

Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Technical Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: May 2, 2022
To: Technical Coordinating Committee
From: Benjamin H. Pingree, PLACE Director
Subject: Review of the Capital Cascades Trail, Segment 4 Stormwater Management System Design and Innovative Stormwater Technologies White Paper

Committee Members present:

Ken Morris	Ben Pingree
Wayne Tedder	Brent Pell
Artie White	Bill Adams
Autumn Calder	Chris Muehlemann
Greg Slay	
Jodie Cahoon	

**substitute*

I. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no agenda modifications.

II. CONSENT

The TCC is a non-voting committee serving to provide professional advice and technical expertise on Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency projects.

ACTION TAKEN: There were no objections to the presented Consent items or staff recommendations or modifications to the meeting minutes presented.

III. PRESENTATIONS

1. **Capital Cascades Trail, Segment 4 Stormwater Management System Design and Innovative Stormwater Technologies White Paper**

Blueprint Director, Autumn Calder introduced the item and project with an overview of the project area and introduced the Blueprint project manager and the consultant team. Director Calder indicated that the white paper is in draft form and that this project is still in its early stages with ample time to weigh in at a future date.

Jason Icerman representing Jones-Edmunds began the presentation of the White Paper project to the committee with an outline and goals for the presentation. Jason stressed that the white paper is written at a 'high-level' and that it does not conclude with a formal recommendation. Jason indicated that there are three categories of

improvements that the paper discussed, traditional design, low impact design, and innovative technology design.

Jason indicated there are two areas of discussion, flood mitigation and water quality (pollutant loading, sediments, and trash). He then discussed the overall Capital Cascade Trail system that includes community features and stormwater facilities. The presentation mentioned technologies and innovative facilities such as constructed wetlands, erosion control, sediment traps, and trash traps. The project team stressed that stormwater design is multi-disciplinary and highly complex.

The presentation focused in on 'innovative treatment' technologies. These included engineered media (BAM), chemical treatment, flooding orifices, active management (pumps & gates), flooding wetlands, and real time adaptive controls. The team looked at the data to best characterize the watershed that include urbanized areas that were developed prior to current stormwater management practices. The goal is to apply available treatment alternatives that are proven and effective that will approve downstream waterbodies (Munson Slough). Jason stressed that implementing a flood control options upstream on this project is very challenging. Flows through this system can get up to 4,000 cubic feet per second (CFS). With normal flow conditions, the water quality is very good, or, as close to excellent as you can get in an urban environment.

City of Tallahassee Stormwater Manager, Jodie Cahoon clarified to the committee that the watershed south of Orange Avenue is significantly larger than north of Orange Avenue and the increase in area coupled with the low topography and backwater makes trying to reduce flooding south of Orange Ave. a significant challenge.

Assistant City Manager, Wayne Tedder, stated that before the map gets in front of the public, he wants the information to be reflective of the multitude of improvements that the City and Blueprint have been completed in the project area with regards to treatment and the resulting water quality enhancements. Director Calder and the project team agreed with ACM Tedder to clarify all the improvements on the map.

Jodie Cahoon suggested including nutrient information to show that water quality in the area, due to projects constructed over 30 years, is "about as good as it gets" for stormwater.

PLACE Director, Ben Pingree conveyed to Jason Icerman to use timelines of when the investments were made, how much was spent. and also show the improvement in water quality. Ben suggested using a few important graphics to help with the white paper and this presentation. He emphasized that the project engineer stormwater experts need to tell the story to the public in a manner they can absorb and understand.

ACM Tedder asked if Jason can arrange the list in cost order (lower cost to higher cost). Jason said that he will try to do that.

Jodie clarified for the committee that this the white paper is about water quality (nutrients, sediments, and trash) applicable design options and these do not pertain to flooding.

ACM Tedder and Director Calder discussed providing examples of existing innovative stormwater treatment systems and be prepared to discuss how the CCT4 project and those other systems are different or similar. Director Calder reminded the committee that the project team designed the Sweetwater Treatment system that the public has mentioned in previous engagements. Jones-Edmunds has been tasked with designing systems that fit in our project area, and systems like Sweetwater will be less effective due to the limited space in the CCT4 project area. The project process will yield the most effective solutions for the CCT 4 project area. The project team reiterated that only about 10 acres are available for stormwater treatment on CCT 4.

Mark Heidecker from City Stormwater stressed that the central drainage ditch water quality is significantly better than the standards established by DEP.

Jodie Cahoon brought attention to the committee that the flood mitigation goals for CCT4 that were established in 2004 are now different because information about this stormwater system was not as well understood in 2004-2005 as it is today. He stated that achieving flood reduction as part of Segment 4 is quite possibly not doable. He noted that the community in the project area may be looking for flood mitigation as part of the CCT4 project, so we need to be prepared to clearly explain why this project cannot achieve the earlier flood reduction goals. Ben agreed that the team needs to tell a compelling story.

Autumn asked if anyone had any additional questions and then concluded the meeting.

IV. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no citizens to be heard.

V. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned by consensus at 2:07 pm.

Next meeting is set for Monday, August 29, 2022.