



**Environmental and Stormwater Impact
Task Force**

MINUTES

March 29, 2006

1:30-3:30 pm

Lake County Stormwater Management Commission

333-B Peterson Rd

Libertyville, IL 60048

1.0 Roll Call

- Warner, Mike, Chair (Lake County Stormwater Manage. Comm.)
- Anderson, James (Lake County Forest Preserve)
- Crivello, Steve (Lake County Dept. of Building and Zoning)
- Giertych, Al (Lake County Division of Transportation)
- Holleman, Bill (Lake County Conservation Alliance)
- Mengler, Jeff (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
- Reed, Bud (Manhard Consulting)
- Slowinski, Tom (V3 Companies)

Alternates

- Cirton, Shawn (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
- Laramy, Jeff (Lake County Stormwater Management Commission)
- Tack, Jon (Lake County Dept. of Building and Zoning)

Staff

- Bosman, Tracey Hyatt (Lake County Partners)

2.0 Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion: To approve minutes of the March 1, 2006 meeting.
Motion By: Bud Reed
Seconded By: Steve Crivello
Discussion: Corrected INI to Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI)
Motion Passed: Unanimous

3.0 Nomination of Al Giertych to Serve as Vice Chair

Motion: To elect Al Giertych as Vice Chair.
Motion By: Steve Crivello
Seconded By: Jim Anderson

Discussion: Bill Holleman expressed some concern of the number of positions being held by Al Giertych and whether we were overextending him. It was clarified that Al was only serving on this Taskforce and the Public Information Taskforce. Bill withdrew his concern.

Motion Passed: Unanimous

4.0 Public Comment

- 4.1 Jim Bland, representing the Sierra Club raised the following four suggestions:
 - 4.11 Broaden the scope of the corridor evaluation beyond ½ mile off either side of the roadway as induced growth will go beyond ½ mile.
 - 4.12 Be careful with the use of stream grade information from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and Illinois Department of Natural Resources – the data is “ok, but not great” and requires the individual working with it to be able to interpret it properly, especially in the case of Avant Freemont Stream
 - 4.13 Use the United State Geological Survey Report from 2005 which has extensive information on the Des Plaines and Fox River Basins
 - 4.14 Evaluate the potential of the salt that would be used on the proposed Route 120 improvements, as it has been shown to have an impact on waterways, running throughout the watershed and not limited to ½ mile around the roadway.

5.0 Review GIS Map Layers (Jeffrey Laramy, SMC)

- 5.1 The maps were based on 2005 aerial photography, including:
 - 5.11 Eight township parcel layers [Lake Villa, Shields, Warren, Libertyville, Wauconda, Fremont, Avon, and Grant]
 - 5.12 Lake County GIS data, including major roads and Lake County boundary
 - 5.13 Yellow corridor line (clipped at McHenry County line on west and Green Bay Road on east)
 - 5.14 Route 120 concept line
 - 5.15 Major lakes and streams
 - 5.16 Hydric soils
 - 5.17 FEMA 100-year floodplain and 100 Year floodplain from the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission (SMC) Fish Lake Drain and Squaw Creek Study
 - 5.18 Lake County wetlands inventory
 - 5.19 Advanced Identification (ADID) wetlands
 - 5.20 Forest Preserve Boundaries [Marl Flat, Nippersink, Almond Marsh, Independence Grove, Gurnee Woods, Lake Carena, and Greenbelt]

5.21 Watersheds [The following four subsheds from the Fox River watershed - Lower Fox, Fish lake Drain, Mutton, Squaw. The following three subsheds from the Des Plaines River watershed - Mill Creek, Bull Creek, Upper Des Plaines. The following two subsheds from the North Branch Chicago River watershed - Middle Fork and Skokie.]

5.22 Public lands

5.2 It was noted that this data is to be used as a screening/decision tool and is not a substitute for a Phase I Study.

6.0 Presentation and discussion of “Free and Clear” layer, indicating those areas in which no environmental constraints exist (Jeffrey Laramy, SMC)

6.1 A shape file was created to illustrate the environmental considerations, comprised of Lake County wetlands, 100-year floodplains (FEMA augmented by the SMC data), ADID wetlands, Forest Preserve properties and hydric soils (2005 data).

6.2 A shape file was created to illustrate the environmental considerations, comprised of Lake County wetlands, 100-year floodplains (FEMA augmented by the SMC data), ADID wetlands, and Forest Preserve properties WITHOUT hydric soils.

6.3 These shape files were colored in green and then reversed to create “free and clear” files.

7.0 Presentation and discussion of overlay of existing developed areas on “free and clear” layer. (Jeffrey Laramy, SMC)

7.1 For illustrative purposes, a development layer was also illustrated.

7.2 The Taskforce requested that conservation easements be added to the data files.

7.3 There was discussion of impervious surface. Jeffrey indicated that there is limited capability in that area.

7.4 The Taskforce noted that we will need to consider Campbell Airport and whether there are any FAA restrictions.

7.5 The Taskforce requested that existing right of way be added in order that it can be shown as an “opportunity.”

7.6 It was noted that, while we do not need to add the ADID buffers to the GIS illustration, it is important to know that they are there.

8.0 Define barriers, constraints, and opportunities and discuss.

8.1 One possible of method for illustrating the existing environmental barriers and constraints would be to create three levels: High Avoidance, Moderate Avoidance, Minimal Avoidance. “High Avoidance” (e.g. ADID, INAI, T&E) would be given a “3” and shaded red in final map product. “Moderate Avoidance” would be shaded yellow (standard quality wetlands,

- floodways) and designated as a “2.” Areas of “Minimal Avoidance” will be scored as a “1” and given a green shading (e.g. hydric soils, floodplains).
- 8.2 A second possible of method for illustrating the existing environmental barriers and constraints would be to use a cumulative grading system by which an environmental asset would be given a certain number of points based on its quality/importance. Geographies having multiple assets would be given scores reflecting the sum total of their various assets. The higher the score, the more critical preservation.
- 8.21 It was noted that ADID wetlands should be looked at it to see whether they are water quality based or ecologically based and scored accordingly.

Motion: To request Jeffrey Laramy to (1) submit to members of the Taskforce a potential grading system for the second alternative, (2) receive and incorporate feedback from Taskforce members, and (3) to then mock up both potential grading systems on GIS for presentation at the next meeting of the Taskforce.

Motion By: Jim Anderson

Seconded By: Jeff Mengler

Discussion: None

Motion Passed: Unanimous

9.0 Future Meeting Schedule

- 9.1 The next regularly scheduled task force meeting will be on Wednesday, April 26 from 1:30-3:30 pm at offices of Lake County Stormwater Management Commission
- 9.2 There will be a joint meeting of task forces on May 4 from 1:00-5:00 pm at The University Center of Lake County.
- 9.21 Jim Anderson noted that he will be unable to attend but will send Mike Fenelon as his alternate.
- 9.3 There will be a public sharing meeting, tentatively on May 23 from 4:00-7:00 pm, location to be determined.

Motion: To accept the future meeting schedule as indicated.

Motion By: Tom Slowinski

Seconded By: Steve Crivello

Discussion: None

Motion Passed: Unanimous

10.0 Adjourn

Motion:	To adjourn.
Motion By:	Jim Anderson
Seconded By:	Tom Slowinski
Discussion:	None
Motion Passed:	Unanimous