

## MPWA ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Wednesday June 28, 2017 from 11:30-1:00pm  
Maplewood Public Works Building  
1902 County Rd B East

### AGENDA

1. Welcome and Lunch
2. Introduction of Members and Visitors
3. Review Minutes from February 15, 2017 Meeting (attachment 1): Planning Conference Material – Bird City or Green Step Cities Program (Sherri B update?)
4. APWA MN 2017 Chapter Initiatives (refer to attachment 2)
  - a. Advance PW Advocacy
  - b. MN2050 Initiatives
  - c. Education and OutreachAny member updates on these three main initiatives that can be reported back to Executive Committee?
5. Environmental Service Adopt a Highway Event (Matt H/Mike R)
  - a. Debrief on May event by Matt or Mike
  - b. Refer to article that was published in APWA-MN website (attachment 3)
  - c. Fall date set for October 12<sup>th</sup>
6. Emerald Ash Borer - Update by Mark Rehder
7. Committee Advocacy (**Bring a strong APWA Voice**)
  - a. Ron L. and Pete W. Updates?
    - o Coordinate with Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition/MS4 and Construction Stormwater Permit Updates / Process
    - o Recent Legislation of importance (stormwater re-use standards, funding, grant opportunities, etc.?)
8. Other discussion items?
  - a. Thoughts on a member scoring MCES Green Infrastructure Grant Program (attachment 4). MCES has reached out to APWA.
  - b. Other?

**MPWA ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
MEETING SUMMARY**

**February 15, 2017 from 11:30-1:30 pm  
Maplewood Public Works Building  
1902 County Rd B East**

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Lunch
2. Introduction of Members and Visitors
3. APWA MN 2017 Chapter Initiatives (**refer to attachment**)
  - a. Advance PW Advocacy
  - b. MN 2050 Initiatives (**Asset Management agenda...see attachment**)
  - c. Education and Outreach

**Dan Curly attended the meeting on behalf of the Executive Committee. He summarized the 2017 Chapter Initiatives related to advocacy and members reviewed the handout. Joel Schilling attended the recent MN 2050 meeting and briefly reviewed the recommendation from that meeting.**

4. Environmental Service Adopt a Highway Event (Matt H/Mike R)
  - a. Need to set spring and fall dates (Thursdays 1:30-3:30 work well)
  - b. Select lead person to coordinate in 2017
  - c. Article about dates and why it is important (send to Kristin Asher)

**Members selected May 4 and October 12 as the dates for the Adopt a Highway event. Matt Huggins will be the lead person for coordinating this event, with assistance from Mike R. The event will be scheduled again from 1:30 to 3:30. Matt will get this info to Kristin Asher. The committee briefly discussed what worked well, and a couple of recommended changes for the 2017 event.**

5. Updates on Conference Planning Committee (Sherri B.)

**Sherri summarized the Spring Conference Planning committee meetings. The Spring Conference will be held May 10-12. The keynote will focus on diversity issues and public works. E & S committee members briefly discussed the conference venue issues for the fall conference, and recommended that Bethel College be considered as a potential venue if needed due to “outgrowing” the Earle Brown Center.**

**Members discussed the Audubon Society research on bird mortality at US Bank Stadium, and noted that Joanna Eckles has volunteered to present the study results at the Fall Conference, and discuss the Bird City project, and they support including this at the Fall Conference. Members also suggested that Green Step Cities Steps 3&4 could be a workshop topic in the fall.**

6. Need to identify liaison to APWA Center for Sustainability

**Sherri indicated that she will continue to serve as the liaison through 2017.**

7. Committee Advocacy (Bring a strong APWA Voice)
  - a. Coordinate with Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition (**refer to Ron Leaf attachment**)
  - b. MS4 and Construction Stormwater Permit Updates/Process
  - c. Pending or proposed legislation/discussion—Joel Schilling re flushable wipes legislation.

**Members discussed the 2 MPCA permits that will be renewed in 2017 and 2018 at length as the focus for the E&S Committed Advocacy efforts in 2017. Ron Leaf has contacted Randy Neprash on this issue, and the need for city representation in the process for the MS4 permit. E & S Committee members suggested that there is not much need to be involved in the Construction Stormwater Permit update, but that APWA should be represented in the MS4 process.**

**The E&S Committee recommended that the APWA work with the Minnesota Cities Stormwater Coalition group to have a voice in the MS4 Permit update process, and that the E&S Committed should recommend the issue be one of the Advocacy issues for 2017.**

**The other Advocacy issues that the E & S Committee members discussed and recommend to the APWA Executive Committee for 2017 include:**

- **Advocacy to stop the “small communications towers” legislation—which would permit communications towers in public ROW and public spaces without local approval or permits**

- **Stormwater reuse—Advocacy to support stormwater reuse, and prevent the DNR from regulating water re-use for stormwater management (the DNR is seeking this role through legislation)**
- **Flushable wipes legislation**
- **Emerald Ash Bore—support for cities**

Members present:

Sherrri Buss, Vice Chair

Klayton Eckles

Ron Leaf

Joel Schilling

Reid Wronski,

Matt Huggin

Mark Reade

Michael R

Erik Nelson

Dan Curly, on behalf of the APWA Executive Committee

## 2017 Chapter Initiatives

### Advance Public Works Advocacy

- ⇒ Demonstrate the value of PW both to the general public and *future* PW professionals
  - ⇒ Engage with Minneapolis Public Schools volunteer opportunities (guest speaker; field trip destination; job shadowing)
- ⇒ As a chapter, start building relationships with elected officials—focus on funding and PW issues
  - ⇒ Develop list of advocacy/media opportunities
  - ⇒ Develop list of ‘ready to go’ stories for the media
  - ⇒ Invite elected officials/media to conferences
- ⇒ Development of a Regional Public Works Education Center
  - ⇒ Identify scope and partners in this effort (needs a champion)

### MN2050 Initiatives

- ⇒ Develop 30 second elevator speech
- ⇒ Utilize State Auditor’s Asset Management Tool (fact sheets/interactive maps)
- ⇒ Develop 3-5 minutes videos for school presentations/social media use

### Education and Outreach

- ⇒ Become a clearinghouse for sharable materials
  - ⇒ Develop canned videos of PW activities
  - ⇒ Pool Resources (photos/media clips; education tools; displays; how does it work)
  - ⇒ Repository of stories
  - ⇒ Develop fun APPS for PW
  - ⇒ PowerPoints for classroom guest speakers
- ⇒ Development of a Regional Public Works Education Center
- ⇒ Foster relationship with Minneapolis Public Schools ([Education & Outreach](#))
  - ⇒ <http://www.apwa-mn.org/membership/education--and--outreach>

## APWA SPRING 2017 SERVICE EVENT A SUCCESS!

By Michael Thompson, Chair E&S Committee

On a beautiful Thursday afternoon, May 4<sup>th</sup> to be exact, we had 19 volunteers show up for the Adopt-A-Highway event. Our dedicated members spent part of the afternoon bettering the environment and filling over 75 bags with trash along Highway 100, between the 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Bottineau Boulevard interchanges in Robbinsdale (<https://goo.gl/maps/ZKFeXxZ1Ai72>).



The attendees in no specific order: Mike Ryan, Allison Bell, Andrew Hengel, Tony Kutzke, Alyson Fauske, Matt Huggins, Adam Gadbois, Ron Leaf, Chris Petree, Heidi Hamilton, Erika Scherman, Tim Pratt, Charlie Howley, Reid Wronski, Sue Mason, Eric Nelson, Alex Miller, Michael Thompson, and Dan Ruiz.

A few of the special finds were a BB gun (Chris P), valid driver's license and \$1 bill (Dan R), kickball and umbrella (Alyson F), tennis ball (Sue M), and much more. We hope to see you later this year for the next round... you never know what you'll find. Date and time to be determined. Stay tuned.

Lastly, a big thank you to all those listed above for making this event a continued success! And a special thank you to Matt Huggins and Mike Ryan who both have really stepped up and taken this event to the next level.

## **2017 METROPOLITAN COUNCIL GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PILOT GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION**

Water problems such as water quality, water quantity, and wastewater infrastructure issues facing the region today are often addressed as separate individual concerns and are not tied to other urban planning issues associated with land use, transit development, water infrastructure, and parks and green space. In response to the region's water-related programs and the need to find innovative solutions that provide multiple benefits, **the Metropolitan Council (Council) will implement a pilot green infrastructure grant program effective May 8, 2017.**

The Metropolitan Council is interested in working with communities to implement integrated solutions directed at solving our region's water-related problems in ways that provide multiple benefits, maximize the extent of positive impacts, and are technically sound.

Taking an integrated approach to solving water-related problems will mean thinking about all aspects of water impacting the areas when determining the best solutions for the situation. This approach promotes the concept of a community looking at wastewater issues, storm water issues, water supply issues together to determine the most efficient and cost effective way to address the issues to:

- Protect the quality and quantity of the region's water resources;
- Prioritize the need for improving aging infrastructure;
- Protect the economic vitality of the region, cities, and neighborhoods; and
- Protect natural ecosystems and park systems.

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to metropolitan area communities.

The Council has \$1,000,000 available for the pilot grant program. Grant(s) will be awarded on a competitive basis to metropolitan area communities. The number of communities receiving the grant will depend on the projects proposed. **The Council may divide the \$1,000,000 for this grant among multiple projects or it may select a single project to receive the full \$1,000,000.**

**THE COUNCIL WILL ENCOURAGE ALL SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS TO SOLICIT AND INCLUDE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESSES (MCUB) FIRMS IN GRANT FUNDED ACTIVITIES THAT MCUB FIRMS CAN PERFORM. THE COUNCIL WILL REQUIRE ALL GRANTEEES TO REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THESE EFFORTS. A LIST OF MCUB FIRMS IS AVAILABLE ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE.**

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JULY 17th, 2017.**

### **Application Process**

- Applicants must be communities located in the seven-county metropolitan area.
- Communities with have ten weeks to submit grant applications.
- Metropolitan Council will notify applicant(s) of grant award(s) on or before August 31, 2017.
- Successful applicants will be required to submit detailed project work plans and budgets which will be included as exhibits in the standard grant agreements.
- The Council will encourage all successful applicants to solicit and include Metropolitan Council Underutilized Businesses (MCUB) firms in grant funded activities that MCUB firms

can perform. The Council will require grantees to report on the results of these efforts. A list of MCUB firms is available on the Council's website.

- No project expenses incurred before agreement execution will be eligible for reimbursement by the Metropolitan Council.
- No payments will be made that would cause total compensation to exceed the total grant amount.

**Examples of water-related problem solutions eligible for funding include but are not limited to:**

- Private property mitigation of service lateral replacements and foundation drain and sump pump disconnections that reduce inflow and infiltration to our wastewater infrastructure
- Water supply projects such as low flow plumbing fixture installations and irrigation management systems to help stretch water supplies
- Installing low impact development projects that reduce the volume of stormwater and/or improve water quality
- Utilizing green infrastructure to manage flooding, help to recharge our aquifers, and revitalize neighborhoods
- Water reuse or other projects that diversify and stretch our water resources while fostering climate resilience
- Deploying advanced technologies and projects that support multiple water benefits (such as fixing a wastewater issue while addressing a surface water issue) while reinforcing and improving decision-making on all levels

**Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated based on the extent and degree to which they identify or address the following criteria:

- **Multiple Benefits:** Extent to which the proposed project:
  - Solves/addresses multiple regional or community water-related problems
  - Shows the connectedness of all water
  - Protects, maintains, or restores water quality and quantity
- **Extent of Impacts:** Extent to which the proposed project:
  - Results in long-term benefits to the community or region
  - Positively impacts lower income areas
- **Technical Basis:** Extent to which the proposed project:
  - Reflects technological knowledge, standards, and best practices
  - Measures impacts of solutions (beyond those required)
- **Project Timeline:**
  - Readiness of the project to start
  - All projects need to be completed by December 31, 2019

**The Grantee must be able to identify and quantify at a watershed level the water impacts and outcomes expected as a result of project implementation.**

If you have any questions, please contact Judy Sventek at [judy.sventek@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:judy.sventek@metc.state.mn.us) or 651-602-1156.

**Legal Name of Project Sponsor:**

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**Designated Project Representative:**

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**Mailing Address, E-Mail Address, & Telephone Number of Project Sponsor:**

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**Project Title:**

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**Total Project Cost:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grant Request Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How do you intend to identify and quantify at a watershed level the water impacts and outcomes expected to result from implementation of this project? What impacts do you expect?**

**Project Summary**

**(Provide a short description of the project, goals, objectives, budget, and project timeline.)**

(Continue on back, if necessary-please do not exceed four pages)