



March 27, 2009

Stakeholder Work Group Set for Vancouver's Stormwater Ordinance Update

Finishing preparations are under way for Vancouver's Stakeholder Work Group, which will focus on stormwater ordinance requirements to meet the Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit for Western Washington, issued by the Washington Department of Ecology.

The first meeting will be from 4:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 8, in the Theater Room on the first floor of the Water Resources Education Center, 4600 SE Columbia Way. Looking ahead at a tentative schedule for subsequent meetings, space has been reserved at the Water Center -- either the Community Room upstairs or Theater Room downstairs, depending upon availability -- from 4:30-6:30 p.m., for the following Wednesdays: April 15, 22 and 29; and May 6, 13, 20 and 27.

Al Schauer, president/CEO of MacKay & Sposito has agreed to serve as facilitator. In addition to stormwater-related City staff, the Stakeholder Work Group members are:

- o Tim Kraft, OTAK
- o Steve Madsen, Building Industry Association of Clark County
- o Chad McMurry, Olson Engineering and Association of the Society of Civil Engineers, SW Washington
- o Eric Golemo, Sturtevant, Golemo and Associates
- o Steve Murphy, Ellsworth Neighborhood Association
- o Bill Custis, West Minnehaha Neighborhood Association
- o Greg Winters, Department of Ecology

Stakeholder Work Group meetings will be open to the public. Time will be set aside during the meeting to take brief public input. The public will be encouraged to submit questions or suggestions in writing, particularly comments involving technical issues.

The goals are to:

- o Engage involved community stakeholders in a meaningful dialogue concerning ordinance revisions;
- o Bring to light and discuss all issues, including costs, of the revisions required by the NPDES Phase II permit;
- o Return to the City Council in June with stormwater ordinance revisions for first reading consideration;
- o Adopt ordinance language that meets the requirements of the City's NPDES Phase II permit

Members of the Stakeholder Work Group will be asked to:

- o Offer specific input into stormwater-related ordinance revisions needed to meet the city's permit requirements;
- o Serve as liaisons to their constituencies, providing information and input for discussion;
- o Attend scheduled meetings, which will be announced in advance for the public to attend and observe.

The tentative schedule and topics include:

- o Introductions and brief overview of the permit requirements and Vancouver's stormwater-related ordinances
- o Proposed Water Resources Protection revisions and Erosion Prevention/Enforcement revisions
- o Stormwater Ordinance Revision Requirements
 - o Flow Standards
 - o Incentives/Exemptions/Adjustments
 - o Low Impact Development/BMPS
 - o Detention Ponds/Basin Planning/Costs

More information and links to state requirements have been posted on the city's Surface Water Management website at www.cityofvancouver.us/surfacewater.