



Policy Review Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting No.: 4
Date: August 12, 2003
Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Location: Chapel Hill Public Library

Committee Attendees: Phil Berke
David Brower
Mark Cate
Milton Heath
Ed Holland
Meg Holton
Julie McClintock
Sharon Myers
Phil Post
Scott Radway

Absent: Donald Brewer
Alan Rimer
Judith Weseman
Barbara Levine
Mia Day Burroughs
Jeff Cobb
John French

Other Attendees: Town Staff
Fred Royal
Robert Sykes
George Small
AMEC
Maureen Hartigan
Paula Thomas
Chris Heaney

Agenda and Discussion:

The meeting was convened at 6:10 pm with welcoming remarks from Fred Royal, Town Stormwater Engineer. AMEC consultants then reviewed the agenda for the evening. The consultant asked for any changes to the minutes of the previous meeting; there being none, the minutes were accepted.

The Committee reviewed the draft Program Priorities. Ms. Thomas began the discussion with a brief recap of progress made by the Policy Review Committee at its last meeting, pointing out revisions to the Program Priorities policy paper. The Committee discussed the 10 priorities, asking questions and wanting clarifications. Several of the paragraphs were determined to be unclear, bureaucratic and wordy. The Committee asked the consultant to revise the explanatory paragraphs and bring a revised draft back to the next meeting. The Committee asked that the explanatory paragraphs be short, descriptive, active and consistent.

The Policy Review Committee received a copy of the finalized Mission Statement and agreed to make one final change to the Roles document, adding the words “riparian corridors” and deleting the words “ from encroachment” to the System Engineering Services section of the chart.

The Committee moved on to discussion of Level and Extent of Services. The Consultant led the group through a series of slides introducing the concepts of: 1) Level of Service (standards, frequency, quality, etc.), and 2) Extent of Service (spatial, geographic, systemic). The members of the Policy Review Committee were reminded that they will be asked to make recommendations to the Town Council regarding these elements of the stormwater management program. Discussion included Urban Services Boundary vs. Town Limits; trigger points for geographic areas being brought into the utility when annexation occurs vs. all at one time; what Town staff and which Town functions should be considered part of the stormwater management program; which of the five areas of service (Planning, Regulation, Engineering, Maintenance and Rehab/upgrade) should be included in a Comprehensive Stormwater Management Program. The Policy Review Committee wanted clarification and replacement of the term “flood control” with “flood management” which more accurately reflects the intent. Additionally, the Policy Review Committee wanted to include more than just system maintenance in the program design and performance standards development. These elements would include things like mitigation, acquisition, etc.

Other questions discussed included whether the stormwater management program would/should extend services onto private property. This led to a discussion of the Town’s current Drainage Assistance Program. Discussion questions included: “To what degree does the Town want to take this responsibility? Must a project have some public benefit to be eligible? What is the Town’s legal liability re: perpetual responsibility once it provides services on private property? The consultant closed the meeting stating that these issues would receive further discussion at the next meeting, and agreeing to provide an accurate and detailed map of the Town with its Urban Services Boundary clearly shown.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. The next meeting of the Policy Review Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, September 9, 2003.