



NOTES

Westfield Estates Watershed Protection Plan Stakeholders Advisory Group (SAG)

November 14, 2008

9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

H-GAC 5th Floor Conference Room

Meeting called by Kathleen Ramsey

Attendees: Melissa Hamous, Patrick Horton, Alisa Max, Nick Russo, Kathleen Ramsey, Olga Rodriguez

Introduction Brief overview of meeting topics and action items. SAG discussed organization and agreed

Implementation & Funding **Status of Contract Negotiations**

SAG discussed the status of the TCEQ/EPA Grant. SAG members were aware that H-GAC received a 319(h) grant rather than the 106 grant money requested in the original application and that a watershed protection plan (WPP) is required to receive funding under this grant mechanism.

A brief history of the granting process was reviewed (See attachment 1 for further details). TCEQ indicated a simple reworking of the Westfield Estates Phase I report was needed and that TCEQ would provide funds to do so. This was approximately \$8,000 in FY 08 604 funds and \$6,000 in FY 09 in salary funds. H-GAC received an additional \$12,000 in FY08 604 funds for modeling load duration curves for Halls Bayou. Under this scenario, H-GAC would prepare a WPP with the community of Westfield Estates with its connection to Halls Bayou as the focus.

TCEQ received the first four sections of the WPP the beginning of October.

On November 5, 2008, TCEQ requested that the original grant proposal be modified. The new requirement is as follows: "We (TCEQ) need the plan to be for the entire subwatershed that Westfield Estates is a part of in order for it to meet EPA's nine elements. That is, we would like you to include the drainage basin that contributes water flows to the Westfield neighborhood that ultimately enter Halls Bayou. We would like to see detailed descriptions and maps characterizing the contributions of pollutant loadings from the greater watershed prior/compared to loadings from Westfield Estates. With the proof that the major contributor of bacteria in the watershed is the Westfield Estates, you can provide the basis for focusing on the Westfield Estates neighborhood."

TCEQ has agreed that this plan need not cover the entire Halls Bayou watershed. A smaller geographic area is proposed. Named the Westfield Estates Watershed, the new study area covers an area of approximately 1.5 square miles from Hardy Tool Road Feeder on the west, Hopper Rd on the north, Halls Bayou on the east, and Trenton on

the south. This area is approximately twice the size of the original parcel.

SAG discussed TCEQ's initiative to expand the project beyond the scope of the original grant application. For example, all maps will have to be re-done with three different levels of detail required. Water Quality Sampling will need to be expanded to the larger watershed. An expanded area will require more homes to be surveyed, design plans completed and persons qualified. A new bacteria load model will need to be developed. The WPP itself, which was 85% complete, would have to be rewritten.

The many new and expanded scope of requirements for TCEQ for the project raised doubts as to whether or not SAG can complete the required WPP with the funds available. SAG members advised that there were no additional funds available to survey or repair additional homes beyond the 700 in the original proposal.

TCEQ provided the option to roll the additional costs into the 319(h) grant and extend the timeline.

After a thorough review of the project timeline and the timing and availability of resources, SAG determined

- There were no funds available in the original grant proposal to allocate to the WPP.
- If implementation activities cannot start in early calendar year 2009, matching funds from our local partners may be used for other projects or will not be eligible for match.
- TCEQ needs to complete its reviews and approval process (WPP, Quality Assurance Project Plan or QAPP, Scope of Work or SOW) and be in the final stages of contract negotiations by January 15, 2008, it is doubtful that the project can be completed within the timeframe remaining for the grant period.

SAG requested H-GAC communicate this information to TCEQ.

Status of Documents needed for Contracting and Implementation

SAG discussed the WPP document. Copies of various documents were supplied previously to the Group. Discussion included the WPP scope and sequence, sections 1 -5 of the plan, the stakeholder summary, and watershed bacteria load model. Modifications will need to be made in the documents to accommodate the shift to the Westfield Estates watershed concept for the WPP. These documents were approved with the caveat for the need to make language changes to accommodate the new TCEQ requirements for "Westfield Estates watershed."

H-GAC indicated that Sections 6 – 9 were in draft form and most would be available for review prior to the next meeting at which time their approval would be requested. Additionally, the Scope of Work for the contract was in draft form and undergoing internal review. Rather than prepare a completely new QAPP, the Phase I QAPP will be amended. The WPP analysis proposed in this implementation phase is essentially a duplication of the Phase I study with two additional DNA analysis methods for bacteria source identification. Some verbiage in the QAPP will also have to be changed to conform with EPA NPS language. Dr. Brinkmeyer will provide these sections from her currently Non-point source (NPS) approved QAPP.

Approved Action Items	Westfield Estates WWP Summary of Scope and Sequence of Plan - Approved Westfield Estates Bacteria Load Model – Approved Westfield Estates WPP – Sections 1 – 5 – Approved Westfield Estates WPP Stakeholders Summary - Approved
------------------------------	--

Future Meetings & Plans	SAG agreed to meet the second week of December at HCPID to discuss status of grant and to approve remaining sections of the watershed protection plan, scope of work and amendments to the QAPP. Hamous and Ramsey will coordinate time and place of the meeting.
------------------------------------	---

Sections 1-4 of the Westfield Estates WPP may be found on the H-GAC Website at http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/watershed_protection/westfield_estates.aspx