

Final Summary
February 4, 2009
RRBC TAC Workshop Subcommittee

Present: Dan Frisbee, Kristel Riddervold, Leslie Middleton, Alyson Sappington, Dan Ratzlaff, Darren Coffey, Missy Creasy, Dave Hirschman, Greg Harper, Louise Finger, Tamara Ambler, John Murphy, Rochelle Garwood

This was the first meeting of the "Workshop Subcommittee" of the TAC, which had been charged with developing plans for a variety of workshops potentially be sponsored by the RRBC. A summary of the discussion about each one and "next steps" is provided below.

Workshop to provide education on new proposed stormwater regulations. During the January 12, 2009 TAC meeting, there was discussion about hosting workshop(s) for developers and builders that could serve to educate about the proposed, revised stormwater regulations that will be open to public comment as soon as April 2009. This topic was referred to the Workshop Subcommittee, and today we engaged in hearty discussion of how best (or even, if) to implement such workshops.

Dave Hirschman reported on the charettes that DCR is hosting (with support from CWP) to educate primarily engineers on the nuts and bolts of the proposed regulations (with four more to be held still to be in Virginia: Lynchburg, Winchester, James City County, Hampton Roads area). Dave suggested that we be clear about the purpose and audience of workshops if we do host them in our localities. We also talked about how best to involve DCR with our initiative, and how we could frame our RRBC workshops to educate and inform as well as provide a forum for feedback from developers. Several reported on the resistance (and outrage) expressed to elected officials and staff regarding the proposed regulations.

Action: A new TAC Subcommittee was formed to plan workshops within the Rivanna watershed in the next three months. This team is: Greg Harper, Dave Hirschman, Kristel Riddervold, Missy Creasy, Darren Coffey, and Dan Ratzlaff. This new team will be called something like: the (local) Stormwater Regulation Informational Roundtable (committee) [SRIR?]. We will meet on February 12 in the mid-afternoon (Leslie will coordinate time/place). The proposed sequence of events is:

1. Plan a series of workshops (Charlottesville/Albemarle area, Greene County, and one in Fluvanna County) that are "DRC-sanctioned" and include a representative from DCR to answer questions as needed.
2. Create a one-page sheet FAQs about the new stormwater regulations and send to local developers with an invitation to come to a "roundtable discussion" with refreshments. Participants from any locality can come to any of the roundtables.
3. Host the roundtables with the help local staff TAC members. Use the roundtables to provide information and to gather participant feedback that will be forwarded to DCR.

Meanwhile, Alyson Sappington will contact DCR to discuss DCR participation in these proposed "roundtables." After the February 12 meeting, Leslie will present the plans and written documents to the RRBC Executive Committee for review and approval (since the RRBC does not meet again until April 23).

Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Full Grant Proposal. The full proposal is due February 20 (final draft on February 19) and will have to accommodate a 20% reduction in scope as well as a \$100k reduction in TNC staff support that was proposed as match in the pre-proposal. Dave Hirschman reported that CWP has also been asked to submit a full proposal for a project that includes technical assistance to localities and regions through a train-the-trainer and peer-to-peer process. CWP's invitation to full proposal was also reduced significantly, and they are in the process of refining their proposal. We agreed that our NFWF proposal should reference the CWP proposed work to show how the two projects complement each other rather than overlap. CWP may choose to designate the Rivanna watershed as a target area for work under their grant.

Leslie requested assistance from TAC members from the localities, specifically with fleshing out the details of proposal including costs and match. We agreed that the workshop component of the proposal (#4) would be happening 2-3 years down the line – and it would be clearer at that time how to focus workshops or roundtables.

Leslie will be going before the elected officials in each locality over the next two weeks to give a summary of recent RRBC activities (including our plans for "stormwater roundtables") and the NFWF funding opportunity that, if successful, will be bringing additional funds for already approved projects. These presentations will be brief and are scheduled: Greene on Feb 10, Albemarle on February 11, Charlottesville on February 16, and Fluvanna on February 18.

Rainwater Harvesting Workshop. Alyson Sappington gave a review of the work of the Rainwater Harvesting Subcommittee of the TAC, including work to get together relevant agency representatives to iron out the gaps/contradictions in regulations and in agency authority on rainwater harvesting. The subcommittee is working on facilitating this meeting. Missy talked about a local Charlottesville project on West Main Street that is bumping up against these very issues in the site plan review process. In addition, Alyson reported that DCR has endorsed the proposal that the RRBC host a follow-on meeting to the October 2008 Rainwater Harvesting workshop hosted by the Potomac Conservancy.

Action: We agreed that the Workshop Subcommittee of the TAC no longer served a purpose – and that Stormwater Regulation Information Roundtable will carry forward in planning these roundtables and that the Rainwater Harvesting Subcommittee will continue its work. If a Rainwater Harvesting Workshop is to be hosted by the RRBC, we will form a team to help with that specific event.

Reminder: next RRBC full TAC meeting is on Tuesday, March 17, from 9-12 at TNC.