

Technical Advisory Committee

January 11, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

- Andover
 - Dave Berkowitz, Director of Public Works/City Engineer
 - Kameron Kytonen, Natural Resources Technician
- Anoka County Highways
 - Michelle Pritchard, Design Engineer
 - Nick Dobda, Engineering & Design Manager
- Blaine
 - Megan Hedstrom, Water Resources Coordinator
- Columbus
 - Jack Davis, Interim City Administrator
- Coon Creek Watershed District
 - Tim Kelly, Administrator
 - Jon Janke, Director of Operations/Operations & Maintenance Coord.
 - Justine Dauphinais, Water Quality Coordinator
 - Erik Bye, Planning Coordinator
 - Jessica Lindemyer, Engagement Coordinator
 - Erin Margl, Watershed Development Coordinator
 - Abbey Lee, Watershed Development Manager
 - Eileen Weigel, Senior Water Resource Engineer (Stantec)
- Coon Rapids
 - Tim Himmer, Public Works Director
 - Mark Hansen, City Engineer
- Fridley
 - Jim Kosluchar, Public Works Director
- Ham Lake
 - Dave Krugler, City Engineer
- Spring Lake Park
 - George Linngren, Public Works Director

Absent: Anoka Conservation District, Board of Water and Soil Resources, Spring Lake Park

1. Management Situation

Jon Janke provided the TAC with a brief update on recent weather and hydrology. The District will be monitoring the snowpack on a weekly basis to keep an eye on the water equivalency to know what the situation may look like when snowmelt approaches.

Tim Kelly asked the following question to all present TAC members:

Q: What do you have planned for this year related to stormwater?

- Mark Hansen: There is some upcoming street reconstruction work that will involve some water mains. Culvert replacements will be occurring at Moore Park and Pheasant Ridge. No upcoming development that the Watershed is not already aware of.
- Michelle Pritchard: Nothing the Watershed is not already aware of.
- Jim Kosluchar: No major street or utility work upcoming. Fridley will be continuing corridor planning at 73rd and will be doing a study of the wetlands in/around springbrook nature center
- Dave Kruegler: Upcoming bridge culvert replacement.
- Dave Berkowitz: Additional development within the Fields at Winslow Cove, 109 lots.
- Megan Hedstrom: Large street projects in the Pleasure Creek area and at 89th & Springbrook. The City will be doing work on two stormwater outfalls. Tree removal within Territorial Park.

Erik Bye provided an updated on the Subwatershed Planning effort.

Tim Himmer noted that Coon Rapids will be conducting a stormwater rate study to inform long-range budgeting.

Justine Dauphinais reminded the TAC that applications are being accepted for the Water Quality Grant Program. She also informed the group of an upcoming MS4 workshop that is being put on as part of the Minnesota Erosion Control Association (MECA) conference.

Jon Janke provided a brief update in relation to a surcharge update issued by the Plumbing Board. TAC members requested a written summary of the update to be emailed after the meeting.

2. Annual Assessment

Tim Kelly asked the following questions to all present TAC members:

Q: What are we, as a group, doing well?

- Mark Hansen: Collaboration & Communication
- Dave Berkowitz: Communication and relationship building/maintaining
- Jim Kosluchar: Collaboration, good outlook for what is coming up, finding combined benefits for projects
- Megan Hedstrom: Subwatershed assessments have been helpful, good amounts of data, collaboration
- Tim Himmer: The categorical approach to the TMDL, having the Watershed see and communicate the bigger picture
- Nick Dobda: Rules and policies
- Kameron Kytonen: Open communication and transparency, appreciate the watershed spearheading the TMDL

Q: What can we, as a group, approve upon?

- Mark Hansen: Remember that the TMDL is only a small part of what the municipalities have to deal with; less focus on esoteric planning and more focus on the specifics of what needs to be done. Sharing opportunities for new technologies.
- Dave Berkowitz: Site inspections and enforcement.
- Megan Hedstrom: Better heads up on what is being discussed.
- Jack Davis: Nothing at this time.
- Tim Himmer: Better education for municipal staff and council. Coordination on project bidding. General recruitment and/or shared positions.
- Jim Kosluchar: Seconded Himmer's suggestion for shared positions and seconded Hansen's comments. Additional help with funding.

3. Announcements

There was a brief discussion regarding the January 10th Coon Rapids Council Workshop at which Tim Kelly presented. Tim Himmer stated that the meeting went very well, it was succinct and focused. The presentation was well received, and the council was very engaged.