

Memorandum

TO: Joint Stormwater Committee Members

FROM: Annie Costandi, P.E., Director of Stormwater Operations/Staff Engineer
Chelsea Mandigo, Stormwater Coordinator/Wastewater Operator

DATE: May 17, 2021

SUBJECT: Brief Summary of May 13, 2021 Committee Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Harris Abbott, Annie Costandi, Tracey Delphia, Jim Jutras, Max Levy, Dennis Lutz, Chelsea Mandigo, George Tyler ABSENT: Evan Teich

Introductions

1. Tracey was elected to the Town Selectboard in April and is the newest member of JSWC

Flow Restoration Plan (FRP) Implementation Update

1. A memo distributed in advance to the Committee was reviewed regarding the implementation of the top four projects of the Indian Brook FRP. Grant funding was received for all of the projects, with more applications being submitted for the LDS Church project.
2. Phosphorus (P) removal was incorporated into all of the FRP projects in order to receive credit towards target reduction.
3. The LDS Church project is the final project to be constructed which retrofits 2 stormwater ponds on the LDS Church property into an underground storage vault and a sand filter. The project is currently in the Right-of-Way phase with VTrans and the goal is to construct the systems in 2022.
 - a. Discussion occurred about the lack of communication with the LDS Church which is causing the project to move forward very slowly. Currently, it is taking about 3-4 months to receive a response.
 - b. Cost of the project was discussed. Estimated \$1.8 million with Town \$1.1 million in grant funding. The plan is to seek additional funding to cover the remaining costs.

Flow Monitoring Discussion

1. A memo distributed in advance to the Committee was reviewed providing an update from the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) on flow monitoring requirements. DEC is of the opinion that MS4 communities can discontinue flow monitoring on the impaired waterways due to the following reasons:
 - a. Funding - The cost of obtaining ongoing flow data for years needs to be considered.
 - b. Timeline- DEC anticipated being able to detect changes in the flow regime due to the implementation of BMP's in a much shorter time frame and realized that collecting additional flow data now is not as useful as it will be once all the BMPs are implemented.
 - c. Other MS4 municipalities want to continue monitoring select streams and contacted the contractor to get pricing for continued monitoring and potentially

forming a small consortium. Annie and Chelsea are to research this and see if participation would be similar in cost as we were paying to monitor through DEC. They will review stream data collected to see if any trends are being demonstrated. The information will be brought back to the group.

Phosphorus Control Plan (PCP)

1. A general discussion about the plan occurred
 - a. Street sweeping appears to lots of credits but need to be cautious about relying on non-structural practices for credit
 - b. PCP is a living document subject to change overtime to take advantage of other opportunities or changes in State target for Lake Champlain TMDL
2. Discussion occurred on how to pay for necessary projects over 20 years
 - a. Unfunded mandate
 - b. Town Capital fund is the only source of funds for these permit compliance projects at this point in time. Problem is the fund does not have enough money to complete the FRP projects. Need to come with future funding source for both Village and Town to meet this permit requirement
 - i. Potential ideas- bond vote, future capital tax, form a utility, local option tax
 1. Need to consider Pros and Cons for all approaches, will be discussed at a future committee meeting
 - ii. Staff will continue to go after grants as much as possible
3. Discussion occurred about the Town and Village politics (separation)
 - a. George and Tracey felt that how to fund the PCP projects should be brought to the boards attention this summer
 - b. There will most likely be transition provisions and intermunicipal agreements which this committee and stormwater could fall into
4. Discussion occurred about next steps
 - a. Staff will take the potential project list and hire an engineer firm to conduct a feasibility review as these projects were formed from a desktop analysis. The feasibility summary will included a detailed priority project list, cost and % target reached if implemented like we did for the FRP
 - b. This priority list with timeline, cost, % target achieved will be shared with the committee to review and provide feedback before sending to boards. The list will be completed by early August.
5. Next meeting
 - a. Early-Mid August, Max not avail Aug 21 and surrounding dates