



2A Stormwater Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting Agenda

2-4 PM, May 20, 2021

Meeting Held Remotely

- Call to Order: Unofficial, 2:10 p.m., due to lack of quorum
 - Absent: Gary Nesbit, Emily Magnuson, Christine Lowenberg
- Approval of previous meeting minutes put on hold until next meeting.
- Q1 financial overview (slides attached)
 - Brenda Roy, Stormwater Business Administrator, presented the Quarter 1 financial overview. Slides were provided to SAC ahead of the meeting.
 - Operating budget showed no concerns. There was a small amount of rollover and encumbered funds as the Enterprise headed into 2021. 71 percent of operating budget remains.
 - An SLA (service level agreement) was reached with the Operations and Maintenance Division of Public Works for ongoing maintenance work. The Enterprise will pay a quarterly amount for work to be done. The SLA is an agreement intended to reach a specific level of maintenance and outlines specific tasks and responsibilities the Ops group will undertake on behalf of the Stormwater Enterprise. The SLA terms and target goals are negotiated on a yearly basis.
 - Richard Mulledy, the manager of the Stormwater Division, provided more information about the SLA. It was first discussed at the end of last year. The initial plan was to hire out the needed drainage operations and maintenance work, with payment through the general fund. The work would cover ponds, facilities, mowing channels, and all Stormwater infrastructure maintenance.
 - Contracting with the Operations and Maintenance division for services is necessary to adequately maintain the City's stormwater infrastructure and meet the requirements of the MS4 permit. The O & M division supplies the equivalent of 42 FTEs for these purposes.
 - Board Chair Terry Schooler asked- why not get a competitive bid? Mulledy- there are currently no outside businesses who can compete with the SLA negotiated price, or have the equipment on hand, or have the availability necessary to meet the needs. No economy of scale for private contractors to undertake this.
 - Roy continued: on the Stormwater capital side, the Enterprise rolled over about \$2.875M on top of the \$9M yearly budget. A small amount was previously expensed, but a large amount is currently under contract. Much more will be actually spent over warmer months.

- Billing and revenue update: since the implementation of the enterprise, we are still very close to the 97 percent collected and have not seen a drop during COVID. There have also been a fair amount of pre-payments. Discussion of amounts outstanding and late.
 - Year over Year and Collected amount comparisons of 2020 and 2021 presented.
 - Past due amounts have decreased over 100K between 2019 and 2021.
 - David Havlick asked: Going back to the 2nd slide (that shows \$9 million for the 2021 Stormwater budget): haven't we been funding closer to \$16 million in recent years? Is the budget for 2021 substantially lower for some reason?
 - Brenda- the budget has actually increased. The \$9M was just the CIP budget. The \$16M was the total to include MS4, O&M, and Capital.
- Implementation of 2021 Rate Increase
 - Customer Service Strategy for July 1 Stormwater Fee increase: 6,400 letters mailed May 6 to non-residential customers explaining the fee increase and their new amounts due. The Stormwater website was updated. Phone calls have been quiet so far. Do not anticipate much in the way of residential customer calls and concerns.
 - Demonstration of the 2021 GIS projects map
 - Presented by Public Works Director Travis Easton. The purpose of the map is primarily to garner trust and support from citizens. It shows costs, timeframes, and all city projects available via the City website on a GIS map. Easton demonstrated the breakout and gave some brief examples/subcategories. Discussion about who uses the map, who can access the map, etc.
 - Showed some major projects this year; major channel improvement projects; creek work; N Chelton over Spring Creek; N Douglas and Sinton Road; reconstruction of pond in Flying Horse.
 - Green Infrastructure Manual update and discussion presented by Mueller Engineering (slides attached)

Mueller Engineers presented: Sara Johnson, Katy Shaneyfelt, and Jim Wulliman

Study research began in earnest beginning in 2021. Currently in their research phase of the project. The Mueller team discussed research they have undertaken including flows, types of soils best suited for symbiosis, ideas for implementation, strategic locations for landscaping, site application.

Mulledy said: Muller has been asked to look at options across communities. The biggest barrier is answering, "Can it be applied economically and feasibly?" The Mueller team presented sites that have recently been developed and there analysis of possible LID implementation using some of the possible LID tools.

Discussion of current requirements vs. what potential future requirements could be.

Schooler asked: how do we incentivize this?

Mulledy answered: if you infiltrate volume into the ground, your permanent stormwater treatment facility may be smaller and that is less expensive to build. This effects the bottom line.

Havlick: "This is a different philosophy about how we treat water." Explained more from his perspective about what benefits can be. Not inventing strategies from scratch, even to incentivize or penalize.

Mulledy: this is not a requirement so far; this is an option.

Schooler: Mueller should think more about how to incentivize this. Show trade off financially.

Matt Johnson: It would be worth having a discussion about incentives vs requirements.

Multiple examples provided from the firm.

Question was posed about if utilities and the city are at odds regarding the need for xeriscaping versus the need for additional landscaping and grass to slow down flows?

Mueller firm representatives answered that they would not use a Kentucky blue grass that needs lots of water. Demonstrate that native plants and grasses that don't need much water can still slow flows. We need the right vegetation/pervious areas.

Schooler suggested they change the title from "green," and Havlick said leaving it at "LID" would be sufficient.

- Informal adjournment: 3:45 p.m.
- Next meeting: August 19, 2021