous Streamflow Network –allowed tracking**
- **Statewide 28 Volunteers appeared and helped for a week**
- **RSDE inspections completed within 1 week**
- **RSDE assessments completed within 1 month**
- **Alliances with U.S.G.S.,USACOE, GAFM & GEMA came in handy**
 - **USGS: Gage Network & Storm Freq Estimates**
 - **USACOE: Field Surveyed High Water Marks**
 - **GAFM : 28 Volunteers for Damage Assessments**
 - **GEMA: Plotted course for buyout grants**