

MINUTES – ENVIRONMENT COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING 02.18.2021

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM, Thursday, February 18, 2021, via Zoom, with the following in attendance:

Council Members

Mayor Matt Pina (Chair)
Luisa Bangs (Vice-Chair)
JC Harris

City Staff

Michael Matthias – City Manager
Dan Brewer – Chief Operations Officer
Brandon Carver – PW Director
Loren Reinhold – SWM Utility Manager
Scott Wilkins - Harbormaster
Beth Anne Wroe – Finance Director
Matthew Hutchins – Asst. City Attorney
Tyler Beekley – SWM Civil Engineer II
Ben Stryker – Civil Engineer
Jodi Grager – Admin. Asst.

Guests

Councilmembers Traci Buxton and Anthony Martinelli, Dave Kaplan

AGENDA:

1. Approval of 01.21.21 Minutes
2. WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan Update
3. NPDES Program Update

MEETING:

1. Unanimous approval of the 01.21.21 minutes
2. SWM Utility Manager Loren Reinhold presented a memo titled Executive Summary which is an update to the 2005 WRIA 9 Plan (Attachment #2). From this plan Manager Reinhold highlighted three Des Moines projects.
 - McSorley Creek Pocket Estuary and Feeder Bluff Restoration is a Tier 1 project which could be slated for construction in 2022. The City is not contributing to funding this project, currently. Work would include removing the seawall along the shoreline at Saltwater State Park. The Committee expressed concern about the impact to this critical area and the potential for landslide occurrence. It was suggested that once the design phase is complete, a WRIA 9 presentation would be appropriate. COO Brewer agreed that staff would follow up with the Committee once more information is available.
 - Massey Creek Pocket Estuary and Fish Passage Project is a Tier 2 project which would be critical to restoring salmon habitat and possibly allowing for new public access to the shoreline just south of the Marina. Manager Reinhold advocated for City funding of this

project. This would be added into the 6 year CIP. COO Brewer indicated that there are many agencies interested in this estuary with funding partnership potential.

- Des Moines Creek Pocket Estuary Restoration is a Tier 2 project which focuses on the removal of armoring in the park to provide a more natural shoreline and improve the wildlife habitat. The Council recently approved the City participating in the Habitat Mitigation Bank which may assist in funding Des Moines projects. It is possible, many agencies may have an interest in the restoration of Des Moines Creek.

3. Tyler Beekley, SWM Civil Engineer II, introduced Ben Stryker, SWM Civil Engineer I to review the NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Program. CE Stryker stated the NPDES stems from the Clean Water Act of 1972, The City's drainage system requires an NPDES permit in order to control and regulate the discharge of point source pollution. Des Moines currently operates under the 2019-2024 Western Washington Phase II Permit. (See Attachment #3 for requirements and details regarding the eight categories of the permit.) CE Stryker described how the City is meeting the NPDES goals. Discussion after the presentation included:

- How does the City account for pipe replacement and catch basin inspections?

CE Beekley described the inspections that the SWM Maintenance crew performs. Additionally, a pole camera has been purchased for use during inspections. Public Works Director Brandon Carver stated pipe replacement projects are listed on the CIP.

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Jodi Grager, Admin Asst