

Radnor Township
Stormwater Management Advisory Committee (SWMAC)
Agenda
7:00pm, Thursday, July 13, 2017



1. Call to Order.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Review / approve meeting minutes of May 11, 2017 & June 8, 2017 SWMAC Meetings.
(5 minutes)
4. Public comment.
(10 minutes)
5. Presentation by Meliora on MS4 permitting progress, including storm sewershed mapping. Discussion of how potential MS4 projects may overlap with and work in conjunction with Township Wide Assessment projects.
(45 minutes)
6. Continue discussion of Township Wide Assessment results, including prioritization criteria and feedback received after presentation of four recommended projects for preliminary design at June 26, 2017 Board of Commissioners meeting.
(30 minutes)
7. Updates on: Highview project, Banbury Francis project.
(30 minutes)
8. Set the date and time for the next meeting and adjourn.

Radnor Stormwater Management Advisory Committee (SWMAC) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 11, 2017

Attendees: Paul Burgmayer, Charles Boschen, Regina Majercak, Paige Maz, Joseph Schanne

YouTube Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vY3WL8YA8OQ&list=PLWSgQZE0k8cWuk_of0zq2i9J-kzoKsYZx&index=1

Review of April 2017 Meeting Minutes

The April 2017 SWMAC meeting minutes were approved 5-0.

Public Comment

- Maya van Rossum, in her capacity as Delaware Riverkeeper, asked about an item mentioned at the May 8, 2017 Board of Commissioners (BoC) meeting. Ms. van Rossum said she thought that there was mention of staff presenting a list of priority stormwater projects at the next BoC meeting. Members of SWMAC were not aware of this upcoming presentation. Maya asked that Paige check with Steve Norcini on this item.

Recommendation of Firm to Provide MS4 Engineering Services

Paige noted that five firms submitted proposals in response to the RFP for MS4 engineering services. Paige and Heather Gill formed a subcommittee to discuss the proposals. While all of the firms were qualified and could perform the work, Paige and Heather felt Meliora Design provided the most complete scope, a reasonable fee, good experience and a local presence.

Paul Burgmayer asked what this contract specified relative to what CH2M had provided in their earlier proposal. Paige responded that she understood the MS4 RFP to be a reduced scope, relative to the CH2M original proposal. Since the project was open to any firm wishing to bid, CH2M could have amended their proposal for the reduced scope.

Paige proposed that the BoC engage Meliora Design to complete the MS4 services for Radnor Township. Charles reviewed all of the proposals and he concurred with the recommendation of Meliora. SWMAC voted and approved the recommendation of Meliora Design 4-0 (Regina Majercak not present for the discussion and vote). SWMAC will prepare a memorandum to the BoC with the recommendation.

SWMAC Communications

Joe then suggested that the day after each meeting, SWMAC prepare a memo with the meeting's recommendations and a synopsis of the meeting highlights. A discussion ensued about how CH2M might be called back from time to time to prepare communications, minutes and similar, and wondered if any such mechanism was in place to request CH2M's attendance at SWMAC meetings. Nothing is presently in place, and currently, there is not a contract. All agreed that regular communication from SWMAC to Township staff and the public is important. For the time being, SWMAC members will prepare such communications. It was suggested that a bullet point summarization of main meeting points could be compiled as the meeting progressed. It was also suggested that meeting minutes might not need as much detail as they have had in the past, and that the bullet point list could also serve as the minutes.

Discussion of Township-Wide Assessment

Paul presented the subcommittee (Paul, Joe, Paige) discussion results of capital improvement project recommendations for 2018. Paul reviewed the selection/prioritization criteria. A discussion followed regarding which items might not be well understood at the point of conceptual design (such as infiltration potential), as well as how to consider projects that may be important – perhaps a conveyance project – that might provide little water quality benefit. Constructability and community impacts are also significant concerns.

Paul then noted the projects currently under design: Banbury Francis, Highview, Maplewood and SEPTA/AMTRAK. The design engineer for Banbury Francis has given recent updates. The progress on Highview and Maplewood is not clear, though Steve Norcini just received more plans for Highview. The SEPTA/AMTRAK project has been held up due to difficulties with the contractor obtaining needed clearances/insurance requirements for infiltration testing. Paul understands that there will be action soon from the BoC on the North Wayne Basin cleanout/repair.

The four projects that the subcommittee recommends for RFP for design, with construction with 2018, are South Wayne Ave Inlet Pipes (A-03), West Ave Green Streets (I-03), Modified SEPTA Lot Retention System (I-13) and Radnor Trail (JK-06). Projected costs for the projects were discussed, as were the costs and benefits. The South Wayne Inlets might also include other measures to help convey water to the Middle School basin. As a separate but related matter, there was a question as to whether the weir on the Middle School outlet structure had been corrected.

West Avenue Green Streets would provide address flooding in some areas of North Wayne and would provide a green streets amenity. A discussion followed as to what return period storm was addressed by the West Avenue project. The Banbury Francis project addresses a 25 year storm, but the Township-Wide Assessment evaluates projects for a 10 year storm. However, it was noted that many projects do not fully address stormwater issues for a 10 or 25 year storm; the assessment looked at what level of improvement a project could provide for a 10 year storm.

The Modified SEPTA Lot system would provide flood reduction in portions of North Wayne. This would be an expanded project from the current SEPTA/AMTRAK project. It was noted that since this is not a Township owned property, it will add some complexity to the project.

Radnor Trail is a linear project along the trail.

Regina noted that these projects are part of a larger incremental approach to flood reduction in the Township watersheds.

SWMAC made a motion to recommend the BoC issue an RFP for design of the four projects. It was decided that it is most efficient to have the same engineer to design all four projects.

The floor was opened for public comment. Mr. James Giegerich voiced concerns about the constructability and effectiveness of the West Avenue Green Streets. Mr. Giegerich encouraged SWMAC to “take the bull by the horns” and advise the BoC, rather than looking for direction from the BoC.

Maya van Rossum first noted that she could not find the CH2M final report on the Township website. Maya asked that SWMAC ask the Township again to post the final study.

Maya wanted to clarify that the criterion should be termed not “flood reduction”, but rather “flood damage reduction”. Regina suggested perhaps flood impacts would be more all-encompassing, and clarifies the type/level of damage. Maya also was concerned that flood reduction discussion did not seem to include quantification, though the water quality discussion did. Maya understands that criteria might not be quantifiable at this stage, but the number of criteria addressed by a particular project is important – flood impact, volume reduction, water quality, MS4 permitting obligations and erosion being the most important criteria. Maya also expressed that she thought projects should not be limited to Township owned properties.

Maya reiterated Mr. Giegerich’s point that SWMAC should be advising, and not guessing what the BoC wants to hear. She also noted that the projects will likely not solve 25 year storm flooding problems, and that projects should aim to incrementally reduce stormwater volume for smaller storms.

SWMAC then acted on the motion on the four projects. Joe amended the recommendation that the four projects that an RFP for design be initiated immediately with 2018 construction of projects. SWMAC voted 6-0 to recommend the four projects. SWMAC plans to discuss this recommendation in more detail with the BoC in June.

Updates on other projects and miscellaneous items

- Banbury Francis project design is moving forward with the design that is entirely within the right-of-way. Estimated costs were discussed, but it was noted that possibly “non-stormwater” items, such as relocation of sanitary sewer, might be funded from sources other than stormwater fee funds.
- SWMAC discussed the resolution that re-established SWMAC, and what the new duties encompass. Some were concerned that the language was not clear, and that perhaps SWMAC’s only role was to make suggestions of projects to be included in the budget. The last duty of SWMAC listed in the resolution was rather vague. Some thought SWMAC should seek clarity from the BoC, while others thought that SWMAC should interpret the vague statement broadly.
- The memorandum to the BoC will include both the MS4 and capital improvement projects recommendations.

Next SWMAC Meeting – Thursday, June 8, 2017 at 7pm

Joe will not be able to attend the June 2017 SWMAC meeting.

Radnor Stormwater Management Advisory Committee (SWMAC) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 8, 2017

Attendees: Paul Burgmayer, Charles Boschen, Paige Maz, Heather Gill

YouTube Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfCpVsNpmvl&index=1&list=PLWSgQZE0k8cWuk_of0zq2i9J-kzoKsYZx

Review of Prior Meeting Minutes

The April 2017 SWMAC meeting minutes were approved 5-0 at the May 2017 meeting, but edits were requested to a public comment item. The edited April 2017 SWMAC meeting minutes were approved 4-0.

The review and approval of the May 2017 SWMAC meeting minutes was deferred until the July meeting, as Regina Majercak indicated she had some possible edits, but could not attend the June 8, 2017 meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Review of May 22, 2017 Board of Commissioners (BoC) Meeting Items

Paige attended the May 22, 2017 BoC Meeting which included several stormwater items. Paige noted that Meliora was awarded the MS4 engineering services. Heather spoke with Steve Norcini and understands that Meliora is starting on the MS4 right away, and that CH2M had transferred the GIS information via Dropbox. Heather hopes that Meliora will be at the SWMAC July meeting to present mapping and GIS, as well as show the area of each watershed for the 10 percent sediment reduction. It would also be helpful to see mapping of Township-owned properties, as these would likely be the easiest locations to implement projects for sediment reduction.

Also at the BoC meeting, CH2M made a presentation on the North Wayne Basin cleaning and potential mitigation projects. After the presentation, the BoC voted to get proposals for the cleaning of North Wayne Basin.

Township staff stormwater project ranking criteria was also discussed at the May 22nd BoC meeting. Steve Norcini presented the draft ranking criteria, which seemed a bit more intuitive than the CH2M system. The staff proposed that the ranking criteria maximum points add to 100. SWMAC recognized that any ranking criteria is subjective, and while useful as a starting point, is not intended to produce project rankings that are "cast in stone". Judgement needs to be applied to rankings coming out of any ranking system.

Updates on Stormwater Projects

Steve Norcini has been out at the Highview project site, speaking with the property owner. Steve noted that the Township will require a temporary easement from the neighboring property. The neighbor has recently purchased the property and has not yet moved in. Steve has their contact information and will speak with them soon. Steve does not yet have a price for the project; it should be noted that the estimated construction costs will not include the cost of acquiring the needed easements.

A meeting for residents in the area of the Banbury Francis project was recently held. Residents voiced a number of concerns, including the possible tree loss from the construction and whether the project was necessary. Heather has forwarded pictures of the flooding at the intersection, and noted that it was substantial. The Township will call another meeting of residents with T&M, Township personnel and SWMAC members present. This meeting will occur once more information is available (such as tree removal) to answer the questions of residents.

Paige noted that when speaking with Steve, he explained that since the Commissioners voted to move forward with the Banbury Francis design which is entirely in the right-of-way, the Township has not pursued the possibility of easements on the bank or Baskin Robbins properties.

Other projects which Steve mentioned in an email summary are the storm sewer televising, the upcoming budget and Maplewood. Maplewood has a few design options, and once those are ready, SWMAC will receive an update on the Maplewood project.

Township Wide Assessment (TWA) Project Discussion

It was discussed that testing of the additional SEPTA/AMTRAK parcel, as proposed in the TWA recommended project, would require preliminary engineering so that test depths and locations could be determined.

In order to advance the four TWA projects recommended in SWMAC's May memorandum, SWMAC needs to go before the BoC to explain the thought process behind choosing these four projects. Paige will discuss with Steve Norcini the best way to move forward to RFP for feasibility/conceptual design for the four projects.

A general discussion of the best ways to move projects forward, how many to move forward at one time, and budgeting for projects ensued.

The origins of the 10 year versus 25 year design storm use for the Banbury Francis project was discussed, and how design criteria might apply to future projects.

Next SWMAC Meeting – Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 7pm

Paul will not be able to attend the July 2017 SWMAC meeting.