

Watershed Implementation Plan for Fairview Beach (Potomac River) in King George County

July 10, 2014

Smoot Memorial Library, 1:00-3:00 pm

Steering Committee Meeting

Attendees:

Tommy Thompson, VDH  
Katie Wallet, TCCSWCD  
Jack Green, KG Planning  
Jim Howard, KG Supervisor  
Janet Harrover, Fairview Beach Residents Association (FBRA)  
Don Pfalzgraf, FBRA  
Herb Cover, FBRA  
Mike Bennett, FBRA  
Heidi Moltz, ICPRB  
Ross Mandel, ICPRB  
Rebecca Shoemaker, DEQ  
May Sligh, DEQ

The meeting began at 1pm. May Sligh welcomed attendees and explained that since this was a “work session” there would be no formal presentation. Introductions were made and the Community and Government Working Group representatives (Janet Harrover and Katie Wallet, respectively) were recognized. The group was asked to first review the power point presentation developed by May Sligh, to be used at the July 23<sup>rd</sup> public meeting. Four copies of the draft Watershed Plan were shared for attendees to reference during the presentation. After the presentation review, the working group reports were provided to the Steering Committee by their representatives (content included in this summary). As well, a large map of the community with possible BMP locations was placed on the wall for reference during the discussions.

**Presentation Review:**

- Slide 1 – add KGSA, add FBRA Citizen Monitors specifically too
- Control Measure Quantification slide – Ross will help with a few summary slides to summarize the various studies
- Bacteria loading slide – need to note the sources, time period, assumptions, extrapolations for Potomac Landing
- Bacteria loading slide – suggestion to change the table to % reductions rather than use the exponential values for bacteria loads from sources
- Measures slide – put the feral cat education at the bottom of the list.
- Costs slide – make this shorter

**General Discussion:**

- May referred to the monitoring section of the draft watershed plan and explained that much of this section will be moved to the Appendix.
- Herb asked if we can add more source testing as a task in the plan; he said that the last testing was performed in 2007; since then, there have been adjustments to the sewer and installation of the waste stations – May thought that we could add the BST type testing, in

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case it can be covered by the 319 funding monitoring support. Heidi will also help explain the 75% reduction goal.

- Mike asked if we should try to personally invite Potomac Landing residents to the meeting – May agreed and FBRA citizens would help find contacts so May can brief them on the work done. May also added that the public meeting was in the Free Lance Star and on Public Register but to her knowledge no one from that neighborhood came to the 1<sup>st</sup> public meeting. May will make every effort to get them up to speed on the project and see that they have representation at the July 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting
- Mike asked if we could include in the report the new VDH monitoring information that Tommy passed out during the meeting (possibly add it as an appendix); additionally, Katie suggested that we include this information at the public meeting – May thought that this would be a good idea too and we can add to the appendix, since it shows more recent swimming advisory information since the sampling that was done for the watershed plan
- Mike asked if there was a way to get grant funding for smoke testing; it was noted that we need to make sure the report includes smoke testing (not just dye testing) – May said we can include both. Tommy said they recommended the dye testing for the trailer park section. There was also a discussion about the Supplemental Environmental Project negotiations between DEQ and KG County and that May understood that they can't move forward unless there is a commitment to fix problems they find with the smoke testing. If smoke testing not done before the project phase, may see about other sources of funding.
- Mike mentioned that Chris at the KG Service Authority told him that there is a suspect drainage pipe under the parking lot, near Tim's II; May noted that we will use project funding to find specific issues such as this, ie. dye or smoke testing. Someone added that it was near the #2 location on the large map
- It was noted that Chapter 11 of the report should also state that VDH monitoring should be continued in the future
- General discussion about implementing an ordinance to require septic system records:
  - Jack noted that the septic system records do not exist
  - Tommy noted that we need a program by which VDH can record abandonment of septic systems when sewer connections are made
  - It was noted that we cannot require an ordinance because of Dillon's Rule, but we can encourage participation. VDH and county can commit to communicating better on this matter.
- Mike and Herb asked why the BST indicates that birds account for so much of the bacteria load; Ross noted that "birds" as a source indicate no resistance to antibiotics and that bacteria in this category could also be bacteria that was re-suspended in sand
- Janet noted that she would like future monitoring to include 6<sup>th</sup> street, which was not included in the past – May added that all of the details for a monitoring plan will be worked

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out during the project phase. The 319 implementation projects include a monitoring plan that covers hotspot testing and BMP effectiveness testing.

- It was noted that the easternmost VDH monitoring site should be moved slightly to the west on the existing monitoring map – Heidi made a note of this.
- Katie asked that we provide a very clear and concise background of the project on July 23<sup>rd</sup> for those who have not been involved from the plan development beginning. Focus on educating them on the problem and the proposal for corrections.
- Mike will do the public meeting opening greeting and will also present the project background.

The next item on the agenda was to hear the reports from Janet Harrover and Katie Wallet. Here are their summaries:

**Summary of Community Working Group Meetings, by Janet Harrover:**

*Since 2004 Fairview Beach has had many beach advisories issued by the Virginia Department of Health as a part of the Beach Monitoring Program. The results of these tests have put us (Fairview Beach), on the list of impaired waters.*

*After several meetings with the local community, local government agencies and under the direction of the DEQ it was determined that the best approach to try to improve the Fairview Beach area was to create a Watershed Plan.*

*There have been two public meetings for the purpose of working up a Watershed Implementation Plan.*

*The first meeting held on February 20, 2014, began with a presentation of background information & analysis given by Ross Mandel from the ICPRB. Jennifer Carlson & May Sligh from DEQ followed with an overview of the steps and focus items in developing a Watershed Plan for Fairview Beach.*

*During the working session we discussed the questions prepared by DEQ with most attention given to known existing problem areas. Some of those areas being, the trailer park septic issues, pet and other animal waste in the community, boaters and the possibility of them dumping human waste in the river as well as their pet waste when coming on shore, and storm water management and it's impact on Fairview's large erosion problems.*

*A four member steering committee was formed.*

*The second Community Working Group meeting was held on May 15, 2014, with DEQ presenting a large map identifying the Watershed boundaries and a spread sheet identifying the current list of different strategies. In this session we worked through the different items on the spreadsheet. Some of those items included, the identified problem areas, and necessary information needed to track these issues such as, source, location for implementation, potential funding sources, technical resources, programs to help with implementation, and lead Agency. Again most attention seemed to be on sewer and septic issues at the Trailer Park area.*

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**Summary of Government Working Group Meeting, by Katie Wallet:**

*The following agencies were represented at this meeting on May 6, 2014: Virginia Dept. of Health, King George Service Authority, Tri-County/ City SWCD, King George County Board of Supervisors, and the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin.*

*This meeting resulted in a great collaboration of all in the identifying the locations of existing water quality problem areas, possible BMP locations, and solutions.*

*Infrastructure was discussed first which led to a very detailed discussion pertaining mostly to septic systems. It was affirmed that the most probable area of concern is the trailer park. Testing has been done to confirm this. Education & Outreach will play a role in remedying this situation.*

*It was noted that agriculture & pasture areas are not a component in the water quality degradation of this watershed.*

*Water Quality monitoring will need some extra attention as the grant funded program will end this year.*

*Lastly, runoff reduction solutions for various locations were discussed. Installing BMPs on private land would be preferable due to the locations of problem areas.*

May thanked Janet and Katie for their reports. She will send attendees the draft watershed plan on July 11th. She asked that they get comments to her by COB July 16<sup>th</sup> to give the contractors time to integrate corrections. May asked that they all assist with getting the word out about the July 23<sup>rd</sup> public meeting, especially for the Potomac Landing residents.

Questions or information requests should be addressed to May Sligh with the DEQ-Northern Regional Office by phone at (804)450-3802 and by e-mail at [may.sligh@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:may.sligh@deq.virginia.gov).