



## TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

### Ferguson Township – Stormwater Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting #3 January 9, 2018 (@ 12pm)

#### Attendees

**Ferguson Township:** Dave Modricker, Ron Seybert, Lance King, Kevin Bloom, Eric Endresen

**Amec Foster Wheeler / Gannett Fleming Team:** Elizabeth Treadway, P. Eric Mains, Virginia Thornton

**Stormwater Advisory Committee:** As listed on attached Sign-In Sheet

The following minutes/notes are intended to be an overview of the presentation and discussion that occurred at the above referenced meeting. There are provided to document the general content of those discussions such that they can be used as a tool with future meetings and stormwater program discussions. They are not intended to be a transcript of the meeting. However, any noted differences, exclusions, or variations from personal notes of the meeting should be brought to the attention of the Township so that they can be considered for the final record.

The following minutes were captured;

#### **Introductions – Dave**

#### **Review of Poll Results – Eric**

- ) The Stormwater Prioritization Survey was distributed to SAC members and Staff with a total of 13 responses. The Survey was composed of five sections:
  1. The operation, maintenance, and management aspects related to Infrastructure
  2. The effort the Township should allocate to Operations
  3. The prioritization of funding the Township should allocate to different Investments
  4. The prioritization of funding the Township should allocation to Regulatory requirements
  5. The prioritization of investments for various stormwater related Issues
- ) The goal of the poll was to allow the Amec Foster Wheeler Team and the Township to draw conclusions based on trends in responses from the Staff and SAC to ensure that the Township's Stormwater Program is based on the priorities of the community and staff.
- ) The composite results and priorities are attached to this document.
- ) **Potential Questions to answer in this:**
  1. Why is partnering with other communities ranked relatively low?
  2. Is there a general concern that SWM is a regional issue not a municipality issue? Yes; however, permitting boundaries and municipal boundaries tend to limit regional collaboration without the creation of a regional stormwater authority.
  3. Note that we're in a good position to learn from neighboring communities.
  4. It's important to focus on current regulations but also preposition for future issues and regulations
  5. Staff responses were from the Manager, Engineering Department (not Ron), and Staff Foremen

#### **Stormwater Funding Methodologies – Elizabeth**

- ) This presentation provided the SAC with a general understanding of how local governments create the monetary resources they need to operate



## TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

- J There are four different funding methodologies: exaction, special assessment, services fees, and taxes
  - o Example of a Special Assessment – adding a sidewalk to a street in a neighborhood – the property owners would be charged a special assessment for this installation. Special Assessments require an analysis to determine what the benefit of the service is and how to extend the cost to the parties involved.
  - o Example of a Service Fee – Police and Fire Departments having a fee for a ‘false alarm’, parking fees. These are dedicated to the service as a recovery cost for the specific service, stored in a separate fund called an enterprise fund.
  - o Group engaged in a lengthy discussion (led by Dave) on the current Transportation Improvement Fund (TIF) that has been used in the Township for years to offset the cost of vital transportation projects.
- J The Township uses a variety of revenue generation methods to pay for the services of government. There are rarely governments that rely on one funding source.
- J While water is a ‘human right’ and public perception is that water services should be free, the industry has not priced the value of water well (including the treatment and management, as well as waste and stormwater components).
- J Stormwater Fees are often developed based on ERUs (Equivalent Residential Units). The process includes an analysis of impervious coverage of the single family detached housing stock within a community. This is a well-accepted methodology within the industry.
- J Some fees are developed as a fixed billing rate per square foot, in a tiered structure.
- J In both scenarios, there is not an engineering analysis of the stormwater runoff each home or property.
- J Water Utility Example – Someone who lives 7 miles from the treatment plant with multiple tanks and many miles of pipes pay the same ‘per gallon’ as someone that lives next door to the treatment plant. The water meter and per gallon rate are surrogates for the total cost for the treatment and distribution of water – this is not necessarily the most equitable way to pay for water treatment and distribution services.
- J The ‘meter’ for stormwater is impervious coverage (i.e. concrete, roofs, roads, driveways, etc). Gravel is determined to be pervious/impervious by individual municipalities.
- J Sometimes the ERU distribution is less equitable than a tiered ‘per square foot’ system if the community has detached single family residence distribution of both mobile homes and mansions; the mobile home owners will be paying the same fee as the owners of much larger homes. In this case, the owners would pay a fee that better represents the amount of impervious cover their property is adding to the municipalities total impervious coverage.
- J Possible Unintended Consequences of Stormwater Fees
  - o Homeowners and businesses not putting in BMPs because they’re paying a fee
  - o Rural fees are sometimes developed differently than urban, but both parties tend to use urban resources
- J Credit Programs can be developed to provide for a reduction in the fee in certain scenarios (implementing BMPs, partnering, education, etc).
- J This is all under the questions of the Funding Strategy. The goal is to match the resources to what needs to be done, be accountable and transparent, and ensure the priorities of the community are represented.



## TOWNSHIP OF FERGUSON

- ) At the next meeting, the priorities will be compiled and a cost model will be developed to see how the desired program will affect the required resources. Budgets will not be presented, but ballpark figures will be discussed with this committee.