



Storm Water Task Force

6801 Delmar Boulevard, University City, Missouri 63130, Phone: (314) 505-8560, Fax: (314) 862-0694

CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY MINUTES OF THE STORM WATER TASK FORCE OCTOBER 24, 2017

The first meeting of the Stormwater Commission began at approximately 6:30 PM on Tuesday, October 24, 2017.

In attendance were the following listed members: Garry Aronberg, Roseann Benson, Bob Criss, Tim Cusick, Mark Holly, Irv Logan, Angelika Mueller, Bobette Patton, Linda Sharpe-Taylor, Eric Stein, Todd Thompson, John Tieman, Michael Warford, Rosalind Williams. Gloria Nickerson was absent.

Also in attendance were the following City officials: Bwayne Smotherson (Councilman), Paulette Carr (Councilwoman), Sinan Alpaslan, PE (Public Works Director), Chris Kalter (Project Manager, Public Works Department), Mark Zaiontz (Community Development)

Agenda

The agenda provided for the first meeting by City officials is listed below:

- A. Opening of first meeting of the Task Force and introduction of purpose of Task Force,
- B. Introduction of members,
- C. Selection of chair,
- D. Discussion of goals and process to accomplish goals,
- E. Set future meeting dates and times,
- F. Adjournment.

1. Opening and Introduction of Purpose

- 1.1. There being no chair yet, Councilwoman Paulette Carr opened the first meeting of the task force:
 - 1.1.1. Welcomed members and thanked them for participation.
 - 1.1.2. Introduced Councilman Bwayne Smotherson, Public Works Director Sinan Alpaslan, and PW Project Manager Chris Kalter.
 - 1.1.3. Selected Bobette Patton to call for the election of Chair/Co-chairs later in the meeting.
- 1.2. Councilwoman Carr discussed goals and purpose of the Task Force:
 - 1.2.1. Inventory of storm water problems,
 - 1.2.2. Prepare a plan with the assistance of the City staff to advise the Council regarding storm water problems,
 - 1.2.3. Consideration should be given to three storm water problems that have been identify by recent storm and flooding events:
 - 1.2.3.1. River des Peres and Deer Creek flooding,
 - 1.2.3.2. Sewer backups into basements,
 - 1.2.3.3. Overland flow through yards.

2. **Introduction of Members.** Members introduced themselves by stating their name, home neighborhood, reason for interest in storm water, stormwater and professional experience germane to the Task Force.

3. Discussion of Goals and Process.

- 3.1. **Current status was presented by Staff, Sinan Alpaslan and Chris Kalter.**
 - 3.1.1. City Efforts. The City is looking forward to alleviate storm water problems in City. Staff desires that MSD be a partner with the City to solve the problems but MSD takes little or no responsibility now. Most of River des Peres channel is owned by adjoining property owners and is, therefore, privately owned. So problem solving activity can be accomplished only carefully with easements and after the project is approved as public benefit and not a private benefit. The City addresses storm water problems as part of overall public works mission as there is no separate storm water division. The City collects \$1.2 million Parks and Storm Water



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sales tax. Most of that money is already committed to paying bonds and operating expenses from previous park and storm projects. Park and storm water projects compete for funding. Although a current project is installing erosion control near Mona Drive the Park and Storm Water Sales tax could provide only part of the funding. The City actively applies for grants and is considering green solutions to reduce the need for expensive construction projects.

- 3.1.2. MSD Stormwater Funding. MSD may attempt in 2019 to pass another bond issue to fund stormwater projects. It is important that University City have a storm water plan ready when MSD has funding so that U. City projects will be high on MSD funding list.
- 3.1.3. FEMA Grants. FEMA awards flood mitigation grants and the City applies for those grants annually to support the City's flood plain buyout program. The grant program is competitive and the need for that grant money is statewide. The City has been awarded the grants but is not a recipient every year.
- 3.1.4. Flood Plain Development. Construction in the flood plain can only be done by permit.
- 3.1.5. FEMA Flood Mapping. New FEMA Risk Mapping is scheduled to become effective in 2012. FEMA is accepting public comment on the new mapping now. Access to the comment web site can be accessed on the City's web site.
- 3.1.6. NPDES Permit for Storm Water. U. City is a co-permittee for the MSD's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) and U. City must adopt ordinances and permit procedures to be in compliance with the NPDES MS4 permit.
- 3.1.7. Sharing Information. Chris Kalter, PW project manager, will setup a Dropbox for use by the Task Force to share ideas.
- 3.1.8. GIS. Public Works staff will assist the Task Force with GIS data input.
- 3.1.9. MSD Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Mitigation Meeting. MSD has scheduled two information meetings regarding CSO storage tanks planned for near Olive at 81st Street. The meetings will be at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, October 25, and Monday October 30 at the Mandarin House Banquet Facility on Olive.
- 3.2. Discussion continued covering topics related to committee goals and process, and function.**
 - 3.2.1. Flooding Experience. Several members discussed their experience and hopes regarding past flooding from the River Des Peres, sewer backups, and overland yard flooding and flood mitigation.
 - 3.2.2. Inventory of Storm Water Complaints and Problems. The need to *inventory* the storm water complaints and problems was discussed. There was a realization that some complaints may not be stormwater problems.
 - 3.2.3. Vision. Discussion indicated a consensus that the Task Force may need to identify a vision after the Task Force reviews the inventory of stormwater complaints and problems.
 - 3.2.4. Chair. Messrs. John Tieman and Todd Thompson volunteered to serve as co-chairs. Their election was confirmed by voice vote of the Task Force.
 - 3.2.5. Inventory and Subcommittees. A motion was made and seconded and passed that at the next meeting the Task Force members bring several suggestions:
 - 3.2.5.1. Storm water *data* to be identified during the inventory phase;
 - 3.2.5.2. Storm water inventory *methods*;
 - 3.2.5.3. *Subcommittees* to establish.
- 3.3. Schedule of Next Meeting**. Following a discussion and voice vote, the next meeting of the Task Force was scheduled for November 14 at 6:30 at a site to be determined by Staff depending on the availability of meeting space in a City-operated building.

4. **Adjournment**. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at about 8:30 PM.

Minutes were prepared by Garry Aronberg, member of Storm Water Task Force.