



Roll Call Number

Agenda Item Number

72

Date September 29, 2025

RECEIVE AND FILE PUBLIC WORKS
STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Des Moines Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee Policy and Rules, the Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee ("SIAC") is charged with drafting an annual report on Committee activities and status of Committee goals and submitting said report to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the SIAC has completed its report for 2024, including comments from the SIAC Chair regarding SIAC efforts; and

WHEREAS, said 2024 Annual Report and Chair comments are hereby submitted to the Council to receive and file.

(Council Communication No. 25-347)

MOVED by _____ to receive and file.

SECOND by _____.

Approved as to Form:

/s/ Glenna K. Frank
Glenna K. Frank, Deputy City Attorney

COUNCIL ACTION	YEAS	NAYS	PASS	ABSENT
BOESEN				
COLEMAN				
GATTO				
MANDELBAUM				
SIMONSON				
VOSS				
WESTERGAARD				
TOTAL				
MOTION CARRIED			APPROVED	

CERTIFICATE

I, Laura Baumgartner, 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.

City Clerk

City of Des Moines

Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee

2024 Annual Report to City Council

As included in the current Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee Policy and Rules, a brief summary of the 2024 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 year. They continued to educate themselves about the Des Moines Stormwater Utility and actively engage with the implementation of the City-Wide Stormwater Master Plan process.

The committee had one member (Theresa Finnegan) step off of the committee in 2024. The committee also added two new members in 2024. The current committee consists of the following members.

Member	Ward	Member	Ward
Loulou Dickey	1	Steve Wallace	2
Gloria Hoffmann	1 – Past Chair	Andrea McEachran	3
Kieth Sjostrom	1 – Chair	Carolyn Uhlenhake-Walker	3
Bill Wedeking	1	Joe Henry	4 – Vice Chair
Nancy Suby-Bohn	2		

Committee Recommendations/Actions/Motions

The committee continued their involvement with the efforts of the City in the development of stormwater planning and projects. Although there were many items discussed this year, there were two formal recommendations, actions, or motions by the committee.

The first motion by the committee was to recognize Gloria Hoffmann as the first committee chair for the Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee and thank her for her service. She has worked diligently to make sure stormwater infrastructure issues are considered in our budget and maintains the goal that stormwater infrastructure should not fall between the cracks. Gloria has reached her term limits and is letting another Chair step up and help guide the committee. She will continue with the committee after her term as Chair.

The second motion by the committee was a motion to finalize the annual report and submit it to the City Council for receiving and filing.

Stormwater Master Plan Program

The committee was actively engaged with the Stormwater Master Plan Program Implementation. Review and discussion of the first 4 priority projects that were included in the 2025 Capital Improvement Project Budget were the focus. Feedback from the committee will continue for the next projects in the program.

Stormwater Projects

The committee continued to include review of existing and upcoming projects as part of their quarterly meetings. The committee is most appreciative of the support that City Council has provided to execute the currently planned projects in the Closes Creek Watershed, Hamilton Drain Watershed, the Flood Mitigation/Levee Program Improvements, and the City-Wide Stormwater Improvement Projects. The Stormwater Master Plan Program will need continued funding into the future especially the 15 priority projects that were identified through that process. In addition, there are over 700 million dollars of deficient stormwater infrastructure that still needs to be assessed and funded. All of that work needs to continue to be funded, and the Committee requests that City Council continue to provide that financial support.

The committee was also very supportive of the public outreach and education efforts regarding stormwater that the City has been developing. They included the DMWW flyers, Facebook postings, and stormwater BMP opportunities. They are important functions and need to continue to be supported and promoted.

Committee Meeting Overviews

The committee held the first quarter meeting of the year on February 20, 2024. The meeting focused on the Des Moines ADAPT DSM program with a presentation by the Des Moines Sustainability Program Manager, Jeremy Caron. There was significant discussion about the goals, focus areas, strategies, and priority tactics included in the plan. There were a lot of questions about how stormwater was included in the plan. Jeremy made it clear work like the levee improvement program, stormwater improvement projects, and the Stormwater BMP program focused on green infrastructure were all important components. The meeting also covered a stormwater master plan update, stormwater project/budget updates, and some questions about stormwater legislation.

The committee held the second quarter meeting of the year on May 21, 2024. The meeting was planned to have the State of Iowa Climatologist, Justin Glisan, present to the committee, but due to a major thunderstorm weather pattern he was not able to attend. The committee still met, and discussion was centered around the SF 455 legislation that was approved on April 10, 2024. The committee raised concerns about the impacts that the legislation would have on the City's ability to manage stormwater during development and redevelopment. Options to mitigate the impacts from the legislation were discussed. The other major discussion point was the updates on the stormwater projects.

The committee held the third quarter meeting of the year on August 20, 2024. The main focus of the meeting was a presentation by the State of Iowa Climatologist, Justin Glisan. Mr. Glisan gave a detailed presentation on weather patterns and projections. That led to a good discussion with the committee about the impacts on stormwater issues. The committee also reviewed the stormwater master plan program, capital projects, the budget process, and future meeting topics.

The committee held the fourth quarter meeting on December 3, 2024. The agenda for the meeting included a discussion of a new chair and vice chair. Gloria Hoffmann concluded her second term as Chair, and Theresa Finnegan, the previous vice chair, had stepped off the committee so both positions needed to be filled. The roles and duties of the chair and vice chair were covered thoroughly. After discussion among the committee, Keith Sjostrom was nominated for chair and Joe Henry was nominated for vice chair. Both nominations were approved by a vote of the committee. The committee also reviewed the stormwater master plan program, capital projects, budget issues, and recommended SIAC committee members attend the Ward budget meetings scheduled after the meeting.

Patrick Beane
Recording Secretary
Des Moines Public Works Clean Water Program Administrator

Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee Chair Emeritus Comments

- Thank you to the Council past and present and staff for keeping stormwater as a priority.
- The City has continued the important work in Closes Creek with the completion of the current funded phases of the watershed plan. The work in Hamilton Drain is also approaching completion. Those projects were important stormwater improvements that were the result of council action after the June 2018 storm event.
- Since that time the City Council has provided support of work identified in the City-Wide Stormwater Master Plan Program. As you recall, there were 15 priority projects identified at an estimated cost of \$125 million. Five of those projects are currently under design, and it is anticipated that work will begin on the first of those projects next year.
- The City has also started the city-wide stormwater condition assessment. Information gathered from that effort along with other issues identified through resident feedback and operational challenges will lead to additional projects that will be included in the priority project list in the future. If council recalls, that is part of the \$700 million in infrastructure improvements identified in the Stormwater Master Plan
- In order to keep the stormwater efforts moving forward, there needs to be continued support of the stormwater utility fees which is the only dedicated source of funding for stormwater work.
- The committee is continuing to recommend that Public Works staff pursue external funding for implementation of the Stormwater Master Plan from any and all available sources.
- All of these efforts have a financial, safety and environmental impact on our City.
- I finally want to thank the committee and Patrick Beane for their work. As City Council knows, the work of the City's committees and boards need active members so please keep watch for residents who have an interest or concerns in stormwater for future membership on the Stormwater Infrastructure Advisory Committee. It has been an honor to serve the City.