

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

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Memorandum

To: Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission
From: Technical Advisory Committee
Subject: September 3, 2009 Meeting
Date: September 4, 2009, 2009

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on September 3, 2009. The following TAC members, city representatives, and staff attended the meeting:

City	TAC Members/Alternates	Other City Representatives
Crystal	Absent	
Golden Valley	Jeff Oliver	
Medicine Lake	Vacant position	
Minneapolis	Lois Eberhart	
Minnetonka	Lee Gustafson	
New Hope	Guy Johnson	Daniel Stauner
Plymouth	Derek Asche	
Robbinsdale	Absent	
St. Louis Park	Laura Adler	
BCWMC Staff	Len Kremer	

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) directed staff to forward the following recommendations to the Commission for its consideration. This memorandum presents these recommendations under two topic areas.

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1. Individual vs. Categorical approach to TMDL waste load allocations

The TAC reviewed the undated draft MPCA letter responding to the August 3, 2009 Commission letter to the MPCA. It was noted that there does seem to be some advantage to the MS4 cities to have a categorical waste load allocation. This would allow the cities to negotiate among themselves how the pollutant load reductions will be accomplished and how the financial responsibilities will be distributed. The MPCA letter indicates that a management plan will need to be prepared for each of the TMDLs being prepared which identifies specific activities to reduce pollutant loads. The pollutant load reduction associated with each activity will need to be estimated. The activities include watershed approaches, such as nutrient reduction and runoff volume reductions required for new development and redevelopment, implementation of specific BMPs such as regional ponds and infiltration basins, regulatory approaches such as fertilizer bans and pet ordinances and housekeeping BMPs such as street sweeping and education. A time line for completing the implementation plan will also need to be part of the management plan. A copy of the management plan outline included in the Sweeney Lake Draft TMDL report is attached.

The committee agreed that coordination between the Commission and the cities is needed to track the extent to which specific items in the management plan are completed and that one report that all of the cities could rely on as part of their reporting for their MS4 permit would be desirable. The goal would be to have one report that would track BMPs completed for all of the watershed TMDLs.

The committee also discussed the request by Hennepin County to be included in the categorical waste load allocation. Since an agreement is not in place with Hennepin County as to how they would participate financially in the implementation of the management plan the committee agreed that Hennepin County should be assigned an individual waste load allocation. The committee also agreed that sometime in the future an agreement should be reached with the county that would permit them to participate with the Commission in the implementation of the management plan.

After discussion, the committee agreed that the waste load allocations should be based on percentage of impervious surface in the city, Hennepin County and MDOT portions of the watershed because it was a simple way to allocate the waste loads and because the amount of the waste loading is directly related to impervious surface.

Recommendations

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- Request that for the Wirth Lake, Sweeney Lake and Medicine Lake TMDLs that individual waste load allocations are assigned to MDOT and Hennepin County and a categorical waste load allocation is assigned to the cities.
- Request that the assignment of waste load allocations be based on the relative percentage of MDOT, Hennepin County and City impervious surface.

2. Limno Tech model results for the Medicine Lake TMDL

The TAC reviewed the August 24, 2009 Limno Tech, Draft memorandum regarding the Medicine Lake TMDL P8 Modeling Summary. It was noted that the memo discussed several generic BMPs that did not quantify the scope of the BMP except in very general terms. An example is the generic volume reduction BMP that was discussed. It was included as a 10% reduction in runoff volume. To be able to relate to the magnitude of this BMP there should be some comparisons presented such as acres of infiltration basins.

It was also noted that the memo indicated that “solids loads for 2006 (the model calibration year) would be approximately 32% less when applying the lumped approach” in the analysis of the data. This would result in a slightly lower phosphorus predicted load and possibly better model calibration. The TAC concluded that the P8 model was adequate for the Medicine Lake TMDL.

Recommendation

The TAC concluded that they had no comments on the Limno Tech memo.

4. Adjournment

Next TAC Meeting- October 1, 2009