



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

## MINUTES OF THE STORMWATER COMMISSION December 3, 2024

**Call to Order.** The forty-seventh meeting of the Stormwater Commission (Commission) was called to order at 3:32 PM on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, by Chair Todd Thompson.

- 1. Attendance-Roll Call.** The following Commission members were present at the Community Center: Susan Armstrong, Garry Aronberg, Robert Criss, Phillip Eastin, Mark Holly, Todd Thompson. Also, in attendance were Dennis Fuller, Councilman; Mirela Celaj, Acting Director of Public Works, Darin Girdler, Director of Parks and Recreation; John Mulligan, City Attorney. Commissioner Eric Karch could not attend.

Visitor: Gregory Meeks

- 2. Agenda.** Published agenda was approved by voice vote (motion by Armstrong, second by Thompson): 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 November 5, 2024, meeting was approved (Armstrong, Holly) as with corrections: Councilman Fuller's comment is that a new fire truck had been order and delivery is expected in a year.

- 4. Citizen Comments.**

- None.

- 5. Announcement By Commissioners and Staff.**

- Commissioner Criss circulated to Commissioners an abstract of his paper about debris and bolder movement in high velocity channel flow. The paper contained data from the MSD's River des Peres Tube in University City. The data was developed in part by Dr Criss's observations as a commissioner and later expanded by subsequent observations and data gathering By Dr. Criss.
- Commissioner Aronberg presented observations on the recently proposed River des Peres Flood Insurance Rate Ma (FIRM).
  - Through U City, the proposed FIRM shows water surface 1 ft to 2 ft lower than the current FIRM.
  - The width of the floodplain is a little smaller in the proposed FIRM than the current FIRM
  - Implications are that fewer home owners would be required to buy flood insurance but some of homeowners who are in the current floodplain but not in the proposed floodplain may feel inappropriately secure from flooding.
  - Commissioners will examine the proposed FIRM and compare to water surface elevation data that was accumulated after the July 2022 storm.
  - Commissioners thought it is appropriate to sponsor public meetings about the proposed FIRM.
- Commissioner Armstrong made commissioners aware of an NPR article about a local



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unfunded sanitary sewer backup problem occurring in Cahokia Heights, IL, - MetroEast. The sanitary backs occur from stormwater infiltration into that community's poorly sealed sanitary sewer system.

## 6. Committee Reports

- **Ad Hoc Committee to develop an ordinance.**
  - Planning and Zoning is now reviewing the impervious ordinance.
- **River des Peres (RdP) Monitoring subcommittee**
  - Commissioners Eastin and Criss reported the following:
    - Gauge 3, located in Olivette, is ready to re-mount when ground is dry enough for boom truck to reach the site.
    - Subcommittee will work to replace batteries and check calibration of Gauges 1 and 2.
    - Dr. Criss will use water elevation and recent rain gauge data to refine the U. City rain fall vs stage model.
    - New radar elevation gauges are ready for installation when weather is dry enough to access site at mouth of MSD's tube and Hafner Court site.
    - Cameras will be ordered.
    - I-neighborhood River des Peres monitoring equipment will be installed in near future.
    - Subcommittee is examining methods to integrate Commission's data and I-neighborhood data.
  - Commissioner's asked City Attorney to request MSD to resume sharing rainfall with University City.

## 7. New Business

None.

## 8. Old Business.

None

## 9. Council Liaison Comments.

- a. Councilman Fuller reported:
  - 1) Dierberg's will be constructed as part of the Olive Market Development.
  - 2) Seven-Brew will also be located at the Olive Market.
  - 3) New hotel and mixed-use properties in the Loop are progressing.

**10. Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn passed at 5:45 PM (Aronberg, Armstrong).

**Minutes Preparation.** The minutes were prepared by Garry Aronberg.

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