

Neponset Valley Stormwater Collaborative

Steering Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2014, 10:15 am to Noon
Canton Public Library Lower Level Meeting Room

1. Welcome and Introductions

MAPC

Martin Pillsbury, Environmental Planning Director

Julie Conroy, Senior Environmental Planner

Neponset River Watershed Association

Ian Cooke, Executive Director

Steve Pearlman, Advocacy Director

Nancy Fyler, Water Conservation Coordinator

Sarah Bounty, Environmental Engineer

2. Steering Committee Operating Procedures and Tentative Meeting Dates

- It was proposed that the Steering Committee operate on an informal basis and there were no objections.
- Tentative SC dates: Weds July 16, Weds Sept 24, Thurs Nov 13. No objections were raised about the proposed dates. The location of the meetings will be determined at a later date. The library space worked out well but it is also possible to move to a different location.
- A sign in sheet was passed around to confirm contact information for attendees. Attendees were also asked to think about who would be best to attend meetings where work is needed (all on contact list will be included on emails and meeting notifications).
- Logistics of local match – An invoice has been mailed to each town to the person that signed the request for the local match. If there is a different contact for the invoice, attendees were asked to provide their contact information on the sign-up sheet distributed later in the meeting. There was not a date specified on the invoice such that Towns may decide which fiscal year to pay the invoice from. If there is any trouble with the invoice or the dates Towns are encouraged to contact MAPC.

3. Review and Discuss Scope of Work and Project Tasks

- 1) Coordination – The goal of this Collaborative is for Towns to be able to work together to collaborate and plan on the watershed scale and meet regulatory requirements on stormwater in the most efficient way possible.

Resource and technical service sharing will be explored and tools will be developed for Towns to implement.

- 2) Education and Public Participation – Goals of this Task will be to provide opportunities to engage the public and encourage public participation in the implementation of the SWMP, as well as garner political support for stormwater management. Julie Conroy will be the point of contact for developing model public participation and education component of a SWMP. A second part of this Task will be to create materials for public outreach to target specific audiences, including commercial and industrial. Nancy Fyler will head up a task group to meet 2-3 times to work on developing materials including flyers, brochures, and a website. A question was raised about a series of posters used in the past that addressed specific stormwater pollution activities, including washing cars, pet waste. Posters and materials will be developed with similar goals to these. Additionally a point was raised about addressing the issue of pet waste in catch basins, and about providing translation of materials to languages other than English. Towns will be asked to provide information on their demographics to ensure that the languages represented in the materials developed reflect the languages spoken. Another avenue to be explored for outreach will be local community access channels, which were noted to have a dedicated following in some Towns. The Collaborative has “power in numbers” to get the message out.
- 3) IDDE Analysis and SWMP – Sarah Bounty will be leading this Task. Towns will be asked to provide data related to the location and screening of their MS4 outfalls. A regional map will be created with the support of the MAPC data services team that will show the location of outfalls along with the water quality of receiving waters. Additional information will be shown on the map including the location of groundwater wells (including Zone II areas) , which was brought up as a key component for the priority ranking of outfalls. It was noted that this Task will consist of gathering information already mapped by Towns and no new mapping of outfalls will take place under this task. Towns will be assumed to have accurate GIS data for the purposes of this Task. Other deliverables for this task include a data table of outfalls, model language to be used in Town’s SWMPs, budgeting information, and an evaluation of regional implementation options. There will not be a separate Task Group for this Task but rather updates will be given at the Steering Committee meetings.
- 4) Bylaw Evaluation – This Task will be led by Steve Pearlman. There will be a Task Group for this Task as well. It was noted that a Stormwater Bylaw is currently required for Towns and any Wetlands Bylaws also have to reference/reflect stormwater bylaw and requirements. Based on assumption of new MS4 requirements, need to include compliance with MA Stormwater Handbook/Policy, require BMPs to “prevent or minimize

impacts to water quality,” and have plans demonstrating how bacteria discharges reduced to be consistent to load reductions from Bacteria TMDL. Deliverables will include a checklist of effective Stormwater Bylaw provisions that achieve better stormwater management from private development/redevelopment. The input of Town Planners would be helpful on this Task. MAPC will update an existing checklist based on an evaluation of anti-LID provisions in Neponset Towns.

- 5) Parking and Roadway Retrofit Evaluation – MAPC will perform an analysis to determine the retrofit potential for all roadways in the Towns with a goal of replenishing groundwater and treating pollutants. Maps were shown that were developed by MAPC previously to show recharge potential and suitability for retrofits based on parcel analysis for a select group of Towns under a SWMI grant.
- 6) Good Housekeeping Tools – Tools developed by other groups, including the Central Massachusetts Regional Stormwater Coalition, will be implemented as part of this collaborative. This may include training materials on street sweeping, trash storage and collection, spills, and erosion prevention.
- 7) Regional O&M Permit Conditions Database – The goal of this Task is to evaluate the potential to develop a regional database for O&M requirements for stormwater BMPs on private development. The MAPC data services team will be instrumental in this analysis. The database could hold information on permittees and help remind Towns when reports are due and where there may be a lack of reporting or follow up from private developers. It was also noted that a database could be useful for storing information related to inspection of municipal infrastructure, including catch basins. Paper forms are cumbersome given the number of catch basins in most municipalities and a database could provide a quick way to analyze the O&M needs for Town infrastructure. A mobile app for use on an iPad or Android device was suggested as a useful tool. There will be a Task Group to look at this in greater detail. The deliverable for this task will be specifications for RFP for database.
- 8) Stormwater Financing Pilots – The project will conduct a pilot application of the MAPC Stormwater Financing Toolkit in the two participating communities of Milton and Dedham. Results from the pilot will be shared with the Collaborative.

4. Formation of Task Groups

- Circulate sign-up sheet – A sign-up sheet was circulated and attendees signed up for the Task Groups, and provided contact information for IDDE plans and GIS information for the IDDE task. The Task Groups will have smaller meetings more focused on the goals of the individual Tasks. Task Groups include the following:

- Outreach Task Group
- Bylaw Evaluation Task Group
- O&M Database Task Group