

Lake Ballinger/McAleer Creek Watershed Forum  
Mountlake Terrace Interim City Hall  
Council Chambers  
Meeting Minutes  
September 27, 2011

Members Present

Mayor Jerry Smith, Chair (Mountlake Terrace), Councilmember Don Fiene, Vice Chair (Lake Forest Park), Councilmember D.J. Wilson (Edmonds)

Staff Present

Curt Brees (Mountlake Terrace Public Works Director), Frank Zenk (Lake Forest Park Public Works Director), Aaron Halverson (Lake Forest Park Environmental Programs Manager), Mike Shaw (Mountlake Terrace Stormwater Program Manager), Jerry Shuster (Edmonds Stormwater Engineering Program Manager)

Others Present

Mayor Dave Hutchinson (Lake Forest Park), Jake Johnston (The Johnston Group), Lynn Yarnall (Ballinger Resident)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Jerry Smith called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m. at Mountlake Terrace Interim City Council Chambers. The agenda for the September 27 meeting and minutes for the May 24 meeting were approved.

II. Federal Legislative Agenda – Update on Federal Funding Issues

Jake Johnston reported that the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) Bill deadline has been pushed back to December 5. He added that the Senators are coordinating their requests and it appears that the Forum's request will be a priority.

Mr. Johnston suggested that the Forum should continue to reinforce with the federal delegation that it is not eligible for funding under the Continuing Authorities with the US Army Corps of Engineers and WRDA is the only option.

Mr. Johnston suggested the Forum might reiterate their WRDA request back to the Senators in a letter from all of the member jurisdictions to highlight the work accomplished with their assistance over the summer and remind them how the Forum qualifies for funding. Chair Smith stated that the Forum should recap the whole year to let citizens know what's been done. Councilmember D. J. Wilson suggested that he and Mr. Johnston put together a 600-word op-ed piece for review by the Forum.

III. Update on Edmonds/Mountlake Terrace Interlocal Agreement

Mike Shaw provided a status update on the ILA and McAleer Creek Culvert Replacement and Enhancement Project. He added that Perteet Engineering of Everett was selected as a consultant and in phase 1 will review all of the information gathered by the Forum regarding flow with information due by the end of this year. Mr. Shaw explained the ILA is structured in two phases because Edmonds' funding is only authorized for 2011.

He added that staff will continue on the scope of work for phase 2, a joint project with Edmonds to look at removing culverts on the Nile Golf Course. Mr. Shaw stated that phase 2 would begin January 1, 2012, if the City of Edmonds renews funding for the project. He added phase 2 includes permitting, plan specifications, scope of work and cost recommendations with plans ready to go by mid-May and construction from July 1 to September 30 to stay within the fish window.

Curt Brees stated that the consultant will host an open house for the public on November 15 at 2 p.m. to explain the project at either the Nile or Ballinger Lake Golf Course.

Chair Smith requested updates on projects by each city.

Mr. Brees reported that the City of Mountlake Terrace is nearing completion on the Hall Creek project that removed four undersized culverts that were impeding flow on Hall Creek just north of Ballinger Lake Golf Course. He added that the other big project is the joint project with Edmonds to look at removing culverts on the Nile Golf Course. Chair Smith asked about the status of the weir. Mr. Brees responded that Mountlake Terrace would continue to operate the weir within long established standards and guidelines.

Jerry Shuster reported that Edmonds is continuing its work on the Interurban Trail. He added that a 10,000 cubic foot detention vault will keep stormwater off the paved part of the trail to reduce the impact on the lake.

Aaron Halverson reported that Lake Forest Park is finishing up on the McAleer Creek Bypass Retrofit. Mr. Halverson stated they have a contract with David O Consulting to design the Lyon Creek Bypass project and the Forum's studies will be used to refine the model to develop a solid FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation Notice application. Mr. Halverson reported that the City of Lake Forest Park purchased a property on Lyon Creek in the flood zone to add a passive park for stream enhancement and to add capacity to the flood plain.

#### IV. Update on flow monitoring at McAleer Creek and structure elevations for selected Edmonds residents on the lake

Jerry Shuster stated that the consultant completed surveying the finished floor elevations of the seven lowest houses on Lake Ballinger in the City of Edmonds for the Lake Ballinger Elevation Study. He added that the information will be used in the upcoming culvert replacement project to show potential benefit to the seven homes.

Mr. Halverson stated that the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs discussion with the Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division, originally scheduled for the August meeting that was canceled, will be rescheduled for February or March 2012.

Mr. Shaw reported that Mountlake Terrace has installed two flow monitors including one at the lower end of a culvert going out of Lake Ballinger in McAleer Creek and one in the culvert under 228<sup>th</sup> on Hall Creek. He added that over time, this would allow them to monitor the flow going in and out of the lake.

Vice Chair Fiene asked if the culvert removal on Hall Creek would result in increased flashiness or level changes in Lake Ballinger. Mr. Shaw responded that according to his figures, he believes it would amount to 15 one hundredths or less than a half an inch. He added that the hydrology is so complex it would be difficult to show a difference in the level of the lake. Mr. Shaw explained that it would depend on the intensity and duration of the storm event. Mr. Shuster added that it depends on how high the lake is at the time. Mr. Shaw explained that before the culverts were removed the same amount of water would eventually flow into the Lake.

#### V. Update on Meetings

Curt Brees asked if Forum members would be available for the October 25 meeting to discuss renewal of the ILA. It was the consensus of the Forum that the term of the ILA be extended to two years, change the meeting frequency to quarterly meetings or every month, as needed, and continue with the same amount of administrative and federal lobbyist support. It was decided that there was enough direction to complete a new draft ILA and eliminate the need for the October 25 meeting.

#### VI. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

#### VII. Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.

Next meeting is the Open House with Perteet Engineering on the McAleer Creek Culvert Replacement and Enhancement project on November 15, 2011 at 2 pm