



**Roll Call Number**

**Agenda Item Number**

49

**Date** February 7, 2022

WHEREAS, the Public Works Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee has completed and submitted its Annual Report regarding the status of community goals.

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ to receive and file such Annual Report.

(Council Communication No. 22- 046 )

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
s/Kathleen Vanderpool  
Kathleen Vanderpool  
Deputy City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
COWNIE				
BOESEN				
GATTO				
SHEUMAKER				
MANDELBAUM				
VOSS				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				

MOTION CARRIED APPROVED

**CERTIFICATE**

I, P. Kay Cmelik, City Clerk of said City hereby certify that at a meeting of the City Council of said City of Des Moines, held on the above date, among other proceedings the above was adopted.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

**City of Des Moines**  
**Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee**  
**2021 Annual Report to City Council**

As required in the current Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee Policy and Rules, a brief summary of the 2021 activities of the committee and status of the committee goals are included for submission to the City Council in this report.

### **Committee Overview**

The Des Moines Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee has had a productive second year. They continued to educate themselves about the Des Moines Stormwater Utility and actively engage with the development of the City-Wide Stormwater Master Plan process.

The committee had several members step off the committee in 2021 including Kathy Fehrman, Jordan Powers, and Bob Wilson. The current committee consists of the following members.

Member	Ward	Member	Ward
Gloria Hoffmann	1 – Chair	Nancy Suby-Bohn	2
Jenni Klise	1 – Vice Chair	Theresa Finnegan	3
Kieth Sjostrom	1	Carolyn Uhlenhake-Walker	3
Steve Wallace	2	Ricardo Corona	4

### **Committee Recommendations/Actions**

The committee was actively involved with the continued stormwater efforts for the City. One of the big focuses has been related to the City-Wide Stormwater Master Plan Project. The committee actively promoted the public outreach efforts and the stormwater surveys that were conducted as part of the master plan. They were also engaged with the discussion on the watershed prioritization criteria that was developed in Phase 1 of the master plan that will be the basis of the Phase 2 work.

The committee continued to push for identification and pursuit of stormwater funding outside of the City's stormwater utility funds. LOSST funds had been earmarked for stormwater programs and projects. The committee recommended that LOSST funding be continued in the future and proposed increasing the amount of funding being directed to stormwater projects. Other funding sources discussed were COVID relief funding, State of Iowa SRF funding, and the potential funding from the Federal Infrastructure Bill which was passed in November 2021.

The committee recommended continued promotion and execution of the Stormwater Best Management Practices program. The program supports the installation of green infrastructure that improves water quality, reduces flooding from small to moderate storms. This is especially important in the high-risk priority neighborhoods where changing climates have led to additional flooding from more frequent high intensity storm events.

The committee was also actively looking for topics related to stormwater that they wanted to learn more about and try to find ways for the city to improve. Those included identifying additional opportunities for stormwater project funding, severe weather preparedness/emergency notification, floodplain information for the general public, Merle Hay and Douglas Stormwater Issues, Groundwater Issues, and the Easter Lake Watershed Improvements Program.

### **Stormwater Master Plan**

The committee was engaged with Phase 1 of the City-Wide Stormwater Master Plan. Multiple meetings included education on the master planning process and understanding the tasks included in the Phase 1 scope. The City's consultant, CDM Smith, came in and gave updates during several meetings and the committee was able to provide feedback on the public outreach approach and the watershed prioritization efforts.

### **Stormwater Projects**

The committee spent a significant portion of the meeting time reviewing and discussing stormwater projects. The committee wanted to commend City Council on their support of stormwater projects over the past 5 years. Over \$114,000,000 in stormwater funded projects were completed during that time period. Those included Watershed Improvement Programs in Easter Lake Watershed, Closes Creek Watershed, Hamilton Drainage Area, Leetown Creekway Watershed, Flood Mitigation/Levee Program Improvements, a portion of the multiple sewer separation projects and several City-Wide Stormwater Improvement Projects. Although that is a significant investment in stormwater projects, the City needs to continue providing support for stormwater projects that have not yet been completed in order to repair or replace aging infrastructure, improve water quality and reduce flooding impacts around the City.

### **Committee Quarterly Meeting Overviews**

The committee held the first meeting of the year on February 16, 2021 in a virtual meeting. The meeting focused on review of the status of the Stormwater Master Plan, review and discussion of the stormwater ordinance being developed based on the Capital Crossroads metro-wide standard, the proposed legislative changes by the Home Builders Association were discussed, severe weather/flooding was covered, public access to floodplain information was discussed, stormwater involvement by other City committees was reviewed, and stormwater rebate program deadlines were confirmed.

The committee held the second meeting of the year on May 18, 2021 in a virtual meeting. The meeting included the Stormwater Master Plan, the Birdland Levee deficiency risk assessment update, discussion of the stormwater issues at Merle Hay and Douglas, and review of stormwater projects and financing.

The committee held the third meeting of the year on August 17, 2021 in person at the Municipal Service Center in the backup board room. The meeting included the Stormwater Master Plan, Des Moines stormwater educational information on projects and stormwater best management practices, groundwater issues, budget process, review of stormwater projects and financing, and nominations of the committee chair..

The committee held the fourth meeting of the year on November 16, 2021 in person at the Municipal Service Center in the backup board room. The meeting included Easter Lake Watershed Improvements and Green Infrastructure Implementation, Stormwater Master Plan updates, budget process, review of stormwater projects and financing, review and approval of the annual committee report, and election of the committee chair.

Patrick Beane  
Recording Secretary  
Des Moines Clean Water Program Administrator