

STORMWATER COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 21, 2024
2:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

The Stormwater Committee meeting was held in a hybrid format (i.e., in person and videoconference) pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e). Committee members met in-person at the offices of the San Mateo County Transit District in the City of San Carlos. Municipal staff (not part of a legislative body of C/CAG) and members of the public could participate remotely via the Zoom platform or in-person at the location above. Attendance at the meeting is shown in the attached table. In addition to the Committee members, also in attendance were Reid Bogert (C/CAG staff), Sean Charpentier (C/CAG Executive Director), Matt Nichols (City of Half Moon Bay), Jonathan Woo (City of Half Moon Bay), Fatima Khan (City of East Palo Alto), Matthew Ruble (City of South San Francisco), Sultan Henson (County of San Mateo), Sarah Deicke (County of San Mateo), Anwar Mirza (City of East Palo Alto), Hae Won Ritchie (City of San Bruno), Jessica Lee (City of San Carlos), Nidhi Thanki (City of San Carlos), Dolan Shoblo (City of Brisbane) and Ileana Alvarado (EOA). Vice Chair Ovadia called the meeting to order at 2:50 p.m.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and a brief overview of teleconference meeting procedures.
2. Public comment on items not on the agenda – No comments were received from the public.
3. ACTION – The Committee approved the draft January 18, 2024, Stormwater Committee Meeting minutes. Motion: Member Bautista (City of Millbrae); Second: Member Lee (City of San Bruno). Vote: Motion passed unanimously.
4. INFORMATION – Announcements on stormwater related issues:
 - i. C/CAG Board updates from February 2024 – Approved a support letter for AB 1798 from Diane Papan. The bill is aimed to require Caltrans, the SWRCB, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a programmatic environmental review process to prevent toxic compounds generated from vehicle tires from entering salmon and steelhead trout-bearing waters. The bill will also require Caltrans to include a proposal to run a pilot project to demonstrate the effectiveness of GSI treatment measures and other control measures to reduce the potential impacts of these toxic compounds.
 - ii. Fiscal Year 2023-24 Draft Annual Report Forms – These Forms were developed by the Bay Area Stormwater Collaborative (BAMSC) on behalf of all MRP Permittees and were submitted to the RWB for approval of the Executive Director on March 1, 2024. The documents are currently undergoing the RWB review process.
 - iii. Upcoming Duly Authorized Representative (DAR) Approvals – Towards the end of March 2024, the C/CAG’s Stormwater Program Director will request approval via email from each Co-Permittee current DAR for the forthcoming Countywide Program and Regional Project submittals to the RWB:
 - o WY 2023 Urban Creeks Monitoring Report (due April 2, 2024)
 - a) Part A – LID Monitoring Status Report
 - b) Part B – Regional Trash Monitoring Status Report
 - c) Part C – Pesticides and Toxicity Monitoring
 - d) Part D – POC Monitoring, including Regional BAMSC Receiving Water Limitations Report/Monitoring Plan Addendum
 - o Regional Comprehensive Bioassessment Report (due April 2, 2024)
 - o Revised Old Industrial Control Measures Plan for PCBs and Mercury (due April 2, 2024)
 - o Regional Cost Reporting Framework and Guidance Manual (no due date, but planned for submittal by end of March 2024)

- iv. Regional Water Board staff review of Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Reports – RWB staff emailed comments and questions on the FY 2022-23 Annual Reports to C/CAG member agencies. An extension for responses to comments was granted to February 16. CCAG requested information, and all 21 member agencies have submitted responses to the RWB.
- v. PCBs Old Industrial Landuse Control Measures Plan (OICMP) – RWB staff requested revisions to the initial OICMP submitted to the RWB in March 2023. The revised plan was finalized including a memorandum with the key elements of the revised plan. The OI Work Group met on March 1, 2024, to discuss these changes, and comments on the revised plan were due March 20, 2024. The revisions reflect, in general, the approach required to achieve both the PCBs load reduction targets and the associated resources required to support the enhanced program. The revised plan must be submitted to the RWB Executive Director for approval by April 2, 2024.
- vi. Cost Reporting Updates – BAMSC has completed required minor changes to the Bay Area Framework and Guidance Manual in response to RWB comments. The Countywide Program plans to conduct training this Spring and begin preparation for tracking costs in FY 2024-25. The first cost reporting submittal to the RWB is due September 2025. Additionally, the revised draft State Policy is now expected to be released in late April/early May, with potential adoption in summer 2024 and first reporting year of FY 2025-26.
- vii. Asset Management (AM) Updates – EOA will assist C/CAG and Permittees by facilitating the C/CAG AM Work Group and developing a template and guidance for the AM Plans. The BAMSC Regional Work Group has initiated discussions on consistent approaches to evaluating the condition of assets and required actions to maintain required performance levels. Also, the SMCWPPP AM Work Group held its initial meeting in February 2024. AM Plans must be submitted to RWB by September 2025.
- viii. Grants – C/CAG staff shared the status of three recent grant-funded projects to support MRP implementation and broader GSI planning and implementation goals. These projects are:
 - o WOW Regional Trash Monitoring Project: The project team has completed the first year of trash outfall monitoring. The project team has developed an Outfall Trash Monitoring Progress Report for WY 2023 activities. This report and the Urban Creeks Monitoring Report will be submitted via the Countywide Program to the RWB and U.S. EPA as part of the WOW project deliverables by April 2. The next deliverables will include the Receiving Water Trash Monitoring Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan for the receiving water monitoring. Submittal of these documents to the RWB for the Executive Officer approval is due July 31, 2024.
 - o San Mateo County OneWatershed Climate Resilience Framework and Community-Led Plan: The project team submitted a \$59 million grant to NOAA for implementation funds to support the implementation of GSI projects at different scales, including completion of design/permitting/construction of seven “One Watershed” pilot projects, a pilot workforce development program, several programmatic expansions to integrate the existing regional approach to stormwater management, etc. Kick-off meetings for the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Equity Priority Community Group (EPCWG) are scheduled for March 20 and April 3, respectively.
 - o Sustainable Streets Design Pilot Program Grant (STAG): C/CAG has secured \$850,000 in federal funding via the U.S. EPA STAG Community Grant Program, which will support the implementation of up to five sustainable streets projects identified and conceptualized in the 2021 Countywide Sustainable Streets Master Plan (i.e., projects focused on underserved and at-risk communities in East Palo Alto, Colma, Daly City, San Mateo County, and South San Francisco). Three projects were confirmed at the time the application was submitted.
 - o A delegation from C/CAG (including 2 C/CAG Board members and C/CAG staff) visited Washington DC in March and met with congressional representatives to discuss this fiscal year’s NOAA grants and other transportation-related funding requests. C/CAG will continue to evaluate funding and financing opportunities to support MRP compliance.

5. INFORMATION – Received information on options for potential changes to the Countywide Stormwater Program certification and submittal process for the Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit – CCAG staff delivered a presentation summarizing the MRP requirements relative to signatory authority for document submittals, submittal processes currently employed by Co-Permittees (i.e., Co-Permittee individual submissions via DAR, countywide program reports, and regional reports), and the proposed options for the Countywide Program approval process. The applicability, process description, and considerations corresponding to the options for the Countywide Program approval process regarding MRP compliance submittals at the countywide and regional scales were explained. Relevant information is below:
 - i. Delegate authority to the Sub-committees – In this option, Sub-committees review/comment on countywide and regional documents, and as finalized, C/CAG program staff are authorized to certify and submit on behalf of Co-Permittees (e.g., only for standard submittals as AR forms). Some considerations are that it reduces oversight, but it is more streamlined and efficient.
 - ii. Delegate authority to the Stormwater Committee – For this alternative, the Stormwater Committee approves compliance submittals on behalf of Co-Permittees at regularly scheduled meetings. This option creates greater oversight but less flexibility in approving submittals on behalf of the co-permittees by the Countywide Program Director or C/CAG’s Executive Director.
 - iii. Maintain current DAR approval process – The current process requires email DARs for approval to certify/submit documents, and the Countywide Program Director or C/CAG Executive Director certifies and submits on behalf of the Co-Permittees via email transmittal or uploads to the RWB via a File Transfer Protocol (FTP) website. For this option, no immediate action is required. It creates a more significant burden of communications for the ongoing submittal process by the Countywide Program Director or C/CAG’s Executive Director on behalf of Co-Permittees.

C/CAG staff requested feedback and guidance from the Committee to develop a joint letter (i.e., among the 22 MRP Co-Permittees in San Mateo County) that would document the different options and scenarios for certifying and submitting MRP compliance reports and other related documents to the RWB and the U.S. EPA Region 9. The draft letter will be presented for consideration by the Committee at a future meeting.

6. INFORMATION – Received information on potential Caltrans and San Jose Conservation Corps and Charter School (SJCC+CS) partnership for litter abatement efforts – At the November 30, 2023, Stormwater Committee meeting, the SJCC+CS delivered a presentation that included an overall description of the history, program components, work currently performed by the SJCC+CS in partnership with agencies such as Santa Clara County, City of San Jose, and CalTrans to provide trash cleanup services (e.g., from homeless encampments), clean hazards on roads, and vegetation management (e.g., providing maintenance to bioswales). Recently, C/CAG staff has engaged SJCC+CS and Caltrans in evaluating opportunities in San Mateo County to support litter abatement and other maintenance activities that could be mutually beneficial for compliance with the Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit (MRP) related to trash load reduction. C/CAG staff requested feedback from the Committee regarding the feasibility, level of interest, and priority opportunities to implement a litter abatement program in San Mateo County, including the proposed partnership with CalTrans/SJCC+CS.
7. Regional Board Report: None.
8. Executive Director’s Report: C/CAG has a number of vacancies for its committees. The Program will send out a notice with the full list of vacancies. Also, C/CAG will begin the recruiting process for a Senior Program Specialist for the San Mateo Countywide Water Pollution Prevention Program.
9. Member Reports: None.
10. Vice Chair Ovadia adjourned the meeting at 3:43 p.m.