

January 2023 Stormwater Advisory Committee
1/18/23

Committee Members In Attendance:

- Bruno Giri
- Cassidy Lord – virtual (out of town)
- Ed Lane
- Jamie Hill
- Dave Hyde – virtual

Others in Attendance:

- David Hyder – Stantec - virtual
- Todd Stevenson
- Nancy Cerrato - virtual

Approval of August Minutes

- Bruno motions to approve
- Ed seconds
- Motion passes

Approval of January Agenda

- Bruno motions to approve
- Jamie seconds
- Motion passes

Public Comments

- No public comments reported by Todd. This was the first in-person gathering of the Stormwater Advisory Committee. Todd noted that members of the public could attend in-person meetings.

Staff Report

- David Hyder went through a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate financial implications for various extent/level of service options.
- Todd asked committee members to articulate what additional information they might need to make decisions relating to budget/level of service options.
- Jamie asked about capital maintenance. Todd said there were two categories. The first had to do with replacing and repairing stormwater infrastructure – mostly associated with ACC roads. The second had to do with costs associated with monitoring water quality and with mapping stormwater infrastructure.
- Jamie wondered if infrastructure costs were increasing due to more rainfall. David Hyder said that costs had been increasing due to inflation and supply chain issues. There may be more storms as well.

- Todd said that we were looking at stormwater infrastructure costs from the standpoints of both sustainable funding and the current capital deficit. The live stream pipes that need to be replaced currently (\$19 million) were not included in the sustainable capital funding component – which is projected at \$1 million per year.
- Todd noted that in 2003 when the Mayor & Commission approved a stormwater funding strategy, SPLOST was the intended funding source for capital while the stormwater fee was for implementation of the Clean Water Act. There has been such a competition for SPLOST and TSPLOST funding that the stormwater enterprise fund has had to be tapped for live stream pipe replacement as well.
- There was a discussion of billing – which is based on impervious surface area. Todd said that further information would be provided to committee members to help illustrate how equivalent runoff units (ERU's) – which are sometimes also referred to as equivalent residential units – are employed in billing property types other than single family residential.
- David Hyder finished his presentation by showing how the Athens-Clarke County fee compared to the fee in other communities.
- Committee members commented on the various extent/level of service options. There generally seemed to be support for sustainable infrastructure funding.

Next Meeting

- A date was not set for the next meeting. Todd reiterated his call for any additional information that committee members felt that they would need to make an informed decision.