



MEETING SUMMARY

PROJECT: Roger Williams Park Ponds Water Quality Management

RE: December 8th, 2011 Steering Committee Meeting – Selection of Top Rated Stormwater BMPs

DATE: December 16, 2011

TIME: 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

LOCATION: Roger Williams Park Casino, Providence, RI

PRESENT: Rich Claytor (Horsley Witten-HW)
Michelle West (HW)
Tom Ardito (Narragansett Bay Estuary Program – NBEP)
Lesley Lambert (NBEP)
Laura Ernst (Land & Coastal)
Robert McMahon (Providence Parks Department – PPD)
Don Cobb (EPA)
Charlie Strobel (Environmental Protection Agency-EPA)
Wenley Ferguson (Save the Bay)
Amelia Rose (EJLRI)
Jim Bender (USDA-WS)
Timothy Cozine (USDA-WS)
Elizabeth Scott (Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management-DEM)
Scott Ribas (DEM)
Karen Marcotte (Save the Lakes)
Kate Venturini (University of Rhode Island-URI)
Jim Johnson (R.I. Bass Federation/Pawtuxet River Authority)

A meeting was held at the Roger Williams Park Casino on Thursday, December 8th to discuss the following topics related to the Roger Williams Park Ponds Water Quality Management Project:

- 1) Update on Horsley Witten Group (HW) work: WQ loading model, WQ Mgmt. Plan, and priority sites;
- 2) Discussion of structural control practice priorities: closure on prioritization and top projects;
- 3) Update on website, FTP site, etc;
- 4) Outreach plan & committee; and
- 5) January public meeting: support group and date.

1) Tom Ardito presented a brief overview of the goals for the meeting, with a particular emphasis on the desire to select a set of priority structural control practice sites in order to move

forward with survey, soil test pitting, and resource area delineation before the on-set of winter conditions. Tom also indicated that we would like to come up with a list of ten priorities so there was some flexibility to work with the City's requirements for match and funding options.

2) HW staff presented a slideshow summarizing the results of a memorandum dated 12-8-11, entitled "Roger Williams Park Water Quality Management Plan: Revised BMP Ranking." The memorandum includes a summary assessment of cumulative pollutant loads delivered to both the and the Lower Watershed (direct drainage to the Roger Williams Park Ponds). The memorandum also includes a description of each of the top ten ranked structural stormwater control practices as defined by the ranking system, and supporting spreadsheets on the loading and ranking analyses . The following sites ranked in the top 10 (in this order);

1. RWP – 17/18;
2. RWP – 6;
3. RWP – 34;
4. RWP – 24;
5. RWP – 3B;
6. RWP – 28;
7. RWP – 12;
8. RWP – 14;
9. RWP – 9C/9D; and
10. RWP – 37A.

Significant discussion occurred amongst the Steering Committee members, with the following among the most notable comments:

- Tim Cozine commented on the geese management aspects of the priority projects and noted that geese will simply move location; the team noted that the planting plans are proposed to discourage geese and the public feeding of geese in the location of the facilities and that overall geese management was a larger topic and was being covered by both the population control program as well as the public education initiatives;
- DEM staff commented on the relationship of priority outfalls identified in the TMDL and the selection of the top rated priority sites presented in the HW ranking. It was determined that the following priority outfalls as identified in the TMDL match sites assessed as part of HWs field evaluation:

<u>TMDL priority Outfall Designation</u>	<u>HW Top Ten Site Designation</u>
RWP-V	RWP – 17/18
RWP – H and I	RWP – 28
RWP – A	RWP – 37A
RWP – D	RWP – 34

TMDL priority outfall RWP – U corresponds to HW site RWP – 19 but is not within the top 10 rated sites. TMDL priority outfall RWP- Q drains the Upper Watershed and is being evaluated for in-pond management options as well as proposed structural controls within the Upper Watershed and also contains HW Site 7A. TMDL priority outfall RWP – S is not an outfall, but a connecting pipe between Roosevelt Lake and Willow Lake.

- DEM staff also referred to a memorandum submitted to Bob McMahon and Tom Ardito dated December 5 which emphasized that their priority for site selection was based on reduction in pollutant load, specifically related to phosphorus and bacteria.
- Wenley Ferguson reiterated DEM's comment that pollutant load reduction should be a priority for site selection.
- Kate Venturini commented that public education was an equally important parameter and she would like to see those sites that have a high public education potential in the mix for implementation.

3) Lesley Lambert discussed the status of the Website, the FTP site and a new Facebook page. Several project documents and background references have been posted to the website. The FTP is being hosted by NBEP for file transfers and the Facebook page has been set up and can be accessed from the website. Links are listed below.

Website: <http://nbep.org/rwppondsrestoration.html>

FTP site: <http://nbep.org/mwftp-pro-533/> The password is "user1" Once you enter the password click, on "nbep.org - user" under "My Sites."

4) Lesley Lambert passed out a Draft "Outreach Plan for Roger Williams Park Ponds Restoration" for review and comment by the project Steering Committee.

5) The date for the next public meeting was tentatively scheduled for January 31, 2012. Another Steering Committee meeting was scheduled for January 18, 2012. HW will submit the draft water quality management plan the week prior to the next Steering Committee meeting.

ACTION ITEMS/NEXT STEPS

- HW to post December 8th memorandum, map and PowerPoint slideshow to FTP site;
- HW to provide Laura Ernst additional information on cost breakdown for structural controls;
- HW to await word from Bob McMahon on notice to proceed for survey, test pitting and resource delineation of priority sites;
- HW to submit Draft Roger Williams Park Ponds Water Quality Management Plan on or about January 11, 2012.
- Next Steering Committee Meeting: January 18, 2012 at 10 AM at the RWP Casino.
- 2nd Public Meeting: January 31, 2012 at 7 PM, location TBA.

The above summary constitutes the general understanding by Horsley Witten Group, Inc. of the meeting content. Please advise this office of any errors or omissions.