



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
Stormwater
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY
March 5, 2009**

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District's Water Stormwater Technical Coordinating Committee (SW TCC) met on Thursday, March 5, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. in the Amphitheatre, on "C" level of the R. Charles Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community in Atlanta, Georgia.

Attendance

Jill Bazinet, City of Alpharetta	Celia Klardie, City of Canton
Vanessa Birrell, Fayette County	Michelle Lawrence, Fulton County
David Borkowski, City of Peachtree City	Billy Lunsford, City of East Point
Bob Bourne, Cobb County	JoAnn Macrina, DeKalb County
Dave Breaden, Cobb County	Brice Martin, Coweta County
Mark Caspar, City of Peachtree City	Betsy Massie, Forsyth County
Ada Caston, City of College Park	James Moore, Henry County
Alice Champagne, City of Roswell	Andy Mycroft, Fulton County
David Chastant, City of Sandy Springs	William Norris, Cobb County
Charles Corbin, Austell, Buford, Palmetto, Union City, Hapeville	Tony Parrott, Fayette County Water System
Bruce Coyle, Paulding County	Steve Payne, Town of Braselton
Melinda Davies, City of Stockbridge	Julian Powell, City of Mountain Park
Ernie Earn, Cobb County	Bates Rambow, City of Holly Springs
Don Easterbrook, City of Fayetteville	Chris Rotalsky, City of Gainesville
Catherine Fox, Oakwood, Flowery Branch, Dallas,	David Schultz, City of Chamblee
Hiram, Emerson	Barbara Seal, Gwinnett County
Horace Gee, City of Gainesville	Stephen Shelton, Cobb County
Jameson Green, City of Villa Rica	Kelen Shostak, City of Woodstock
Connie Haynes, Georgia EPD	Jack Tanner, City of McDonough
Marjorie Hicks, Cherokee County	Julie Todd, City of Atlanta
William Higgins, Cobb County	Steve Turner, City of Kennesaw
Rob Hill, City of Newnan	Beth Vaughn, Town of Tyrone
Renee Hoge, Forsyth County	Tammie Walker, Hall County
Kaaba Johnson, City of East Point	James Wilgus, City of Marietta
A. Karim Khan, City of East Point	Christina Williams, City of Cartersville
Katie Kirkpatrick, Metro Water District Board	Randy Willis, City of Stockbridge
Lamont Kaiser, Bartow County	Emily Wingo, Georgia EPD
William Klahr, City of Newnan	

Matt Harper of the Metro Water District staff opened the meeting, initiated introductions and reviewed the meeting agenda with the group.

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BAC and TCC Process

Matt Harper briefly reviewed the Basin Advisory Council (BAC) and TCC process for reviewing comments received during the public comment period. The joint WSWC/WW TCC members present were strongly urged to review and consider the remarks made by the members of the BAC. He then reviewed the upcoming BAC and TCC schedule for reviewing the proposed changes to the Plans in response to comments received during the public comment period.

Cost Calculations

Kim Shorter, with Metcalf and Eddy (M&E), reviewed the watershed management cost calculations with the group. Due to many questions and comments on the implementation costs in the public comments and from TCC and BAC members M&E revised and clarified costs for the plan. It was explained that local governments decide which "level of service" (low, medium or high) best meets their needs based upon priorities and funding sources.

Discussion On Comments received for the Public Comment Draft Watershed Management Plan (Dec. 2008)

Kim Shorter discussed a summary of comments that were received on the Watershed Management Plan during the public comment period. Based on the comments received Kim discussed some of the changes to the plan that the staff was considering and asked that TCC members provide feedback.

Many form letters and other individual comments were received in regards the increase in impaired stream miles in the Metro Water District since 2003 and concerns over water quality. Kim explained that the increase listed stream miles does not necessarily correlate to more water quality impairments due to the fact that streams stay on the impaired water list unless they are actively delisted. In addition, this was also due to a 20% increase in stream monitoring performed. Finally, approximately 50% of listed streams are for fecal coliform which may represent natural background sources and not man-made activities. New language will be prepared to better explain as well as highlight Gwinnett County's study which shows that water quality has not gotten worse even though population and development have increased dramatically in that county in the last ten years

A comment was received requesting that the local implementation schedules dates be added to each measure. The TCC as a group preferred to leave the schedule/deadlines in one place on the figure in Section 9.

There were several comments requesting that the conservation subdivision ordinance requirement from the original plan be reinstated. Steve Haubner of the Metro Water District staff explained that M&E and staff were considering adding a new measure that would allow local governments to pick a greenspace/green infrastructure approach from a toolbox of various options. These options are already outlined in Section 6 and would include conservation subdivisions. It was explained that this idea was well received by the BAC members. There were some concerns from the TCC about the timing of adding a new measure but it was felt that most local governments would have already met this new measure with activities already underway. A request was made that local jurisdictions not have to necessary adopt the District model ordinance to be able to meet this measure.

Most of the comments on existing measures in the plan update were about the local monitoring requirements. Kim explained that in light of recent changes to the MS4 permit, it is proposed that the District monitoring requirements be more closely correlated with EPD's Watershed Protection Plan program monitoring efforts being undertaken in the Metro Water District. This direction was provided to M&E and staff based on discussions with local governments in January. Mr. Haubner also

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explained that based upon comments, staff would like to reinsert language to explore the use of regional USGS monitoring data, with the option for the Metro Water District to supplement this regional network in the future.

The Committee discussed the inclusion of metrics for measuring progress towards implementation of the watershed plan. There was a discussion and general consensus that given the challenge of evaluating the performance of watershed management measure on water quality, these metrics should be carefully developed in conjunction with the TCC after the plan is adopted.