



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

MINUTES OF THE STORMWATER COMMISSION March 5, 2024

Call to Order. The forty-second meeting of the Stormwater Commission (Commission) was called to order at 3:40 PM by Chair Todd Thompson.

- 1. Attendance-Roll Call.** The following Commission members were present at the Community Center: Garry Aronberg, Mark Holly, Todd Thompson, Philip Eastin, a new member. Also, in attendance were Councilman Dennis Fuller, Darin Girdler, Director of Public Works; Mirela Celaj, Assistant Director of Public Works.

Eric Karch was absent.

Visitors: Don Fitz

- 2. Agenda.** Publish agenda was approved:
Attendance-Roll Call; Approval of Agenda; Approval of Minutes; Citizen Comments; Announcements by Commissioners; Committee Reports; New Business; Old Business; Council Liaison Comments; Adjournment.

- 3. Minutes.** The minutes of the February 6, 2024, meeting were approved by voice vote (Armstrong, Thompson moved and second).

- 4. Citizen Comments. Don Fitz informed the Commission:**

- *March 26 at 7:00 PM Presentation.* University Heights Flood Task Force is sponsoring a presentation about the River des Peres (RdP) Tubes. Commissioner Holly will discuss his computer model Tubes. (The Tubes run underground along Vernon and Dartmouth Avenues in the east end of University City. The Tube continues southeastward under the west end of St. Louis: Skinker, Forest Park, US 40, Oakland to the open channel near Manchester at Mackland south of Dogtown.
- *April 24 Presentation.* Mr. Kirkland of Springfield, MO, public works will speak about restoration of Fastnight Creek to improve conveyance.

- 5. Announcement By Commissioners.**

- Mr. Eastin a newly appointed commission, was introduced. He is a freshwater environmental chemist with extensive experience with aquifers and industrial water treatment.
- Commissioner Criss and Public Works Director Girdler reported that 16 truckloads of sediment have been removed recently by MSD's contractor. Sediment and debris removal is ongoing at Pennsylvania Ave. in the RdP Tube. Commissioner Criss identified sediment removal as important to minimize flooding.
- Commissioner Criss reported on his recent investigation of the RdP Tubes using portable handheld LiDAR survey instruments.
 - Tubes seem to be holding about 2 ft of water.
 - The NE branch of the Tube is 12 by 16 ft. The main branch is 20 by 20 ft.



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- Several 100-ft long debris piles of large concrete blocks were found and surveyed.
- The angles at junctions and the inlet may not be efficient.
- Commissioner Criss has evaluated USGS metering data and estimates maximum velocity in the Tube may be less than 15 FPS.
- Observation of debris in the Tube indicates that the hydraulic grade line is higher than the inside crown: pressure flow occurs.

6. Committee Reports.

- Impervious Surfaces Committee. Commissioner Armstrong summarized the progress of the committee. The Committee is evaluating Code changes to reduce the storm water impact of new impervious surfaces. The impervious surface Code change effort was begun by the University Heights Storm Task Force.
 - The committee refined the offsets of plantings and storage to offset new impervious surface. The work centered on clarifying offsets that would be required when new impervious surface is added.
 - Most of the offsets use “green” techniques – a water quality benefit.
 - The committee will next consider efficient and succinct code language and procedures to implement impervious impact reduction.

7. New Business

- None

8. Old Business.

- None

9. Council Liaison Comments.

- Councilman Fuller informed the Commission that four council seats will be on the April ballot. All are unopposed.
- The new comprehensive plan has been adopted by the Council.

10. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn passed at 4:55 PM (Holly, Aronberg).

Minutes Preparation. The minutes were prepared by Garry Aronberg.

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