MS4 and Stormwater Management in the Mat-Su
Stakeholder Meeting #6 Summary
Date: November 28, 2022
Attendees: Attendance List Attached
Reported: Mandy Powers, Huddle AK
Location: Virtual via Microsoft Teams
Project: Mat-Su Borough MS4 Coordination
Subject: Stakeholder Meeting #6 Summary

Summary: MS4 & Stormwater Management in the Mat-Su Borough Stakeholder Meeting #6 Review and Wrap Up

The Stakeholder Meeting #6 for MS4 and Stormwater Management in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB) met virtually on Monday, November 28, from 11:30 am – 1pm using Microsoft Teams. The purpose of this meeting was to convene stakeholders from governmental agencies and other partners who will likely be required to obtain an MS4 permit from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) if the MSB is classified as an Urbanized Area by the US Census Bureau, sometime later in 2022.

Stakeholder members met to review the topics covered in the previous meetings, had time for a Q&A period, and discussed next steps for the group. Questions and comments were recorded and are summarized in a table at the end of this summary.

For the presentation materials, including the agenda, please see the attachments.

Brief Summary of Previous Meetings

1. Meeting 1: Stakeholder working group members met to learn about what the MS4 permit is, the components of a stormwater management plan, the MS4 application process, and to begin discussions about how the anticipated MS4 permit applicants can work separately or jointly when applying for the permit.
2. Meeting 2: Stakeholder members met to review the purpose and need of the MS4 permit, to learn about what is required in the permit, and to learn how other communities have structured the permit and the Stormwater Management Program (SWMP).
3. Meeting 3: Stakeholder members met to review the purpose and need of the MS4 permit, to learn about the minimum control measures required; monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and record keeping; and standard permit conditions.
4. Meeting 4: Stakeholder members met to review the purpose and need of the MS4 permit, to learn about existing resources and permit building blocks, and to discuss other sources of information that may be useful during the MS4 permitting phase.
5. Meeting 5: Stakeholder members met to continue the technical discussion. Topics during this meeting included organizational options, program costs, and funding sources.

Overview of the Meeting Presentation

1. Welcome & Introduction
2. Summary of Meetings 1 through 5
    a. Meeting 1 Recap
        i. Project Background & Purpose
            1. Expecting greater Palmer/Wasilla area in the MSB to be designated as Urbanized, based on census bureau data, in December 2022
            2. This designation triggers the need for a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit issued by ADEC
            3. Expected responsible parties (entities) include MSB, City of Wasilla, City of Palmer, DOT&PF

ii. Expected MS4 Timeline
    1. Expecting the Urbanized designation in December 2022, ADEC sends out requests in early 2023

b. Meetings 2 and 3 Recap
    i. MS4 Permit Components
        1. Public Education and Outreach
            a. Reaching out to the community, educating on where the water goes, what is an MS4 permit and why is it important for our community
        2. Public Involvement and Participation
            a. Allows the community to be involved in stormwater activies such as stream cleanup days, community rain gardens, or etc.
        3. Illicit Discharge and Elimination
            a. Create ordinance, inventory facilities, map the area, perform dry weather screening, training
            b. Aimed at finding and eliminating non-stormwater discharges in the system, if they are not specifically allowed by the permit
        4. Construction Site Runoff Control
            a. Regulations are already in place, but the responsibility will now beat the local level instead of the State level. Local guidance should be provided and can be adapted from existing guidance, if desired
        5. Post-construction Stormwater Management
            a. Developing and maintaining stormwater control measures for the longevity of the site. Expected to include requirements for putting in site controls for impervious services, developing a local ordinance, developing a plan review process, providing green infrastructure guidance/incentives, and considering pollutant control for snow disposal sites
        6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping
            a. Looking internally at how to minimize pollutants in runoff fromlocal government activities, for example snow maintenance, fleet maintenance, leaf maintenance, etc.
        7. Monitoring Program Plan
            a. How you monitor and keep track of how everything in your program is going, testing outfalls, and a quality assurance program

c. Meeting 4 Recap
    i. Existing Building Blocks
        1. Most necessary building blocks are not in place yet, though there are a few existing resources that could be expanded
        2. There is some existing mapping to build on

d. Meeting 5 Recap
    i. Organizational Options
        1. Joint as co-permittees or individual permits
        2. There are pros and cons to type, primarily based on necessary coordination and duplication of efforts
    ii. Intergovernmental Agreements
        1. Local examples with Fairbanks co-permittees and MOA/DOT&PF
    iii. Staffing
        1. Discussed example staffing for Fairbanks and Anchorage
        2. Can be mix of staff & contractors
        3. There are increased activities related to M&O work such as tracking and reporting, but existing permittees aren't specifically tracking this effort.
    iv. Program Costs

1. Hard to quantify and compare because of size differences and lack of M&O costs being quantified
2. Funding can come from general funds, tax money, grants (limited in how grants can be used), or a stormwater utility (less common in AK)

3. Group Q&A
    a. See chart below for questions, comments, and responses
4. What's Next
    a. MSB will be in touch with everyone with a final report and next steps
    b. Suggestion to add contact for future meetings
        i. Kirk Warren, Central Region DOT&PF Maintenance Chief
5. Closing

Agency Representative	Question/Comment	Answer
Meeting 2/3 Review		
Peggy Horton, MSB Planning	Who is the annual reporting directed to for the construction control measure ?	Janie Dusel (JD): To the state, ADEC
Kim Sollien, MSB	How do we let the public know that there will be a change in the entity reviewing the SWPPPs? How does MSB receive the SWPPP?	Jim Rypkema, AEDC: MOA reviews the SWPPPs in Anchorage, City of Fairbanks/FBNS Borough also reviews them in that region. Something similar would occur in MSB. When a contractor files for a permit, they are notified if the project is within an MS4 permit area. Rick Antonio, MSB: We can also cater our public outreach efforts to let interested parties know that the permitting requirements are changing. Jim Rypkema, AEDC: It may not be until Spring that the letter is sent from ADEC. After the permit is issued you have ample time to come up with regulations.
Meeting 5 Review		
John Moosey, City of Palmer	If we are individual permittees, how do we handle stormwater that flows from one boundary to another? Are there examples of how other entities handle this? If you choose to be individual permittees, then are you still working jointly?	JD: That's one of the reasons to form as co-permittees. It's the main reason that MOA and AKDOT are co-permittees, because the water is indistinguishable. If there are separate permits, there will likely be a lot of duplicate tracking and reporting involved. For example, if an illicit discharge is discovered, it may require tracking by both MS4s if the water crosses those jurisdictional boundaries. Unless you can map your system

		and say the water doesn't mix, then yes, you will still have to work jointly.
Q&A		
JD: Overall thoughts, what are you thinking in terms of joint vs. individual?		
Kim Sollien, MSB	MSB doesn't know if they want to be co-permittees or have a single permit. We haven't had a meeting with administration to talk it through yet.	
John Moosey, City of Palmer	(via chat) City of Palmer is in favor of a joint permit, but we are very concerned about the cost of management and implementation.	
Kim Sollien, MSB	MSB is also concerned about the cost of implementation.	
Rick Antonio, MSB	Duplication of efforts would increase the costs, so sharing the effort could save money.	
Rene Goentzel, DOT&PF	DOT wants to try a joint permit, because it doesn't make sense for DOT to do an individual permit. If a joint permit doesn't work, then it could be reevaluated when the permit expires in 5 years.	
Eric Schaal, City of Wasilla	City of Wasilla is expecting to participate in a joint application to share costs and coordinate efforts.	
JD: What additional information would be helpful as you make that decision?		
John Moosey, City of Palmer	(via chat) It was my understanding that we will get annual revenue for transportation. Can any of these funds be used for operation and management of storm water?	Kim Sollien: Regarding the MPO, that money will not be used for the stormwater management program. The cities and the borough will have to identify their own revenue for the stormwater management program.
John Moosey, City of Palmer	It would be helpful to have copies of the joint agreement permits for review. Would also like to request a meeting to work through what we would need to do to get to an agreement that could be taken to our city councils for review. This is a new cost for Palmer, and looking at Fairbanks, not an insignificant cost. Don't think Palmer residents would be interested in a new charge.	Kim Sollien: We plan to host a meeting with each group to work out the questions and figure out next steps.
Kim Sollien, MSB	There is flexibility in the timeline. MSB is working on setting up ongoing conversations with stakeholders, and will continue to meet with technical advisers, while working toward the stormwater management plan.	
Clint Adler, DOT&PF	Do we know what's needed in areas with TMDL's (total maximum daily limit)?	James Rypkema, ADEC: Level of compliance is the maximum extent practical, and relates to the six measures that are part of your program. The TMDL is an acronym for total maximum daily load and is set by the EPA for impaired water bodies. JD: Different water bodies may have pollutants, for various reasons, so the TMDL

		addsadditional regulations related specifically to the pollutant related to the impairment.
Clint Adler, DOT&PF	How well are the potential co-permittees prepared for dealing with the TMDLs?	JD: Once the designation is issued, we'll know what bodies of water are in the boundary. The permit will address this in the specific permit activities.
Kim Sollien, MSB	We should plan for testing, depending on where the impaired water body is located. The MSB doesn't have any water quality monitoring, so we'll need a new process for that. And we may need consultants to do this.	JD: You can build that into your monitoring program plan. It is common to have consultants do this work.
Rick Antonio, MSB	Does Central Region DOT have capacity to do water testing?	Clint Adler: No, there is not enough staffing or funding capacity currently. JD: As you think about structure, looking at Fairbanks & DOT etc, they split responsibilities, testing, reporting, management, in a way that feels fair to them and also are sharing costs for the program. This is not what Anchorage does, MOA does the work with funding from DOT. Should consider both options or a combination of both when you thing about how you may structure your permit.
Clint Adler, DOT&PF	Look forward to future discussion, makes sense for co-permittees, because of the way water flows in the area, and to take care of water quality of borough.	JD: Good point, that's what it's all about
Brad Sworts	Can you put together an action forward summary that gives bullet points as to where we're going from here?	Kim Sollien: Yes, we'll put together a document to summarize the educational series, provide a final report, and include a list of key decisions that need to be made as we move forward.

Attachments: Attendance list, presentation

MS4 and Stormwater Management in the Mat-Su Borough
Stakeholder Meeting #6 Attendance List

Name, Organization/Agency	Role
Rick Antonio, MSB Planning	Project Management Team
Kim Sollien, MSB Planning	Project Management Team
Heidi Whipple, MSB GIS	Stakeholder Group Member
Anne Dollard, MSB GIS	Stakeholder Group Member
John Moosey, City of Palmer, City Manager	Stakeholder Group Member
Gerrit Verbeek, MSB Planning	Stakeholder Group Member
Adam Bradway, MSB Planning	Stakeholder Group Member
Taunnie Boothby, MSB Planning	Stakeholder Group Member
Kelsey Anderson, MSB Planning	Stakeholder Group Member
Peggy Horton, MSB Planning	Stakeholder Group Member
Alex Strawn, MSB Planning	Stakeholder Group Member
Shannon Bodolay, MSB Attorney	Stakeholder Group Member
Jamie Taylor, MSB Public Works	Stakeholder Group Member
Joshua James, DOT&PF	Stakeholder Group Member
Renee Goentzel, DOT&PF	Stakeholder Group Member
Ronald Searcy, DOT&PF	Stakeholder Group Member
Clint Adler, DOT&PF	Stakeholder Group Member
Bob Charles, Knik Tribe	Stakeholder Group Member
Sam Kito, ADEC	Stakeholder Group Member
Brad Sworts, MSB Public Works	Stakeholder Group Member
Brad Hanson, City of Palmer Community Development Director	Stakeholder Group Member
Cole Branham, MSB Public Works	Stakeholder Group Member
James Rypkema, ADEC	Stakeholder Group Member
Mike Brown, MSB Administration	Stakeholder Group Member
Robert Walden, City of Wasilla Public Works	Stakeholder Group Member
Andrew Frasier	Stakeholder Group Member
Benjamin Cohen	Stakeholder Group Member
Carla Goers, MSB GIS	Stakeholder Group Member
Daniel Dahms	Stakeholder Group Member
Edna DeVries, MSB Mayor	Stakeholder Group Member
Erich E. Schaal, City of Wasilla Public Works	Stakeholder Group Member
Fred Wagner, MSB Planning	Stakeholder Group Member
Jackson Fox, FAST Planning	Stakeholder Group Member
Janie Dusel, AWR Engineering	Consultant
Mandy Powers, Huddle AK	Consultant

MS4 & STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN THE MAT-SU BOROUGH

Stakeholder Meeting #6 – Review and Wrap Up

Hosted by: The Mat-Su Borough Planning Department

With Assistance From: AWR Engineering, LLC

November 28, 2022

Welcome and Introductions

- **MSB Project Management Team**
  - Kim Sollien, Planning Services Manager
  - Rick Antonio, Stormwater Program Coordinator
  - Maija DiSalvo, Planning Administrator

- **Consultant Team**
  - Janie Dusel, PE, MS4 Specialist | AWR Engineering
  - Holly Spoth-Torres, PLA, Public Engagement Specialist | Huddle AK

- **Stakeholder Introductions**

Updated Stakeholder Meetings Plan

Meeting #	Date	Topic
1	May 31	Introduction to the Project
2	June 27	**Permit Breakdown, Part 1** ✓ Applicability ✓ SWMP Requirements ✓ Minimum Control Measures 1, 2, and 3
3	July 25	**Permit Breakdown, Part 2** ✓ Minimum Control Measures 4, 5, and 6 ✓ Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting, and Record Keeping
4	August 29	**Existing Building Blocks** ✓ Current resources, data, pans, etc. ✓ Required ordinances ✓ Data gaps and how to fill them
5	October 3	**Management Details** ✓ Intergovernmental agreement types/structures ✓ Program costs and staffing ✓ Funding source options
6	**Today**	**Review and Wrap Up** ✓ Summarize, review, and debrief ✓ Discuss permittee thoughts/preferences

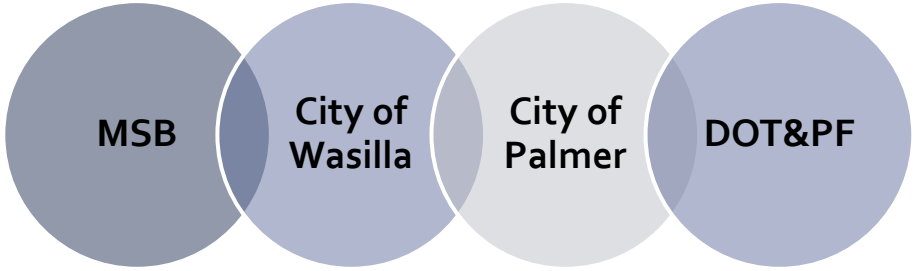
Meeting 1 Recap: Project Background & Purpose

- "Urbanized Area" Classification is expected for the Core Area (Palmer & Wasilla) following the results of the 2020 Census
  - Based on pollution density
  - US Census Bureau will determine the extents of the Urbanized Area
- Urbanized Area triggers the need for a **M**unicipal **S**eparate **S**torm **S**ewer **S**ystem (MS_4) Permit
- Issued by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC).
- ADEC Approval needed to discharge stormwater water into "Waters of the US"
- Will apply to operators of stormwater collection systems (MS_4s) throughout the Urbanized Area.

Lake Lucile in Wasilla

Meeting 1 Recap: Project Background & Purpose

- **Responsible Parties:**
  - Any entity that operates an MS4 system inside the Urbanized Area
  - Expected to include:



- **Purpose and Need**
  - Learn about the MS4 process and permit requirements
  - Prepare for the upcoming MS4 permit
- **Role of this Stakeholder Group**
  - Provide input for how impacted agencies want to work together to structure the permit

Meeting 1 Recap: Expected MS4 Timeline

Milestone	Approx. Date Range
Urbanized Area Designation	**December 2022**
DEC Requests MSB and Partners to Apply for MS4 Permit	**30 Days after UA Designation**
MSB and Partners - MS4 Application(s)	**6 months from DEC Letter**
Draft Permits and Review Processes	**5 to 6 months process**
DEC Issues Draft Permit(s) for Permittee Review/Comment	2 months after application
Permittee Review/Comment	10 Days
Updated Draft Permit(s) and Public Comment	30 to 60 days
Final Draft Permit Based on Public Comments	30 days
Permittee Final Review	5 days
Final Permit Issued	5 to 6 months after application
Permit Activities & Reporting Requirements ***(Will vary based on detailed permit schedule)***	**Annually for 5 Years**

Meetings 2 & 3 Recap: Summary of Primary MS4 Permit Components

Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) Document

- **1. Public Education and Outreach**
  - Educational Materials
  - Educational Activities
  - Annual Reporting
- **2. Public Involvement and Participation**
  - Public Involvement Activities
  - Annual Reporting
- **3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination**
  - Create Ordinance
  - Inventory MSGP Facilities
  - Map of MS4
  - Dry Weather Screening
  - Training
  - Annual Reporting
- **4. Construction Site Runoff Control**
  - Create Ordinance
  - Requirements for Erosion and Sediment Control BMPs
  - SWPPPs for Development *(Follow the CGP)*
  - Plan Reviews
  - SWPP Site Inspections
  - Training
  - Annual Reporting
- **5. Post-Construction SW Management**
  - Create Ordinance
  - Site Controls for Development
  - Plan Reviews
  - Green Infrastructure Incentives
  - Design Guidance
  - O&M for Permanent Controls
  - Snow Disposal Sites
  - Training
  - Annual Reporting
- **6. Pollution Prevention & Gd Housekeeping**
  - Minimize Pollution from Municipal Activities
    - •Park & Open Space Maintenance
    - •Fleet and Building Maintenance
    - •New Construction/ Land Disturb.
    - •SW System Maintenance
    - •Snow Disposal Operations
  - Training
  - Annual Reporting
- **Monitoring Program Plan**
  - Outfall Testing Program
  - Quality Assurance Program Plan
  - Annual Reporting

Color Legend

- Minimum Control Measure
- Required Permittee Activity
- Required Developer Activity
- Document to be Developed by Permitee*

Acronyms

BMP = Best Management Practices
CGP = Construction General Permit (aka “SWPPP Permit”)
MS4 = Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MSGP = Multi-Sector General Permit
O&M = Operation and Maintenance
SWMP = Storm Water Management Plan
SWPPP = Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (for construction)

** Some documents can be adopted from existing resources*

Meeting 4 Recap: Existing Building Blocks

Component(s)	Relevant MCMs	Existing Building Blocks?
Monitoring Program Plan with QAP	All	No
Ordinances	3, 4, 5	No
Inventory of MSGP Facilities	3	Available from ADEC
Comprehensive MS4 Map	3	Some existing data (limited, uncompiled)
ESCP Requirements/Guidance	4	No. Other resources could be referenced.
Plan Reviews	4 & 5	No
SWPPP Site Inspections	4	No
Site Controls for Development	5	No, though SCM has a good start.
Green Infrastructure Incentives	5	No, though the SCM has a good start
Design guidance	5	No
O&M for Permanent Controls	5	No
Tracking Internal Operations	6	No, but the ability to do so may be in place.
Pollution Prevention (Internal)	6	No.

Meeting 5 Recap: Management Details

- **Organizational Options**
  - Joint Approach: Co-permittees
  - Individual Approach: Single Permittee

Location	Permitees	Permit Structure	Program Phase
Anchorage	1) Municipality of Anchorage 2) DOT&PF	Co-permittees	Phase I
Anchorage	Port of Alaska	Single permittee	Phase I
Anchorage	Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson	Single permitee	Phase II
Fairbanks	Fairbanks North Star Borough	Single permittee	Phase II
Fairbanks	1) City of Fairbanks 2) City of North Pole 3) University of Alaska Fairbanks 4) DOT&PF	Co-permittees	Phase II
Fairbanks	Fort Wainwright	Single permittee	Phase II

Meeting 5 Recap: Management Details

- **Organizational Options**
  - Joint Approach: Co-permittees
  - Individual Approach: Single Permittee

Approach	Advantages	Potential Disadvantages
Joint	• Streamlined programs and no duplication of efforts • Shared costs • Consistency across jurisdictional boundaries (less confusing for the public) • Ease of operation and management where stormwater flows across jurisdictional boundaries	• Requires one entity to take the lead • Requires a good working relationship across the co-permittees with open information sharing and cooperation.
Individual	• Coordination across separate entities is minimized • No legal cooperation needed	• Potential duplication of efforts • No cost sharing • Potentially confusing to have differing program in a small geographic area • Unclear responsibilities where stormwater flows across separately owned MS4s. • DOT&PF involvement with 3 permits

Meeting 5 Recap – Management Details

- **Joint Approach – Intergovernmental Agreements**
  - Formal agreements that outline the responsibilities of each permittee.
  - Required for joint permits
  - Two Examples:
    - Fairbanks co-permittees
    - Anchorage/DOT&PF

Meeting 5 Recap – Management Details

- **Program Staffing**

Entity	# of Staff Primarily for MS4 Permit	Other Staff Support or contractors?	Maintenance and Operation Staff
Municipality of Anchorage	4 2 Construction and 2 non-construction	Yes Select plan reviewers, QAPP, Public Education	Not Quantified. Workload increase expected.
DOT&PF Central Region	1 (Shared w/ other responsibilities)	Yes	
City of Fairbanks	1 (Shared w/ other responsibilities)	Yes	
DOT&PF Northern Region	1 (Shared w/ other responsibilities)	Yes	

Meeting 5 Recap– Management Details

- **Annual Program Costs**

City of Fairbanks

Description	Approximate Cost
Staff (one)	$80,00 to $100,000
Expenses ▪ Administration ▪ Permit fee ▪ Tanana Valley ▪ WQ Testing	$50,000
Maintenance & Operations	Not Quantified
Total Cost	Unknown

- **Funding Sources**
  - **Local General Funds**
  - **Grants (Limited)**
  - **Stormwater Utility (Potential)**

Q&A

- What Questions do the permittees and stakeholders have?

What's Next?

- Census data released – anticipated in December 2022
- Decide permittee structure (MSB, COP, COW)
- Receive notice from DEC
- Submit Application(s) for MS4 Permit