

**TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**STORMWATER UTILITY  
TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

**JANUARY 1999**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Dr. Arthur Werner, Chairman**

**Paula Davis, P.E. (UNCCH)**

**John Green, P.E. (OWASA)**

**Warren Faircloth (Orange County)**

**Roy Williford (Carrboro)**

**Town Staff Liaison: George Small, P.E., Director of Engineering  
Michael Neal, PLS, Senior Engineering Coordinator**

**TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA****REPORT FROM  
THE STORMWATER UTILITY TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE****JANUARY 1999**

The following report provides information concerning the feasibility of establishing a stormwater utility in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

The report includes background information, general information about stormwater utilities, the feasibility of a local stormwater utility, and comments regarding a multi-jurisdictional utility.

The Committee suggests that it is feasible to establish a local stormwater utility with a service area in and around Chapel Hill, possibly as outlined on the attached map. The Committee further suggests that a Stormwater Utility Development and Implementation Committee be convened to provide specific recommendations to all affected governing bodies regarding establishment of a multi-jurisdictional enterprise stormwater utility.

**BACKGROUND**

In June 1998, the Chapel Hill Town Council directed that a work group be convened to study the feasibility of establishing a stormwater utility in Chapel Hill. This work group was organized as the Stormwater Utility Technical Review Committee and included staff representatives from Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Orange County, Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Committee was chaired by Dr. Arthur Wemer, who previously chaired the Chapel Hill Stormwater Management Committee in 1995.

**DISCUSSION**

Existing and proposed State and Federal stormwater management regulations including the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System legislation, and the Water Supply Watershed Protection requirements are expected to place increasing mandates on local governments to manage stormwater runoff quantity and quality.

These requirements, coupled with the desire to improve soil erosion and sedimentation controls and to properly construct and maintain drainage infrastructure, will significantly burden local resources. Cities throughout North Carolina and nationwide are looking for ways to fund the staff, equipment, and facilities necessary to comply with regulations and to improve local efforts to manage stormwater runoff, soil erosion, and sedimentation.

Presently, stormwater management activities are funded through the Town's Operating Budget and/or the Town's Capital Improvements Program. Each year, funding for stormwater management is reconsidered by the Town Council, with no guarantee that such funding will continue from year to year.

Also, the town does not provide any direct funding for soil erosion and sedimentation control. Town S.E.S. controls are staffed and administered by Orange County, and applicable resources are funded through the County budget.

A possible funding alternative is the establishment of a stormwater utility which could collect fees from local residents and/or property owners to defray the costs of building, operating, and maintaining stormwater management infrastructure and for developing and monitoring regulatory compliance programs for managing stormwater runoff, soil erosion, and sedimentation.

Accordingly, the Chapel Hill Town Council directed that a technical review committee be established with the following charges:

- 1.) Review established types of stormwater utilities and summarize key points of each, highlighting similarities and differences.
- 2.) Comment on the type(s) of stormwater utility organization which might be feasible in Chapel Hill and what public purposes could be served.
- 3.) Consider and comment on the concept of a jointly operated utility including Chapel Hill and Carrboro (and/or Orange County).

The Committee met seven times between September 1998 and January 1999, and discussed topics generally following the attached meeting agendas. In its roll as a technical "fact-finding" group, the Committee prepared the following information in response to the charges noted above.

→WHAT IS THE MISSION?

### STORMWATER UTILITIES IN GENERAL

Stormwater utilities provide an alternative to property-tax-supported (general fund) stormwater management programs. As such, a public stormwater utility functions similarly to a conventional water and wastewater utility. Service fees and/or user charges are levied by the utility and the revenues are dedicated to fund the service(s) provided ... in this case stormwater management.

The Committee reviewed a variety of general information about stormwater utilities and looked at several case studies concerning related issues. We also reviewed and discussed specific stormwater utility information from North Carolina cities including Highpoint, Fayetteville, Wilmington, Charlotte, Durham, and Greensboro,

A copy of the information reviewed by the Committee is available for review in the Chapel Hill Engineering Department.

We found that the stormwater utilities we investigated generally followed the enterprise approach, establishing charges proportionate to the stormwater runoff contributed by a given property rather than on perceived benefits received and regardless of property value.

The following definitions concerning a stormwater utility are presented in the publication entitled "User-Fee-Funded Stormwater Utilities" prepared by the Task Force on User-Fee-Funded Stormwater Utilities of the Water Environment Federation, 1994:

- Users are properties that add runoff to a system and/or are served by the provision of stormwater services and facilities;
- Beneficiaries are people or properties that gain from stormwater management (are protected, for example, from the effects of flooding and resulting flood damage or benefit from improved water quality); and
- Service or user fees are dedicated charges paid by generators of stormwater runoff based on the estimated amount of water that leaves their property or in relation to the services and facilities they receive.

The enterprise approach to stormwater utility management consists of the practical application of these definitions.

After reviewing literature about stormwater utilities and looking at specific established utilities, we found that to be successful the utility must be very carefully developed, with early and regular input from different constituents who would be impacted by the new program. Consensus building is a critical issue in establishing a successful stormwater utility.

A clear and reasonable implementation and action plan must be developed, including specific staff and equipment needs, which detail how fees will be established, collected and spent. Unless a credible plan is developed and communicated to the community, the utility will struggle.

We found that most stormwater utilities function similarly, differing only in certain specific elements of the program, such as:

- 1.) Administration – some communities establish an entirely separate stormwater utility while others add stormwater responsibilities to existing water/sewer utility programs, with appropriate additional resources.
- 2.) Rate Structures – a variety of possibilities exist and could be more or less appropriate for different communities in different parts of the country. Examples include rate structures

based on an equivalent residential unit (ERU) or equivalent dwelling unit (EDU); or on a unit area of impervious surface or total property; or on the zoning of a given property.

- 3.) **Billing/Collection** – stormwater fees could be handled with a new system, or added to existing property tax bills, or added to existing utility bills for other services such as water and sewer.

### **LOCAL STORMWATER UTILITY OPPORTUNITIES**

We think that a typical enterprise approach stormwater utility could adequately meet the stormwater management needs of Chapel Hill now and in the future. A user fee based utility could be established which charges an equitable fee to residents and/or property owners (stormwater contributors) for the costs of services and facilities to manage the community's stormwater.

Organizations established under North Carolina General Statute 162A, such as OWASA, are given the authority to adopt ordinances to regulate and control structural and natural stormwater and drainage systems. Therefore, a local option could be to develop a separate authority or to expand OWASA's established operations, maintenance, and billing systems to include stormwater management functions. Alternatively, Chapel Hill could establish a specific stormwater management department or division, as was done by the City of Durham, within the local governmental unit.

The types of public purposes that a local stormwater utility could serve include:

- ★ **Review of development plans and stormwater impact statements.**
- ★ **Plan, design, and construct stormwater management improvement projects.**
- ★ **Coordinate and facilitate area-wide Resource Conservation District and floodplain mapping/updates.**
- ★ **Manage, operate, and maintain stormwater facilities.**
- ★ **Oversee local soil erosion and sedimentation management and control.**
- ★ **Ensure compliance with federal, state, and local stormwater management regulations (i.e.: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II).**
- ★ **Provide education and public information about stormwater management and practices.**
- ★ **Perform research and studies regarding stormwater runoff, soil erosion, and sedimentation management.**

- ☆ Manage and coordinate spill response efforts.
- ☆ Provide emergency services relating to flooding and/or pollution mitigation.
- ☆ Monitor stream water quality.

The attached table shows typical areas of responsibility and how different communities fund them.

### **MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL STORMWATER UTILITY**

The Committee agreed that stormwater management is regional in nature, and not easily limited to jurisdictional boundaries in many cases.

We think that if a local stormwater utility is established, it would function most effectively if the utility service area included both Chapel Hill and Carrboro planning jurisdictions and additional extraterritorial areas of southern Orange County (and possibly northern Chatham County) which contribute stormwater runoff into the Booker Creek, Bolin Creek, and Morgan Creek drainage basins.

Although a multi-jurisdictional utility does create challenges with regard to organization and operation, we think that it would ultimately function much more effectively than several individual local utility organizations, or not establishing a utility at all.

The attached map shows the boundaries of the drainage basins of Booker Creek, Bolin Creek, and Morgan Creek, for reference.

### **ISSUES AND COMMENTS**

If further discussion and/or committee work occurs regarding establishment of a stormwater utility, this Technical Review Committee provides the following suggestions, questions, and comments for consideration:

- 1.) Coordinate land-use policies with stormwater management issues. (Chapel Hill's revisions to Comprehensive Plan must consider stormwater management.)
- 2.) Should a stormwater utility "control" development or "respond to" development?
- 3.) There are a variety of legal issues involved with the establishment of a stormwater utility (such as whether or not the utility could charge fees to the State and/or the University for road right-of-way areas and University land). Someone from the Institute of Government should be involved in future discussions.

- 4.) Consider giving the stormwater utility responsibility for soil erosion and sedimentation control plan review, permitting, and supervision within utility district.
- 5.) Identify and define mechanism(s) for enforcing fee collections.
- 6.) Clearly relate responsibilities and resources and fees so stormwater program will "pay for itself". (May need to finance or issue revenue bonds for "start-up" capital costs.)
- 7.) Carefully consider how multi-jurisdictional utility would prioritize expenditures across jurisdictional boundaries.
- 8.) If a multi-jurisdictional approach is pursued for a stormwater utility, OWASA should be considered since it provides water/sewer services across jurisdictions and it already has a multi-jurisdictional board in place.
- 9.) Establishment of a multi-jurisdictional utility would require agreement and commitment from Carrboro, Orange County, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, North Carolina Department of Transportation, and conceivably Chatham County. All agencies having jurisdiction within the utility area should be included in these discussions before proceeding further.
- 10.) If a Development and Implementation Committee is convened, we suggest it include representatives from:
  - ➔ Private Business
  - ➔ Engineering/Architectural Firms
  - ➔ The University
  - ➔ Private Development Firms
  - ➔ Environmental Organizations
  - ➔ The Institute of Government
  - ➔ Interested Residents of Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Orange County, (and Chatham County?)
  - ➔ OWASA, Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and Orange County staff/administration
  - ➔ Triangle-J Council of Governments

**CONCLUSION**

The Stormwater Utility Technical Review Committee appreciates the opportunity to provide the Chapel Hill Town Council and other interested boards with this information report concerning the feasibility of establishing a stormwater utility in Chapel Hill.

We think that a stormwater utility could be established in Chapel Hill and that such a utility could provide funding for current and future stormwater management needs as discussed.

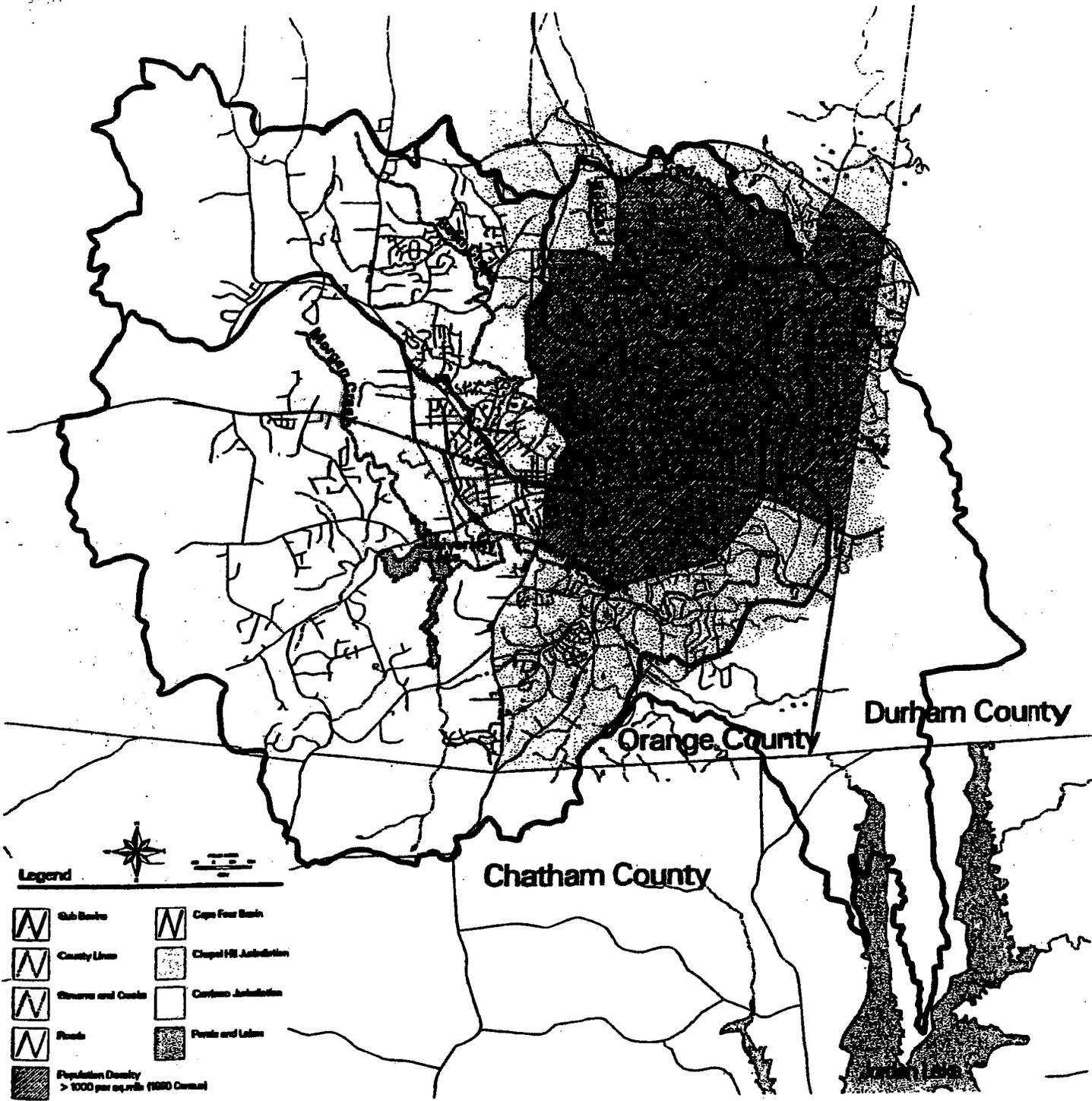
We believe that a multi-jurisdictional utility would be the most effective organization, with a service area generally approximating the drainage basins of Booker Creek, Bolin Creek, and Morgan Creek as shown on the attached map.

We suggest that other affected governing boards and agencies be provided with this committee report and that they be afforded ample opportunity to consider whether or not they concur with the multi-jurisdictional approach to establishing a stormwater utility.

We further suggest that a broad-based committee be established to provide specific recommendations to all interested governing bodies regarding the development and implementation of a multi-jurisdictional stormwater utility.

If the Technical Review Committee can assist the Development and Implementation Committee, we would be pleased to do so.

**Attachments: Drainage Basin Map  
Matrix of Responsibilities  
Meeting Agendas**



## Cape Fear Basin Area within Orange, Durham and Chatham Counties

Map prepared by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Raleigh, NC. The map is a reproduction of a map prepared by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Raleigh, NC. The map is a reproduction of a map prepared by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Raleigh, NC.



Map prepared by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Raleigh, NC.

**NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE STORMWATER UTILITIES**

		<b>CHARLOTTE/ MECKLENBURG COUNTY</b>	<b>FAYETTEVILLE</b>	<b>GREENSBORO</b>	<b>WILMINGTON</b>	<b>DURHAM</b>
<b>STORMWATER PROGRAM ELEMENTS</b>	<b>STORMWATER PROGRAM PLANNING</b>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Not Funded.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded from General Fund.</i>
	<b>FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT (National Flood Insurance Program)</b>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded from General Fund.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded from General Fund.</i>	<i>Funded from General Fund.</i>
	<b>STORMWATER QUALITY MONITORING</b>	<i>Primarily Funded by Utility (with supplement from General Fund).</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded from General Fund.</i>
	<b>SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL</b>	<i>&gt;One acre funded by Land Development Fee. &lt;One acre funded by Utility.</i>	<i>State Administers Program.</i>	<i>Funded by Building Permit Fees.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>County Administers Program.</i>
	<b>DESIGN OF STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded from General Fund.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>
	<b>CONSTRUCTION OF STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded from General Fund.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>
	<b>MAINTENANCE OF STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by both Utility and General Fund.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>
	<b>PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS</b>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded by Utility.</i>	<i>Funded from General Fund.</i>

**MATRIX SHOWING HOW KEY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ELEMENTS ARE FUNDED IN NORTH CAROLINA MUNICIPALITIES HAVING STORMWATER UTILITIES**

**SEPTEMBER 23, 1998 AGENDA**  
**9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**  
**THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**INTRODUCTION** – Welcome by Chair. Review of Committee Charge and Duties

**INFORMATION PACKETS** – Distribute packets, highlight contents.

**SCHEDULE** – Discuss meeting schedule and timetable for completing work. Review future agendas.

**EXISTING N. C. STORMWATER UTILITIES** – A summary of the following Stormwater Utilities operated by communities within North Carolina

- Greensboro
- Fayetteville
- High Point
- Wilmington
- Charlotte

**OCTOBER 7, 1998 AGENDA  
9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.  
THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**SUMMARY** – Summarize last meeting topics.

**IMPLEMENTATION OF A STORMWATER  
MANAGEMENT UTILITY**

**Reasons to Create a Stormwater Utility.**

- Increased Recognition of Stormwater Mangement
- Realistic and Dependable Revenue Stream
- Customer Service
- Centralized Regulatory Permitting

**Forming a Utility.**

- Enterprise Approach
- Revenue Generation
- Components of a Utility
- Regional vs Local Administration

**OCTOBER 21, 1998 AGENDA  
9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.  
THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**SUMMARY** – Summarize last meeting topics.

**FORMING A UTILITY, con't.**

- Organization
- Rates Structure (S)
- Technical
- Priorities
  - \* Watershed vs Jurisdictional approach
- Billing and Collection System(s)
- State involvement/approval necessary to start up a utility
- Coordination with land use policies

**NOVEMBER 4, 1998 AGENDA**  
**9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**  
**THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**SUMMARY** – Summarize last meeting topics.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

- Administration
- Operations
- Maintenance
- Short term goals
- Long term goals
- Staging of Implementation

**DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL TOPICS** - During the committee's deliberations additions topics may come up, they can be added to the agenda for discussion here.

**DRAFT OUTLINE REPORT FOR COUNCIL** - Develop an outline of the Committee's report to Council. Using this outline staff will write a draft report for the committee to review and edit.

**NOVEMBER 18, 1998 AGENDA**  
**9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**  
**THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**SUMMARY** – Summarize last meeting topics.

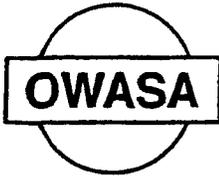
**REVIEW AND EDIT DRAFT REPORT TO COUNCIL** - A  
section by section review and edit of the draft report.

**DECEMBER 2, 1998 AGENDA**  
**9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.**  
**THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

**REVIEW FINAL DRAFT** - Review and comment on Final Draft.

**COUNCIL** - Discuss presentation of report to Council.

**CLOSING** - Thank and dismiss Committee by Chair.



**ORANGE WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY**

*Quality Service Since 1977*

June 16, 1999

Mr. W. Calvin Horton  
Town Manager  
Town of Chapel Hill  
306 North Columbia Street  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

**Subject: Stormwater Management**

Dear Cal:

As requested in George Small's February 23, 1999 letter to me, I am pleased to provide our comments on the Stormwater Utility Technical Review Committee Report of January 1999. The enclosed discussion paper, *Stormwater Management Issues: A Role for OWASA?*, was prepared jointly by OWASA's Natural Resources/Technical Systems Committee and staff. The OWASA Board accepted this discussion paper and its recommendations at their June 10, 1999 meeting and requested that it be forwarded to the Town.

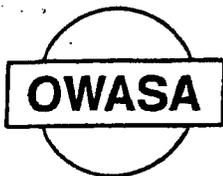
Thanks again for the opportunity to comment on this matter and for inviting John Greene, OWASA General Manager of Operations, to participate on the Stormwater Utility Technical Review Committee. OWASA would be very pleased to continue to participate in further stormwater management discussions and offer its technical expertise.

Very truly yours,

Ed Kerwin  
Executive Director

EK/jr

- c: OWASA Board of Directors
- John Link, County Manager, Orange County
- Bob Morgan, Town Manager, Town of Carrboro
- Bruce Runberg, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management, UNC-CH
- George Small, Town Engineer, Chapel Hill ✓



# ORANGE WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY

*Quality Service Since 1977*

## **Stormwater Management Issues – A Role for OWASA? Discussion Paper**

**Approved by the OWASA Board of Directors June 10, 1999**

### **What's the purpose of this discussion paper?**

This paper was developed in response to the Town of Chapel Hill's invitation to OWASA to participate in further discussions about community-wide stormwater management options. It attempts to provide an information overview and to outline the broad range of issues related to stormwater.

### **What is "stormwater" and why is it an issue?**

About 20 billion gallons of rain falls on Carrboro and Chapel Hill every year. As it collects on the ground and drains downhill, this water supports a range of opportunities, but also presents a host of problems, such as flooding, erosion, streambank degradation, and downstream water pollution. Contaminants transported in stormwater are referred to as *non-point* pollution, in contrast to those which originate from specific points of discharge, which are called *point sources*; e.g. from wastewater treatment plants.

### **Is stormwater regulated by public agencies?**

Stormwater management can be considered from two general perspectives: hydrologic (e.g., flood and flow-related) and water quality-related.

Neither federal nor state regulations directly address the flood control aspects of stormwater. Some local governments, including Chapel Hill, require stormwater controls at the level of individual development or construction projects, but these programs are not usually coordinated on a community or basin-wide scale.

Through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), federal and state agencies regulate wastewater discharges to protect downstream water quality from point source pollution. More recently, the federal NPDES program was extended to include non-point source pollution as well, and the US EPA issued Phase I stormwater regulations applicable to cities with populations of more than 100,000. The implementation details of Phase II regulations are still being finalized for smaller urban areas, but in Orange County these are expected to affect Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and Hillsborough. It is important to note that NPDES stormwater regulations address only water quality issues, and do not deal with other important stormwater problems, such as flooding.

**What will the Phase II regulations require?**

Phase II regulations applicable to Chapel Hill and Carrboro will generally require the following elements, whose details are still being developed at the federal and state level:

1. Public education and outreach on stormwater impacts
2. Public involvement and participation in developing local programs
3. Detection and elimination of illicit discharges
4. Construction site stormwater runoff control
5. Post-construction stormwater management in new development and redevelopment
6. Pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal organizations

**Who is currently responsible for stormwater in Carrboro and Chapel Hill?**

The Towns and County, and to a certain extent the NC Department of Transportation, are primarily responsible for local stormwater management through the regulation and maintenance of stormwater inlets, culverts, and other collection/conveyance devices. Orange County enforces its own as well as Carrboro's and Chapel Hill's Sedimentation and Erosion Control ordinances, which try to minimize the offsite transport of soil from construction projects.

Many citizens have the mistaken belief that the stormwater which enters curbside drop boxes and inlets is collected and treated by OWASA, but in fact these devices simply transport runoff to the local drainage system of ditches, swales, and streams. OWASA does not collect or treat stormwater.

**Does OWASA have a stake in stormwater management and control?**

One of OWASA's greatest interests in community-wide stormwater issues is the integrity of its wastewater collection (sewer) system. It is especially important to prevent the entry of stormwater into the sewer system, because such infiltration and inflow (I/I) increase the likelihood of downstream sewer overflows and the likelihood of exceeding the wastewater plant's hydraulic capacity. In addition to maintaining and reinforcing OWASA's sewer system, the resolution and prevention of I/I problems will require ongoing attention to the community's stormwater collection and conveyance system.

OWASA's other principal stake in stormwater management is the response of Jordan Lake to upstream pollution from point and non-point sources originating in Carrboro-Chapel Hill and Durham. The NC Environmental Management Commission (EMC) and its Division of Water

Quality (DWQ) are focusing more attention on elevated nutrient conditions (phosphorus and nitrogen) in the uppermost portion of Jordan Lake above the S.R. 1008 (Farrington Road) causeway. The EMC may prescribe stricter contaminant removal requirements to point as well as non-point pollution sources discharging to Jordan Lake's upper arm. This could mean a costly combination of additional capital improvements to OWASA's and Durham's wastewater plants, as well as mandatory stormwater requirements for Carrboro-Chapel Hill and Durham. It would be in the best interest of OWASA and the citizens it serves to optimize the cost-effectiveness of any such requirements through the careful coordination of both point source (wastewater plant) and non-point (stormwater) management programs.

**What local actions have been taken to address these issues?**

This past January the Town of Chapel Hill released a report by its Stormwater Utility Technical Review Committee that examined the stormwater management programs of several other communities in North Carolina and considered a range of institutional options for Chapel Hill. The report recommended a regional approach that would include Carrboro, Chapel Hill, and portions of Orange County, and suggested that OWASA be considered as an institutional entity with the capacity to manage a community-wide stormwater program.

The Chapel Hill report did not, however, attempt to define or evaluate the potential scope of a stormwater program regarding the range of issues, problems, or solutions that it would address. Such program options would likely include local/areawide flooding, water quality, erosion control, community lakes (e.g., Eastwood, Lake Ellen, private subdivision ponds, etc.), streambank/greenway management, and larger regional water resource issues, such as Jordan Lake.

**What's next?**

Chapel Hill will likely convene an expanded review committee to develop some of its recent (January 1999) recommendations, and has invited OWASA to participate in these discussions.

**OWASA Recommendations**

1. It is recommended that OWASA participate in further stormwater management discussions and offer its technical expertise.
2. OWASA should continue to focus on those "big picture" aspects of stormwater issues that have the most direct impact on its role as the community's water and sewer utility provider.
3. OWASA recommends that future discussions focus substantially more attention on the potential scope of a stormwater management program before devoting further efforts to the institutional approach or management entity that can best provide those services.



28

ATTACHMENT 3

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
AT  
CHAPEL HILL

Office of the  
Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
CB# 1000, 300 South Building  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-1000  
(919) 962-3798 FAX: (919) 962-0647

May 26, 1999

Mayor Rosemary Waldorf  
Town of Chapel Hill  
306 N Columbia St  
Chapel Hill NC 27514

Dear Mayor Waldorf:

Thank you for providing us with an opportunity to review the *Stormwater Utility Technical Review Committee Report, January 1999*.

As discussed with George Small, we would be interested in investigating the issue with the local communities and OWASA. Please let me know of future developments so we can participate.

Sincerely,

  
Bruce L. Runberg  
Associate Vice Chancellor  
for Facilities Services

cc: Ed Kerwin, Executive Director, OWASA  
Jim Ramsey, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, UNC-CH  
George Small, Director of Engineering, Town of Chapel Hill

(29)  
**ORANGE COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT**  
306F REVERE ROAD  
HILLSBOROUGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27278



May 27, 1999

Mr. George Small, P.E.  
Director of Engineering  
Town of Chapel Hill  
306 North Columbia Street  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516

RE: Stormwater Utilities

Dear George,

Thank you and Michael Neal for meeting with Warren Faircloth, Erosion Control Supervisor, and me regarding your work on the 'Stormwater Utility; Technical Review Committee Report, January 1999'. If further consideration of an implementation study group is made, please include Orange County as an interested participant.

The fiscal effects upon local resources are increasing as jurisdictions seek to adhere to new federal regulations and manage stormwater runoff, soil erosion and sedimentation. Please keep us on your mailing list as matters unfold.

Thank you for coordinating this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Craig N. Benedict".

Craig N. Benedict, AICP  
Planning Director

cc: John M. Link, Jr. County Manager  
Warren Faircloth, Erosion Control Supervisor

CNB/jb



30  
TOWN OF CARRBORO

ATTACHMENT 5

NORTH CAROLINA

May 5, 1999

Mayor Rosemary Waldorf  
Town of Chapel Hill  
306 N. Columbia St.  
Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

Dear Mayor Waldorf:

Thank you for providing the Town of Carrboro with an opportunity to review and comment on the "Stormwater Utility Technical Review Committee Report, January 1999". The Board of Aldermen at their April 20, 1999 meeting received the report. However, the information provided was insufficient to allow us to form any substantive opinion or to supply you with input of any value.

If you and the Town Council are interested in our feedback, it is requested that you provide additional information. First, the problem that gave rise to the report must be clearly defined. (What problem are you attempting to solve?) Second, what other options were studied to solve this problem?

Regarding the utility approach, the Board generally felt reluctant about creating another entity similar to OWASA and/or transferring the stormwater utility powers and responsibilities to OWASA. The Board was particularly concerned about the transfer of land use permitting whether direct or implied to a stormwater utility as well as the authority to shape local land use policies. The Board asked if stormwater management could be dealt with in a staff-to-staff manner rather than creating a multi-jurisdictional utility. If the governing bodies decided to employ the multi-jurisdictional stormwater utility approach, then there should be equal representation from each entity.

Again, thank you for providing us with an opportunity to comment on the stormwater utility report.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Nelson  
Mayor