



CHESAPEAKE BAY TMDL PHASE III WATERSHED IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
URBAN STAKEHOLDER MEETING
 August 29, 2019, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
 Brite Transit Facility, 51 Ivy Ridge Lane, Fishersville, VA 22932

Meeting Summary

In attendance:

Lyle Hartt, City of Staunton	Dan Sutton, STANTEC /VDOT
Wendy Eikenberry, ACSA	Sara Bottenfield, DEQ- Harrisonburg
Anita Riggleman, HRRSA	Trafford McRae, City of Waynesboro
Rachel Winter, Headwaters SWCD	Dale Chestnut, JMU
Keith Thomas, City of Harrisonburg	Rebecca Stimson, City of Harrisonburg
Morgan Shrewsbury, Augusta County	Lisa Perry, Rockingham County
Hunter Moore, CSPDC	Sandra Stuart, NBSWCD
Rebecca Joyce, CSPDC	

Welcome and Introductions

- Hunter welcomed the group and everyone else introduced themselves.

WIP III Update

- Hunter gave an update on the Central Shenandoah Planning District Commission’s (CSPDC) recent activities with the Watershed Implementation Plan Phase III (WIP III), including the status of contract deliverables, final reports, BMP reporting survey and the upcoming marketing site.
- The final WIP III plan is completed and can be found on the Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) website.
- Hunter also discussed the expected annual program for WIP III between Planning District Commissions and DEQ. The CSPDC hopes to receive the scope of work associated with this new program soon. Since these WIP III meetings are likely to continue, Hunter asked

the group for meeting topics or if there is anything in particular that the group would like to learn more about, such as BMP training or other WIP III related issues.

- Sandra Stuart suggested help on an education program to share information or incentives for farmers to implement BMPs.
- Trafford McCrae suggested having Dave Hirschman as a guest speaker for possible stream restoration training or an information session. A field trip training could be a possibility.
- Hunter also shared an opportunity with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay for elected officials to visit with local tidewater elected officials and discuss water resource goals. The bus tour event is called “Wandering Virginia’s Waterways” and will take place on October 24th-25th. Hunter encouraged the group to share this with their localities’ elected officials and provided a flyer for the event.

Regional BMP Projects Discussion (Continued)

- At the last meeting in June, regional BMP projects were discussed, and the group provided many ideas for a regional project. Hunter picked 4 of these ideas for the group to continue discussing for this meeting:
 1. Surveying detention pond rehabilitation / retrofit opportunities
 2. Identifying Urban Stream Restoration locations
 3. Septic Pumping Assistance
 4. Identifying locations for Small Dam Removal
- Hunter asked the group to split into three groups to have a small group discussion on how to flush out these project ideas and how to move them forward. The small groups could pick just one project or all four projects to discuss.
- The groups discussed for 15 minutes.
- Group 1 discussed all 4 projects. They expressed that a centralized web page or a google drive spreadsheet with all funding opportunities and deadlines would be very helpful to get some of these projects moving forward. They also shared that a consultant may be beneficial to “house” these projects. There is a need to have a dedicated person for each project that may be a temporary position.
- Group 2 discussed the first 3 projects. They shared the importance of outreach especially for unregulated communities and partners. Dan Sutton explained that the Virginia

Department of Transportation (VDOT) is looking at sites for retrofitting and identifying sites. Group 2 also discussed septic pumping and how it is a limited application for cities but could expand to other areas in the region. Some areas use the Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) for this. Maintenance agreements were also discussed as a possible challenge especially with BMPs on private properties and that a partnering with the maintenance agreement may be best.

- Group 3 talked about the Septic Pumping Assistance project and thought it would be the easiest project to set up. Grants and assistance with SWCDs are already available for this but getting people on board is the issue. There would need to be better communication between Virginia Department of Health (VDH), better records and tracking with this BMP.
- Hunter thanked everyone for their additional input and then the group took a 15-minute break.

Hazard Mitigation Funding

- Rebecca Joyce gave a presentation on Hazard Mitigation Assistance and how this funding is opening up for stormwater programs and projects. Rebecca provided information on three programs:
 1. Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
 2. Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)
 3. Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)
- Lisa asked if projects have to be in the floodplain for FMA funding. Rebecca said they have to have flood insurance but not sure about whether they needed to be in floodplain or not. Rebecca will check and follow up.
- Morgan asked if stream restoration projects were eligible for FMA. Rebecca said the other two programs were more suitable.
- Groups of homes that have flooding issues are also suitable for the first two programs, HMGP & PDM.
- Rebecca listed eligible stormwater projects and highlighted a few grant requirements. Discussion followed about the benefit cost analysis tool from FEMA and the inputs needed for the tool.
- Rebecca stated that more funding for PDM is expected in 2019/2020 cycle.



- A question was asked about including stormwater projects in the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Rebecca said she would need to know of these projects by mid-October. Great detail of the projects is not needed.
- Hunter asked Sara Bottenfield with DEQ to share new funding news. Sara shared that DEQ has issued a Request for Applications for funding to support water quality improvement activities associated with EPA-approved TMDL Implementation Plans. Applications are due October 31, 2019 and awards can range from \$100,000 to \$400,000, with a total of \$1.5 million available. Hunter will send out this information to the group.

Community Updates

- Hunter asked if anyone would like to discuss their current BMP projects.
- Sandra with the Natural Bridge SWCD discussed their groundwater analysis/ spring study. College students are doing the field work and they are looking to measure flow rates and E. coli levels.
- Morgan Shrewsbury with Augusta County shared that they are still working on the stream restoration project at Jennings Branch.
- Rebecca Stimson with Harrisonburg talked about the North End Greenway stream restoration project funded by a public/private partnership.

Adjourn

- With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.