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**STORMWATER SYSTEM SOURCES  
WORKGROUP MEETING  
Meeting Notes  
May 27, 2009**

- **Individuals Present**

Philip Moore (Montgomery County); Jim Robertson (CCFCC); Steve Hupp (HCPHES-EPH); Nicole Hausler (PHA); Michelle Ruckstuhl (TCEQ by phone); Mary Purzer (AECOM); Tom Ivy (Texas Stream Team)

- **H-GAC Staff Present**

Erin Livingston, Rachel Powers

- **BIG Reporter**

Tom Ivy

- **Discussion (75 minutes)**

***Review priorities identified by workgroup***

On the back of the agenda were the priority sources and implementation activities (IAs). Rachel briefly reviewed these for the group.

***Review priorities identified by BIG***

Rachel then reviewed the priority sources and IAs selected at the March BIG meeting. She explained that H-GAC staff, with the help of outside consultants, would begin quantitative analyses starting at the top of the list and working down as necessary.

***Identify discrepancies***

Some individuals expressed the concern that the priority sources and the priority IAs did not match up. Additionally, there was concern that some stormwater IAs identified as priorities at the BIG meeting were not identified as priorities in the workgroup meeting.

The BIG identified four stormwater IAs as priorities in March. The workgroup discussed each of them as follows.

***Modify outfalls to 'treat' water before it enters channels***

- This is a left-field idea.
- A lot of grant money would be needed to implement this activity.



- Water should be treated at the source and not in the stormwater system.
- Expand this IA to say a higher priority would be incorporating treatment into new facilities over retrofitting old facilities, but a cost-benefit analysis will have to be done. Outfall retrofits could be broadly applicable when compared to the possible IA of re-routing the stream for treatment.

*Incorporate bacteria reduction requirements as a secondary priority of flood control projects and any other new or retrofitted infrastructure projects*

- This is consistent with what this group developed.
- This is an appropriate activity. It is an umbrella idea that many activities would fall under.

*Consider in-stream structural modifications that do not increase flood risk*

- Bacteria reduction results from Mason Park is likely the source of support for this IA.
- This IA is great for where it would work, but it is not realistic for all locations. If it's just one IA in a toolbox of IAs then that would be okay.
  - That is the idea.
- This IA may have received votes because people were thinking of the situation in LA where everything else was attempted but the bacteria level did not lower sufficiently and so they ended up drawing out the in-stream water to treatment facilities.

*Decrease impervious cover*

- Anything that decreases runoff would likely decrease bacteria. Slowing down runoff would likely allow bacteria to drop out.
- Rachel reported that studies have been done indicating that increased tree cover decreases bacteria. But doesn't more trees mean more birds? Trees decrease runoff.
- Mickey Merritt did a study on this subject. H-GAC staff will locate the study and send it to the workgroup participants.

*General discussion*

- Maybe better to focus on future development rather than retrofitting old facilities.
- Is there research that shows stormwater has a lot of bacteria? Yes, there is research that shows stormwater picks up bacteria and conveys it to the waterways.
- Last week it was determined that all MS4s in TMDL areas will have to have a plan before they can renew their stormwater permit. Phase IIs in this region should be able to adopt this I-Plan as their plan.
- Researching to identify the biggest bacteria sources from stormwater is important. It would tell us the biggest bang for the buck.

*Review maps*

Rachel briefly reviewed the MS4 Areas map. It is currently just a draft and some corrections need to be made.



*Discuss EPA Region 6 MS4 Operators Conference*

Rachel will be doing a presentation on how the BIG has been progressing. Many others involved in the I-Plan development process will also be presenting at the conference.

- **Wrap-up (10 minutes)**

H-GAC will be looking for relevant research and when we have more information this workgroup will meet again. Maybe in August.

There has been a proposal that the Land Development workgroup should meet in conjunction with the Stormwater workgroup. No one was opposed to this proposal.

- **Adjourn**

