

## Surface and Stormwater Management Program Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes from August 21, 2008

### Attendees

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Jeff Adams	WA Sea Grant	Mark Grimm	District 2 (S. Kitsap)
Jayna Ericson	Kitsap County SSWM	Melva Hill	City of Bainbridge Island
Ryan Ericson	District 1 (N. Kitsap)	Greg Johnson	District 3 (C. Kitsap)
Keith Folkerts	Kitsap County DCD	Larry Matel	City of Bremerton
Lou Foritano	District 1 (N. Kitsap)	Ron Rice	District 2 (S. Kitsap)
Anya Funk	City of Poulsbo	Dave Tucker	Kitsap County PW

### Discussion of Agenda Items

***Draft Kitsap County Stormwater Management Policy*** – After introductions, the meeting commenced with comments and questions about the proposed Kitsap County Stormwater Management Policy. Jayna explained that the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) asked Dave Tucker to draft a stormwater management policy tailored to address local water resource needs. The BOCC was concerned that achieving compliance with the NPDES Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit and implementing the 2005 Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (2005 Ecology Manual) may not adequately protect water resources such as groundwater, which supplies most of the drinking water in Kitsap County.

Initial comments on the policy included observations of redundancy, a lack of specific actions, and concerns about the group's overall familiarity with current and proposed requirements (i.e., 2005 Ecology Manual). This led to a discussion of how Kitsap County is approaching the requirement of either adopting the 2005 Ecology Manual or writing an equivalent document to be approved by Ecology. Although this is required by August 2009, Larry suggested that Ecology recognizes the need to extend the deadline due to the time intensive review process for an equivalent manual. Larry also mentioned that the City of Bremerton has been watching to see what the County will do, hoping to maintain some level of consistency across jurisdictional boundaries for the sake of the development community. Bremerton staff feels that the resources to write an equivalent are horrendous, yet some issues deserve local attention. Melva agreed, citing a lack of staffing as a primary factor in Bainbridge Island's decision to adopt the 2005 Ecology Manual (with some revisions) in 2005. She added that a lot of expertise went into developing the manual, which includes BMPs for flow control and water quality. Engineers have discretion to decide which BMP options to use.

Melva suggested that all sites can accommodate at least one LID practice. Keith added that the County could provide preferred practices from a list of LID options. Melva encourages the construction of wetlands for stormwater management. In Bremerton, Larry is earmarking the desired approach, such as promoting pervious concrete as the first choice unless the developer can prove that it is not feasible (i.e., economically).

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Ron asked whether an approach could be created to address most circumstances. For example, a flow chart could be developed for different site conditions to direct recommended practices. Larry mentioned that Bremerton's development engineering staff thinks a "cookbook" approach would help address similar situations and make the requirements more development industry-friendly. The County has a soil map GIS layer, yet it is likely too broad for site scale usage.

Dave encouraged the group to consider the benefits of performance standards rather than prescriptive practices. Being less restrictive in the method but not in the end result allows for more flexibility while still maintaining desired water quality and flow regime. If regulations say you always have to use a tool, then you're stuck. But if you have a performance outcome, then you can adapt when something better comes along. He also clarified that the 2005 Ecology Manual is a toolbox, not a policy.

However, although the tools are in the box, there are no instructions. Kitsap County Home Builders Association is in the process of developing the "instruction manual" for the toolbox. It was agreed that the more simplified the process, the better. Bremerton has made a considerable investment in staff training related to LID and Larry reported that it is taking root. Performance standards along with education on the toolbox, such as countywide staff training and workshops for developers, was seen as a favorable approach.

Other comments on the draft policy included the following:

Lou said that the problem statements were on target, and we will get it right if we can effectively address those problems. Yet he feels that key objectives need to be called out more clearly with options to achieve them.

Ryan emphasized the need to keep the policies grounded in science rather than based on assumptions that aren't supported by data.

Mark observed that our concern goes beyond surface water, and we need to look at policies and goals in the Comprehensive Plan related to groundwater. He asked whether the policy would require an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. Dave said that any amendments can only be done once a year and will likely happen in 2009 if necessary. The policy itself won't likely be finalized until the end of the year, as Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda items will need to be incorporated.

Greg was curious about the policy related to groundwater recharge that states, "Maintain the average annual volume of water that infiltrates on a site at or above predevelopment levels." He wondered whether there was an engineering process used to calculate infiltration. Dave said it can be estimated, but the current standard is based on flood control – i.e., 2-year storm, 10-year storm, etc, and that the peak of the flow has to be 50% of pre development.

This led to a discussion of the hydrologic cycle, surface flow, interflow, groundwater, and wells. There was consensus about the benefits of increased

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coordination with the Kitsap Public Utilities District (KPUD), who is the proprietor of drinking water and has primary responsibility for monitoring groundwater. Increased data sharing would be of great benefit.

Keith suggested an ordinance regulating the type of vegetation that could be planted during development.

Melva felt that the Comprehensive Plan contained valuable goals and policies, and that we just need to match up policies with items. Perhaps an executive summary of the comp plan with suggested amendments/additions would work.

A problem was identified related to code language that prohibits dual use of stormwater facilities.

***LID Next Steps*** – The group agreed that the next step is to write a statement of recommendation to the BOCC to embrace and proactively implement LID in public and private projects; that is, to encourage the use of LID and clean up the Code to allow for it.

Cons of pervious asphalt were the perception that it plugs up, that fluids from car accidents will drain through and cause pollution, and cost.

***Next Meeting: October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 4:00 PM at the Kitsap County Public Works Annex***