

STORMWATER COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 15, 2015
1:15 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

The Stormwater Committee met in the SamTrans Offices, 1250 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, CA, 2nd floor auditorium. Attendance at the meeting is shown on the attached roster. In addition to the Committee members, also in attendance were Sandy Wong (C/CAG Executive Director), Matt Fabry (C/CAG Program Manager), Gary De Jesus and Ralph Braboy (City of San Mateo), Supervisor Dave Pine, Michael Barber, Hilary Papendick, and TJ Carter (San Mateo County), John Fuller and Cynthia Royer (Daly City), Michelle Daher (East Palo Alto), Hardeep Takhar and Wilfung Martono (Caltrans), and Jon Konnan (EOA, Inc. Chair Breault called the meeting to order at 1:23 p.m. without a quorum.

1. Public comment: None

2. C/CAG staff Matt Fabry provided an update on issues relevant to the Committee from the September and October C/CAG Board meetings. In September, Fabry gave a presentation on FY 2014-15 Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program accomplishments and information on the draft Municipal Regional Permit. In October, the Board approved the framework for the formation of a new C/CAG committee to facilitate the discussion on countywide approaches to water related issues, such as stormwater runoff pollution control, flood control, and sea level rise. The new committee will include seats for elected officials and city/county managers, and a seat for BAWSCA.

3. ACTION – Approval of the draft minutes from the August 20, 2015 Stormwater Committee meeting was deferred due to the lack of a quorum.

4. ACTION – C/CAG staff Fabry provided options for C/CAG to support development of a countywide Stormwater Resource Plan to enable member agencies to seek Proposition 1 stormwater grant funding. Fabry noted that Senate Bill 985 requires public agencies seeking voter-approved bond funds for stormwater and dry weather runoff capture projects to develop Stormwater Resource Plans. These Plans are intended to identify and prioritize, on a watershed basis, stormwater and dry weather runoff capture projects “in a quantitative manner, using a metrics-based and integrated evaluation and analysis of multiple benefits to maximize water supply, water quality, flood management, environmental, and other community benefits within the watershed.” Although focused on managing stormwater as a resource and benefitting water supply and drought concerns, Stormwater Resource Plans are expected to contain similar components as the Green Infrastructure Plans that will be required under the revised Municipal Regional Permit. Fabry noted that C/CAG staff believes a countywide Stormwater Resource Plan can be developed in a way to directly support subsequent development of Green Infrastructure Plans by individual agencies. A solicitation is anticipated in early 2016 for Round 1 of \$200 million of Proposition 1 funding. State Board staff anticipates making approximately \$80 million available in Round 1, including up to \$20 million for developing Stormwater Resource Plans. Agencies applying for Round 1 funds to develop Stormwater Resource Plans will have to wait until Round 2 for an opportunity to seek implementation funding. Round 2 is not likely until 2018, at the earliest. Fifty-percent non-state matching funds are required for the stormwater grant program.

Fabry noted that C/CAG staff is evaluating options to support its member agencies in being eligible to compete for the funding and discussed the four options that are detailed in the agenda package for Stormwater Committee consideration. C/CAG staff recommends Option 1, which is that C/CAG solicits consultant support now to develop a countywide Stormwater Resource Plan to enable member agencies to pursue implementation funds under Round 1 of the stormwater grant program. Fabry noted that the short timeline would be challenging and local agencies in San Mateo County would need to step up with projects to make the effort worthwhile. In response to a question from committee member Walter, Fabry noted that agencies from other Bay Area counties appear to be moving in the direction of applying for planning funds (Option 2). Committee member Oskoui noted that he favors Option 1, and that Belmont has a couple of projects almost ready to go (one is a joint project with San Mateo County). A vote was not taken due to the lack of quorum but committee members generally favored proceeding with Option 1.

5. PRESENTATION – C/CAG staff Fabry noted that Caltrans is subject to a statewide stormwater permit that includes requirements for Caltrans to reduce trash loading from its storm drainage system statewide. Caltrans is conducting on-land visual assessments (including locations within San Mateo County) and developing trash load reduction control methodologies. There are opportunities to develop cooperative agreements to address trash with local agencies for locations such as El Camino Real. Hardeep Takhar (Caltrans) provided an overview of Caltrans' Trash Load Reduction Plan for the San Francisco Bay Region. He is Caltrans' point person and has been reaching out to countywide programs and the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) Trash Committee to discuss cooperation. Takhar noted that Caltrans would like to get cooperative agreements with local agencies in place as soon as possible (e.g., by June 2016). He will send a link to Caltrans' assessment data and standard details for trash control devices to Fabry for distribution to the committee. It was noted that local agencies should review the Caltrans' assessment data and resolve any conflicts with local agency data.

6. PRESENTATION – Jon Konnan (EOA, Inc.) provided a presentation on the Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program's recent PCBs and Mercury Source Area Identification Study, which was conducted in accordance with requirements in the Municipal Regional Permit. Konnan noted that the purpose of the study was to further understand distribution of PCBs and mercury within prioritized land use areas where elevated pollutant concentrations were more likely to be found, with the overall goal of finding areas where controls would be most cost-effective. One hundred sediment samples were collected from municipal storm drain systems within nine agencies that comprise over 90% of the old industrial land use areas that drain to San Francisco Bay. The sampling design specifically targeted sample station locations within the old industrial landscape that are influenced by parcels that were classified and prioritized by a land use analysis as having relatively higher potential to be sources of PCBs. However, a strong correlation between the land use analysis and sampling results was lacking, and only five of the 100 samples exhibited concentrations in excess of the benchmark established by BASMAA as a threshold for potential further investigation. The study results suggest that identifying additional source areas and properties in San Mateo County may be becoming increasingly difficult. In addition, remaining PCBs sources may be less elevated and more diffuse and therefore more challenging to control. Committee members recommended defining what level of future source identification effort is good enough for our purposes so that a definite endpoint for this type of study is reached sooner rather than later.

7. PRESENTATION – After an introduction by San Mateo County Supervisor Pine, Hilary Papendick (San Mateo County Office of Sustainability) provided a presentation on the Countywide Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, including an update on the current status of the study and a discussion of

opportunities for local agency participation. The assessment will identify key assets at risk from multiple scenarios of sea level rise and storm events and options to mitigate. Papendick noted that there is a lot of variability in the sea level rise estimates that form a basis for the scenarios and that the study is casting a wide net in developing the scenarios. Committee members asked whether the project's Policy Advisory Committee has approved the scenarios and recommended getting this approval to avoid making the process overly iterative.

8. UPDATE – C/CAG staff Fabry provided an update on the Municipal Regional Permit reissuance. A revised Tentative Order for the permit is anticipated to be released tomorrow or early next week. An adoption hearing is scheduled for November 18 and could continue into November 19. The remaining issue of greatest concern is that PCBs load reduction requirements remain couched as Numeric Effluent Levels rather than Numeric Action Levels. Fabry is working on obtaining a resolution from the C/CAG Board that speaks to this issue in the hope that more moderate members of the Regional Water Board might be swayed by San Mateo County elected officials. Fabry handed out a draft resolution for the committee's review.

9. Regional Board Report: NONE

10. Executive Director's Report: C/CAG Executive Director Sandy Wong provided updates on several items related to transportation programs.

11. Member Reports: NONE

Chair Breault adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.