

Gilleland Creek TMDL Ordinance and Planning Workgroup Meeting
LCRA General Office Complex L406
October 23, 2008
Meeting Summary

Attendees:

Tom Weber - Travis County
Trey Fletcher, Autumn Speer, Jeremy Frazzell – City of Pflugerville
Alicia Reinmund - CH2MHill
Paul Morales - City of Round Rock
Robbie Botto, Erin Wood, Matt Hollon - City of Austin
Pete Dwyer – Dwyer Realty Companies
Tom Hegemier, Kim Mueller, Karen Bondy, Lower Colorado River Authority

Not in Attendance:

Rex Hunt – Alan Plummer & Associates
Alysha Girard – City of Round Rock
Arthur Talley – Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Jon White – Travis County
Joe Carpenter – City of Pflugerville

Purpose: Determine the most appropriate water quality control and alternative standards for the proposed ordinance framework.

Management Measure: Develop and adopt equivalent water quality ordinances between government jurisdictions

Meeting Summary:

The group began the meeting with introductions and a review of the Water Quality Ordinance Framework document completed in September 2008. A brief summary of what is driving this water quality ordinance was discussed for new attendees at the meeting. This brief summary led to further discussions on recognizing the City of Austin's standards for BMP's that were developed in west Austin, and how these standards may not be suitable for the east side of Austin due to the differences in geologic and hydrologic conditions.

The discussion shifted to discussion of stream buffers and the floodplain. The City of Pflugerville produced a map showing Pflugerville's stream buffer zone, floodplain data and estimated center line of creek. The group reviewed the map and the discussion ensued on a variety of topics including how new floodplain data will affect current floodplain lines and stream buffer zones and the reasoning of having more smaller sized ponds is better than less larger sized ponds.

It was suggested to develop a regional master plan connecting hike and bike trails that could lead to connecting detention ponds along Gilleland. This public domain greenway could be owned by the local entity and would ensure maintenance of BMPs in the long term. This could be similar to what Travis County and the City of Austin are doing on Wilbarger Creek. Trey Fletcher would like to be included in future master planning meetings with Travis County and the City of Austin. The question was asked - Wilbarger is sister watershed to Gilleland, who is looking out for the future of Wilbarger with lessons learned from Gilleland? Currently the City of Austin and TCEQ monitor Wilbarger.

The discussion refocused on the Water Quality Ordinance Framework document and the City of Austin's comments. At this time, the City of Austin is not ready to set stream buffer standards but would like to keep the option to use the current stream buffer guidance from with the City of Austin, Travis County or LCRA.

Gilleland Creek TMDL Ordinance and Planning Workgroup Meeting
 LCRA General Office Complex L406
 October 23, 2008
 Meeting Summary

City of Austin's recommendations	COA Current ordinance Drainage area (acres)	Proposed Drainage area (acres)	Buffer width on each side of centerline
Minor	320	64	50-100 ft.
Intermediate	640	320	100-200 ft.
Major	1280	640	200-400 ft.

There was group agreed to accept City of Austin's proposed changes at this time. It was requested that Matt Hollon edit the draft proposed Water Quality Ordinance Framework document to reflect changes with red line strike through so changes are noticeable from proposed framework, specify and define the "centerline" of the creek, define wetlands, add variance process and wordsmith a proposal for the goal.

It was also discussed how there is a need to differentiate between commercial and residential property owners. This differentiation would provide for future water quality and stream bank erosion control requirements. The group agreed that no distinction in ordinance requirements needs to be made between residential and commercially owned property. If a developer is required to put in water quality controls – make sure it's the right control and that it will make a difference. The discussion ensued with the concern of smaller property owners falling through the cracks while larger property owners followed requirements. How could this improve water quality if only the few were implementing water quality controls?

Long term timeline:

- Monitoring Strategy should encompass
 - Effectiveness
 - Meeting load reduction
 - Sources
- December 2008 – draft Implementation Plan to Stakeholders
- January 2009 – draft Implementation Plan to TCEQ
- February 2009 – final draft Implementation Plan to TCEQ
- Workgroup review Implementation Plan every five years – same cycle as MS4 Stormwater Programs and discharge permits.

Next meeting depends on feedback of framework document – could meet in November or December.
 To be determined

Follow-up Items:

- Matt Hollon will :
 - Meet with Pete Dwyer to discuss concerns of Txdot BMP practices in Gilleland Creek Watershed
 - Invite (Trey Fletcher) City of Pflugerville to Regional Master plan meetings the City of Austin and Travis County are participating in on the Wilbarger Creek Watershed
 - Update the Water Quality Ordinance Framework (by red-lining changes/updates with the "centerline" of the creek, define wetlands, add Variance process and wordsmith the goal. and send to Alicia.
 - Send Paul Morales "Sources of BMP efficiencies in reducing bacteria"
- Alicia will :
 - Send the revised Water Quality Ordinance Framework Document out to workgroup for comments.
 - Determine if another meeting is necessary to complete Water Quality Ordinance Framework Document
- All members of Ordinance & Planning Workgroup
 - Review and comment on revised Water Quality Ordinance Framework Document