



Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday December 18, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Wirth Lake Room, Brookview

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. COMMUNICATIONS & UPDATES
3. BUSINESS

A. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO LINEAR PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

At their meeting in November the Plan Steering Committee (PSC) reviewed and discussed BCWMC staff recommendations for revisions to the Commission's linear projects requirements for inclusion in the next 10-year watershed management plan. The PSC is seeking TAC input on the potential revisions.

As a reminder, the TAC and commission began looking into standards and requirements for linear projects in 2022, as part of the Commission's work to address complex issues leading into the development of the 2025 Plan. Below are the meetings where this was discussed:

- December 7, 2022 TAC meeting – agenda item 3A. Options for Updating Linear Project Standards in 2025 Watershed Plan
- January 19, 2023 Commission meeting – agenda item 5E, memo from Administrator regarding Standards and Requirements for Linear Standards – Considerations for 2025 Watershed Plan
- February 16, 2023 Commission meeting – agenda item 6B, revised memo from Administrator regarding Standards and Requirements for Linear Standards – Considerations for 2025 Watershed Plan; the Commission asked staff to bring their ideas to the TAC
- March 1, 2023 TAC meeting – agenda item 3C. Discuss Linear Project Standards
- March 29, 2023 TAC meeting – agenda item 3A. Discuss Pros and Cons for Linear Project Standards Options
- April 20, 2023 Commission meeting – agenda item 6Di. Verbal update on TAC discussions

For discussion at this meeting the first two documents listed below are helpful background information. #3 is the updated pros/cons table of options which **now includes the Commission Engineer's recommendation** for a new BCWMC linear projects standard.

1. Useful background information: [Agenda item 6B from the February 16, 2023 Commission meeting](#)
2. New background information (see "Linear Project Stds Across Metro" document attached with meeting materials): The Plan Steering Committee asked for information on how other watersheds are dealing with linear projects. The "Linear Project Stds Across Metro" document outlines the standards of some other watersheds and includes the prior and current MS4 permit requirements. (Note: this document was updated to include the 2013 MS4 permit requirements.)
3. Updated pros/cons table (attached with meeting materials): The table includes different options for the BCWMC linear project standards, in consideration of the MPCA's linear project standards (part of the MS4 permit). This table was developed at the direction of the Commission and discussed by the TAC at their March 1 and March 29, 2023 meetings. The attached table includes revisions recommended by the TAC at their March 29, 2023 meeting. **The Commission Engineer's recommendation of Option 6 is forwarded**

from the Plan Steering Committee for consideration by the TAC. Option 6 is very similar to the current MS4 permit (MPCA) standard, but builds in a checklist that cities must complete, lowers the trigger for BCWMC review of linear projects, lowers the trigger for rate control standards for linear projects, and includes tiers for which governing body reviews proposed projects depending on size.

4. Updated linear projects tracking table (attached with meeting materials). This table presents data on the water quality treatment from linear projects the BCWMC reviewed from 2017 to 2024, comparing potential outcomes using the old (2015) BCWMC linear project standards vs. actual outcomes using the current BCWMC (2017) linear project standards vs. outcomes using the current (2020) MS4 permit (MPCA) linear project standards. It is evident that only 1 linear project triggered water quality treatment with the current BCWMC standard while 10 linear projects would have triggered water quality treatment if the Commission Engineer-recommended standard was in place. (See green cells in attached table. Engineer's recommendation is same as current MS4 permit.)

B. CHLORIDE REDUCTION STRATEGIES/REQUIREMENTS

Chloride reduction is a high priority goal but with significant challenges. Most chloride reduction strategies involve training on best practices and raising public awareness. The TAC should discuss options for regulating chloride use or requiring certain activities involving winter maintenance or low salt design which could include:

- Requiring or providing funding for city staff to take the low salt design workshop
- Requiring use of a checklist for considering low salt design techniques for certain developments
- Requirements for appropriate snow and salt storage for certain developments
- Requiring winter maintenance plans for development projects that meet certain parameters. (Winter maintenance plan templates - including basic, intermediate, and detailed – are found on this page: <https://www.bassettcreekwmo.org/developer/winter-maintenance>)

At least two BCWMC cities have requirements related to chloride management:

- Golden Valley requires a chloride management plan when a stormwater maintenance agreement is triggered. The city is currently developing a template for the plan. *Provide and follow a Chloride Management Plan addressing the use of chloride on the site, type of deicer to be used, personnel certified for chloride application, rate of application for the site, and a map showing snow storage areas and sensitive areas to avoid application. The chloride management plan shall be updated annually.*
- Plymouth's stormwater agreement incorporates provisions (when applicable) for winter maintenance practices including reporting requirements to annually: 1) Evaluate and implement best practices for snow and ice management to minimize chloride pollution; and 2) Select deicer materials and application rates based on pavement temperature and trend.

Finally, the TAC could also review other projects, programs, and practices outlined in the 2022 Parkers Lake Chloride Reduction Project presented to the Commission in July 2022.

www.bassettcreekwmo.org/application/files/7616/5784/5842/Item_5A_Parkers_Chloride_Memo.pdf

There were some ideas developed in that project that might warrant further investigation.

C. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO STREAM & WETLAND BUFFER STANDARDS – included with meeting materials

The attached tables compare stream buffer and wetland buffer triggers and standards from current BCWMC requirements, several member cities, and a few additional watersheds. The tables also include Commission staff recommendations for revisions to the current BCWMC requirements as shown in orange rows. The Plan Steering Committee reviewed and discussed the recommendations and requested TAC input.

D. REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS TO BCWMC REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT – See Word document attached with comments and tracked changes

Commission Engineers recommend several relatively minor updates to the BCWMC requirements for improvements and development proposals (aside from requirements still under discussion such as linear projects, chloride management, and buffers). The attached document shows recommended changes, tracked, along with context for the changes, shown in comment boxes. The TAC should review the recommended changes and discuss, as needed, for input to the Plan Steering Committee.

The more notable proposed changes include the following:

- i. All “shalls” in the document were replaced with “musts” or, in some situations, “should” to clarify whether something is required or not (per former Commissioner Welch's direction).
- ii. Added new Sections 2.9 and 8.5 with requirements and guidance for regional best management practices
- iii. Section 4.0 - revised item #1 regarding minimum building elevations for parking ramps and garages; and revised item #4 regarding parking in the floodplain (this change is in response to the Currie Commons project in the Bassett Creek Valley).
- iv. Added new Section 6.4 regarding maintenance of stormwater best management practices and chloride management plans.
- v. Section 5 and Section 7.0 - incorporated edits approved at the February 2023 BCWMC meeting regarding erosion and sediment control provisions, once the MPCA Construction Stormwater Permit went into effect.
- vi. Section 9.0 - added a definition for disconnected impervious surfaces and revised the structure definition.
- vii. Although there are no text changes regarding the proposed linear project triggers and standards, and the stream and wetland buffer triggers and standards that are currently under review, there are comments about this added to Sections 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 5.0, 6.1.2, 7.0, and the App B flysheet to note that they are under discussion.

4. SET NEXT MEETING & ADJOURN