

**Mystic River Watershed Steering Committee  
Municipal Subcommittee  
Meeting Notes  
Thursday, April 29, 2010, 11:30 am  
Woburn Senior Center  
Woburn, MA**

**Begin Meeting, Review Agenda, Introduction**

George Zambouras (Reading) selected to chair the next Municipal Subcommittee meeting in Reading, MA on **July 29, 2010**.

Andy DeSantis (Chelsea) selected to continue to co-chair the Municipal Subcommittee as part of the Steering Committee.

**Steering Committee Priorities – Water Quality and Open Space**

Steering Committee has selected water quality and open space as priorities and will be working between meeting to lay out action plans and priorities.

Brief discussion of MAPC's Lower Mystic Initiative.

**Round robin update on current active projects from the communities**

There are common municipal MS4 interests – ordinances, discharge utility, public awareness/outreach programs. Communities may be able to share resources, etc. MAPC will look into how they can help and there will be further discussion in July.

Woburn – FWS wetlands to help WQ/open space settlement negotiations - \$ not yet there. Settlement negotiations are not yet complete.

Belmont – Wellington Brook WQ project \$1.8M  
Sewer Relining  
\$4.7M to help mitigate sewer backup  
2 sewer pump station upgrades  
I/I removal w/MWRA funds

Reading - Ipswich River trails – volunteers  
Will present to the selectmen - Try to expand SW enterprise program.  
\$40/residence now. Will use new MS4 for justification.

Burlington – updating open space & conservation plan

Boston – ongoing BWSC, MWRA, DCR, Muddy River flood control project – sponsored AGG. Acquiring parcels for conservation

- Chelsea – Under consent order.  
 \$4M Sewer separation finishing up IDDE Program. Helped with March flooding.  
 Ideas for development structural improvements 4 tree pits – MET CRWA grant - \$11K each  
 Looking for LID help. Class D&C soils – infiltration is not great. Need help.  
 Reduction of CSO flows. They are at the bottom of the system in Chelsea.
- Wilmington – relining interceptor, coating man holes. DPW is doing stormwater projects  
 Con com – require SW protection on new development
- Arlington – town-wide I.I. reduction on sewer  
 12 yr program inspect/clean
- Acquisition of wetlands – near Mill Br/Alewife Brook.
- SW Bylaw requiring reconstruction etc – mitigate SW
- Medford - River's Edge created open space  
 Thinking about realigning of ring road by moving it back to create open space and canoe launch  
 -Study for II problem area
- Watertown – SW advisory committee – finalizing regulations for IDDE
- Malden – I/I work/SW work  
 Reclamation of Malden River – Medford & Everett. Tri-city redevelopment effort – rivers edge
- Somerville – MET grant to create community access to water and Blessing of the Bay boat reuse  
 Assembly Square development
  - increase path along river
  - open streets project
  - job notice for green infrastructure person
- Lexington – Updated open space plan, stream surveys  
 Wet sampling program/outreach mailings/SW stenciling?  
 SW Bylaw  
 RFP for watershed-wide drainage studies
- Winchester – Approval for Aberjona widening – flood control  
 Improvements afterwards downstream
- Cambridge – Sewer separation in Alewife

outfalls in N. Cambridge  
Dredging in Blair Pond  
DCR – bike path Belmont -> Cambridge

DCR projects moving to MassDOT  
- communication issues

MAPC's role is to provide feedback to other groups in your community and elected officials. We want people to know there is an Initiative and have folks see the value of outreach of the subcommittee and larger initiative.

### **Quality Presentations**

#### EPA

- Ammonia test kits and surfactant kits ok for MS4 testing requirements
- pharmaceutical tests are helpful in identifying locations where source identification would be helpful.
- RARE sampling will wrap up in August.

#### DEP

- Sampling program has been reduced due to significant staff cuts.
- BWSC has drafted protocols for using surfactant and ammonia kits

#### MyRWA

- expanding monitoring and find it and fix it program
- The watershed suffers from WQ & SW issues
- MyRWA shares what they find and their data to help with CSO and SSO work. The goal is to have transparency from regulatory groups.
- Working with MAPC on an environmental atlas that will provide environmental data on interactive web maps.
- FEMA/NEMA have hazard prevention funds that could be used to do I&I work. Will pass long information as it's available.

### **Ideas for working together:**

- If communities could do things in consortium, such as share labs, purchase equipment/kits to meet MS4 requirements, etc. there would be efficiencies.
- Burlington has labs and could take bacteria work in from other communities.
- Woburns would like to get its lab certified for rapid testing.
- Communities could be sharing information on ordinances and utilities.
- Woburn is looking into getting qualified to do entero-alert / col-alert and will share information on that.
- Storm water enterprises could be a topic for the next meeting.

- Communities could be sharing existing outreach and education materials. It would be great to create a road show with players to go community to community and make it easier for towns to meet MS4 requirements.
- There are concerns about DEP and EPA coordinating data points, conflicts in results and times of testing. Where do you test and when? EPA staff can be brought in to answer these questions regarding the revised permit requirements.
- EPA is putting together an appendix on costs and effectiveness of various tests. Towns can share expensive equipment. MS4 has fairly basic list of parameters and only bacteria had to be done in the lab.
- This group should meet quarterly on the last Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be July 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 in Reading.

**Mystic River Watershed Municipal Subcommittee Sign-in Sheet  
April 29, 2010**

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