

# Ann Arbor Stormwater Level of Service and Rate Analysis Advisory Group Meeting Summary Friday, October 21, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.



## 1. Participants (Attachment #1)

## 2. Welcome and Introductions – Jennifer Lawson

- a. Jennifer welcomed the group and then led the group on a demo in the Storm Crew Yard.

## 3. Stormwater Survey Results

- a. Further discussion regarding the 12 question survey.
  - i. Ordinance/Permit/Planning/Regulatory Improvements
    - a. Preserve tax base in Glendale.
    - b. New developments don't have as much flow.
    - c. Develop to 500-year storm. Climate change causing bigger storms.
    - d. Provide education on stormwater ordinances.
    - e. Provide education on rain gardens, mulch and other stormwater processes.
  - ii. Outreach & Public Engagement Improvements
    - a. Best way to communicate about stormwater is to develop strategic approach.  
Ideas included:
      - In bills (6 votes)
        - i. Add parcel tendency and potential savings in SW credits.
      - Water Matters
      - Occasional articles in Mlive.com
      - Write press releases
      - Videos
        - i. Include images of stormwater impact across the region
        - ii. Run videos on cable that are less than three minutes
      - Engage Huron River Watershed
      - Issue Waste Watchers by mail because email gets lost. Include coupons in the issues to help measure readership.
      - Use Waste Watchers to counteract negative messaging about UoM/City collaboration.
      - Get Water Matters in the hands of renters. They may not see them if the bill goes to owner.
      - Signage to educate public. Eagle Scouts looking for projects.
      - Benefits achieved should be told to get \$.
      - Adopt a Drain program.
      - Initiate a parallel stormwater & recycling education campaign.
      - Ask Block Captains to put up drain signage.
      - Education about where stormwater goes—most people think it goes to WWTP not the river.
      - Create an incentive program.
  - iii. Other Improvements
    - Use See/Click/Fix app to report issues in the water/sewer/storm systems.

#### 4. Updates to Financial Forecasting Model

##### a. OHM Level of Service Evaluation

##### i. City Assets:

- a. Diving into sewers now. O&M expense analysis shows that they are just keeping them structurally sound. Televising is about 10% complete.
- b. OHM likes the mid-level service option.
  - Q: Are you recommending \$1M more than is currently in the budget? A: Yes. For now it is hypothetical, will look at a more granular level in the end.
  - Q: Is expansion accounted for? A: It's static, most of Ann Arbor is built out.
  - Q: Does model account for climate change and infrastructure changes? A: No, not looking at adding infrastructure.
  - Comment: As City reduces run-off through green streets and porous pavement we will have different stormwater environment.
- c. City is currently doing Asset Management Plan.
- d. Assumptions:
  - Ann Arbor system analogous to Midwest systems.
  - Most assets are in good condition and have a 100-year life.
  - Use a "new" to "failing" scale.
  - Condition based replacement vs. age based.

##### ii. County Assets (taken care of by City)

- a. Model is looking a current infrastructure.
- b. City pays for County service in the City. U of M not directly assessed, but they pay stormwater rate.
- c. Q: How is culvert defined? A: Crossing under road between two channels.

#### 5. Financial Forecasting Model – Andy Burnham

- a. There are many questions regarding inputs and impacts. Would like the Advisory Group to prioritize to shape the plan. Andy and Kyle will send out a work book for review.
  - i. Q: Are capital projects in the model? A: Yes.
  - ii. Q: How hard is it to implement more tiers in the model? A: Not that difficult, though if it gets too confusing people won't comprehend.

#### 6. Action Items

- a. Advisory Group asked to review a work book before the next meeting.
- b. An additional Advisory Group Meeting will be added. The group was asked to add Jan. 6, 2017 to their calendars.
- c. Budget numbers will go to Finance Dept. prior to Council approval in May.

#### 7. Next Meeting

- a. December 2 from 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Wheeler Service Center – 4251 Stone School Rd., Ann Arbor 48108.
- b. Topics/Agenda will include:
  - i. Cityworks and how to get things done type field demo (City staff)
  - ii. Tree LOS analysis and findings/options (OHM)
  - iii. Determine/evaluate specific rate/LOS options in financial model (Burton/Hawksley)
  - iv. Talk in more detail about credits (Burton/Hawksley); will review updated calculations for existing credits and features for non-res tree canopy and residential treebate program.

**ATTACHMENT #1 – Participant List**