

Meeting: December 6, 2024
Time of Meeting: 9:09 a.m.
Location of Meeting: Phoenix Building – 3rd Floor Conference Room

Attendees:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Doug Burton – LFUCG Division of Engineering
Jennifer Carey – LFUCG Division of Environmental Services
Jim Conner – Cane Run Watershed At-Large
Ken Cooke – Friends of Wolf Run
Steve Garland – East Hickman Watershed At-Large
Jim Griggs – Boone Creek Watershed At-Large
Don Hill – Fayette County Neighborhood Council
Amy Sohner – Chair, Bluegrass Greensource
Russ Turpin – Wolf Run Watershed At-Large
Traci Wade – LFUCG Division of Planning (for Jim Duncan)
Jerry Weisenfluh – Kentucky River Watershed Watch

LFUCG STAFF AND REPRESENTATIVES

Denice Bullock – LFUCG Division of Water Quality
Chris Chaney – LFUCG Division of Planning
Jason Drew – LFUCG Division of Water Quality
Brooke Gray - LFUCG Division of Environmental Services
Gabe Hensley – LFUCG Division of Water Quality
Becky Irwin – LFUCG Division of Water Quality
Demetria Kimball Mehlhorn - LFUCG Division of Environmental Services
Greg Lubeck – LFUCG Division of Water Quality
Frank Mabson – LFUCG Division of Water Quality
Charlie Martin – LFUCG Division of Water Quality
Craig Morgan – LFUCG Division of Water Quality
Jennifer Myatt – LFUCG Division of Environmental Services
Mark Sanders – LFUCG Division of Water Quality
Abby Terry – Tetra Tech, LFUCG MS4 Program Management
Richard Walker – Tetra Tech, LFUCG MS4 Program Management
Bailee Young – LFUCG Division of Water Quality

OTHER ATTENDEES

Katie Beard – Prime AE
Eileen Burk – Kentucky American Water
Jim Conner – UK Coldstream
Molly Cummins - Third Rock Consultants
Jerry Davis – Friends of Wolf Run
Steven Evans – UK KWRI
Tanner Goff – Stantec
Mac Hall - Third Rock Consultants
Stan Harvey - Lord Aeck Sargent
Don Hill - FCNC
Nathan Krebs – Stantec
Casey Mattingly - Third Rock Consultants
Doug McClaren – McConnell Springs
Richard McClure – UK FM
John McCracken – Prime AE
Mary Murray – Department of Veterans Affairs
Denise O’Meara – Greenspace Trust
Scott Southall – ECD/West Hickman
John Steinmetz – Banks Engineering
Brian Stephens, Ball Homes
Bert Remley - Third Rock Consultants

Scott Vander Ploeg – Citizen
Steve Vogel – Strand Associates
Nathan Weber – UK

Opening Remarks

Bailee Young opened the December meeting at 9:00 a.m. and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves and their organization when speaking.

Approval of 9/6/24 Minutes

Ms. Young asked if there were any additions or corrections to the September 6th minutes. There were none.

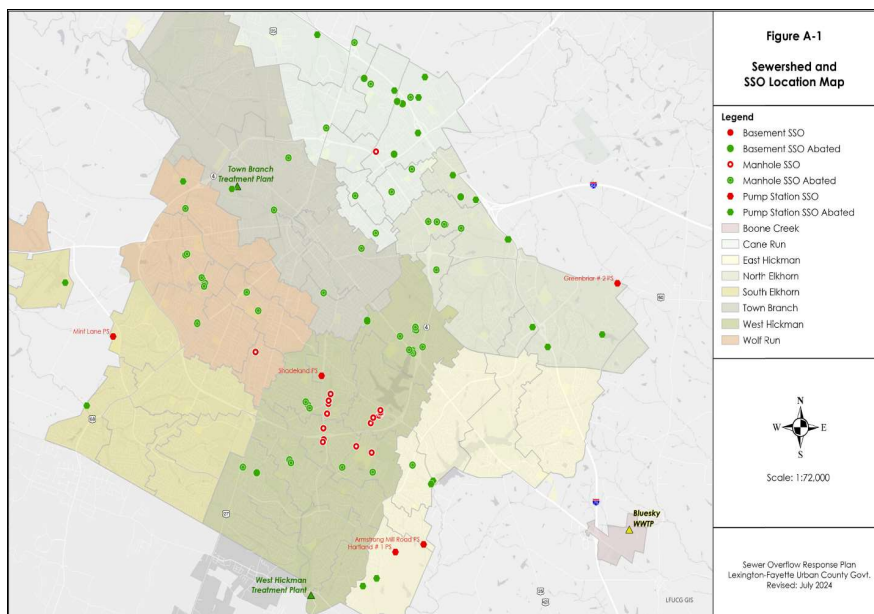
A motion was made by Mary Murray, seconded by Scott Southall, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2024, meeting.

2024 Update to the Sanitary Sewers Remedial Measures Plans

Charlie Martin, Director of the Division of Water Quality, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the 2024 Update to the Sanitary Sewers Remedial Measures Plan.

He directed the audience to the Sewershed and Sanitary Sewer Overflow Location Map (Figure A-1) and explained that every dot shown on the map represents a sanitary sewer overflow within Fayette County. At one point, each of those dots were red to indicate a recurring sanitary sewer overflow. Now, most of those dots represented as solid green illustrate the abated projects within that area. Some pockets within Fayette County still need sanitary sewer work to be done. The projects within the West Hickman watershed include Merrick Trunk, Ecton Trunk as well as the downstream side of Reservoirs.

The map below gives a snapshot of how far this work has come over the last 15 years as far as the Consent Decree.



Mr. Martin said that the Consent Decree was driven by a state-issued permit. The original civil penalty that was imposed by the Federal Government was nearly 4.5 million dollars. Rather than pay the fine, the City of Lexington negotiated and used those funds to complete the supplemental/environmental projects.

Most of the Consent Decree was driven about the recurring sanitary sewer overflow that happens when it rains, but what happens when it is not raining and the overflow occurs from grease, tree roots, etc. The Capacity, Management, Operations and Maintenance (CMOM) focuses on sanitary sewer operations and it will continue long after the Consent Decree ends to ensure its obligation.

The Sanitary Sewer Remedial Measures Plan (RMP) is part of the Consent Decree compliance. The sanitary sewer projects pre-pandemic averaged between six (6) to eight (8) projects a year that were under construction or completed. In the aftermath of the pandemic, there were issues with the supply chain, and escalating costs created a lot of challenges. Today, the momentum is back.

Between 2006 and 2008, the City of Lexington negotiated with the federal government over the Consent Decree, but no one contemplated that there would be a worldwide pandemic in 2020. Due to the pandemic, the City of Lexington petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Federal Courts were able to justify the need for additional time. The following Schedule Modification was approved in September 2024:

- Extending the full compliance deadline from December 31, 2026, to December 31, 2030;
- Reduced the quarterly report obligation from quarterly to semi-annual (February & August);
- Reporting modifications were not subject to approval by the courts;
- Electronic submissions are now permitted (no more hard copies).

Mr. Martin said that the next steps are to utilize the 2030 deadline to create a specific schedule for the remaining projects to determine when that project will be completed. He briefly explained the following breakdowns:

Remaining Capital Projects:

	Total Projects**	Completed	Active	Pending
Collection & Conveyance*	80	53	16	11
Treatment Plants	37	23	8	6
Total	117	76	24	17

* Includes Blenheim Way project not yet on the approved list.

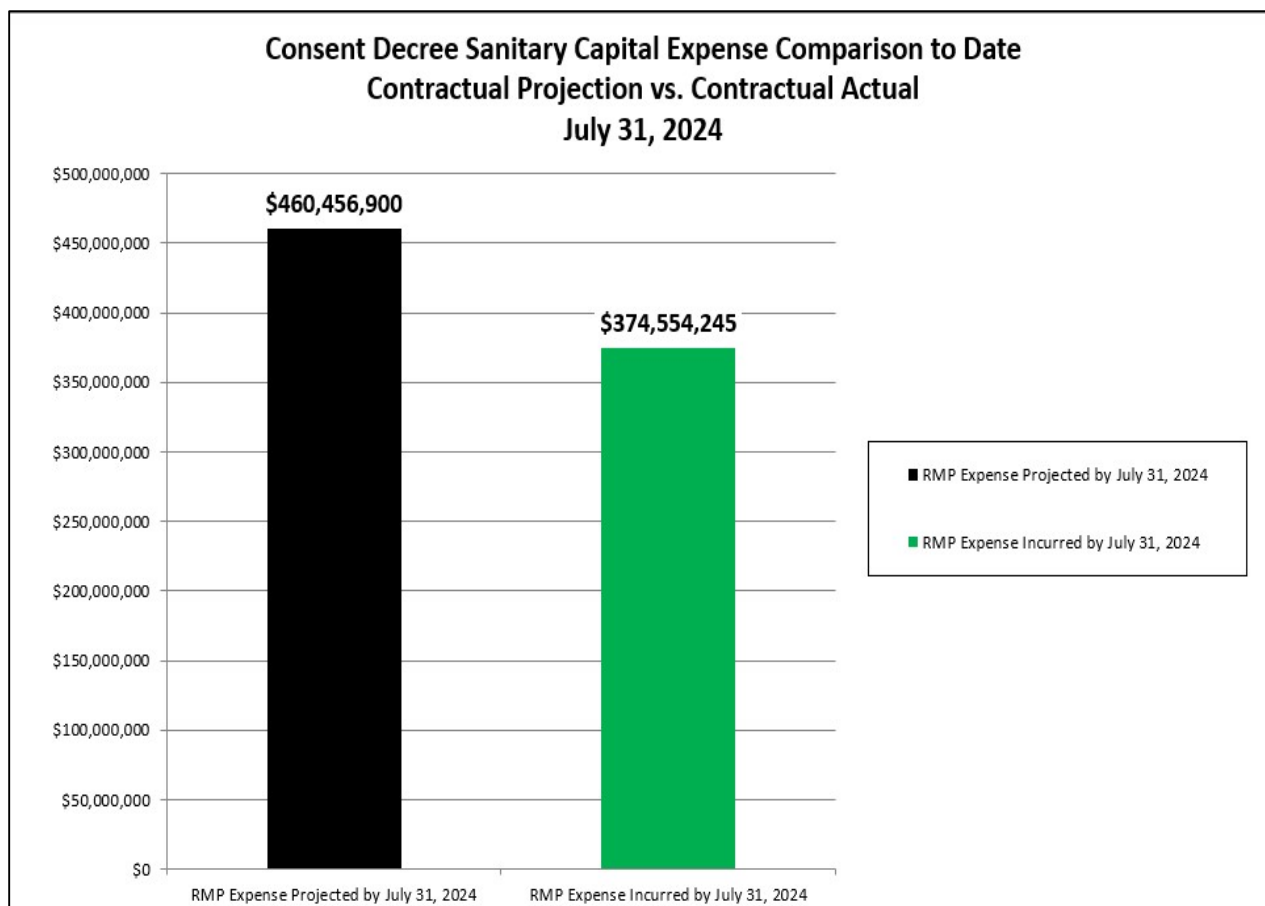
** Otherwise as totaled by 2Q2024 report.

RMP Projects and Cleaner Water Ky Grant Funds:

Grant	Project	Base \$ Amount	10% Added?	Current Funding Amount
21CWS027	WWTP UV Disinfection Retrofit	\$11,868,095	\$1,186,810	\$13,054,905
22CWS171	WWTP UV Disinfection Retrofit	\$1,165,178	\$116,518	\$1,281,696
22CWS007	Furlong SW	\$906,645		\$906,645.00
22CWS008	Town Branch WWTP Dewatering	\$3,725,000		\$3,725,000
22CWS009	Veterans Park SW	\$1,345,000		\$1,345,000
22CWS010	Brownfields	\$2,995,383		\$2,995,383
22CWS011	Armstrong Mill	\$9,497,206		\$9,497,206
21CWS143	Blenheim Way Sanitary Trunk Sewer	\$2,220,000		\$2,220,000
21CWS142	East Hickman PS Phase 2	\$2,780,000		\$2,780,000
		Total		\$37,805,835

Red font – RMP project/Black font – Stormwater projects

Mr. Martin directed the audience to the Projected vs. Actual Expense chart and explained that the original RMP estimate was nearly 595 million dollars. As of July 31, 2024, the projected amount was \$460,456,990, but the actual expense was \$374,554,245.



Despite a gap between the projected amount and the actual expense, those amounts did not include inflationary times over the last five (5) years.

Mr. Martin directed the audience to several slides of sanitary sewer projects and gave a brief description of each.

The new East Hickman Pump Station connection to the West Hickman Wastewater Treatment Plan. The pipeline was designed to avoid going across Overbrook Farm. As disruptive as the construction has been, the public is reminded it is saving 25 million by placing the pipeline along roadways and sidewalks. The projected timeline for the pipeline to be in service is Spring 2025.

Delong Road Pump Station and Force Main/Armstrong Mill Pump Station. He explained for the last couple of years Armstrong Mill development plan has been on hold due to the limited capacity of Armstrong Mill Pump Station. Once the Delong Road Pump Station goes online the potential for development in this area will increase.

Wolf Run Truck F extends down Harrodsburg Road to LaFayette Parkway.

Wolf Run Truck G was placed out for bid and is now listed on the Council docket to execute an agreement. The pipeline will start at the intersection of Southland Drive and Picadome Park and run through the neighborhood and back of businesses along Southland Drive toward the railroad, ending just past the dry cleaner on Southland Drive.

New Circle Road Trunk A and B extends from Boardwalk/Colesbury Circle through access roads and parking lots that are adjacent to New Circle Road ending at Golden Way. The original budget for this project was 9 million dollars but the bid price for this project is 12 million dollars.

Blenheim Trunk just off Man o' War Boulevard in between the Stonewall neighborhood and Gladman Way was not originally listed on the Consent Decree, but since work will be done it has been added unofficially. The land where the construction will begin houses horses so the city will be paying to board those horses until the work is completed.

Floyd Drive Trunk Sewer is close to being bid out and will be under construction in 2026. The pipeline will extend under New Circle Road over to Floyd Drive which is where the most impact will occur.

Merrick Trunk will extend from Greentree Road through the back of houses between Willowood Road and Armstrong Mill Road, then under Tates Creek Road, Kirklevington Drive, and New Circle Road, and down Tates Creek Road, ending at Dove Run Road.

Other projects in the queue include:

- West Hickman Trunk F
 - 5th District Impact
 - Residential parcel impacts – easement acquisition challenges
- Plainview Trunk
 - 5th District Impact
 - Easement on one parcel transitions will transition it into the construction phase
- East Hickman Pump Station Phase 2
 - Grant funded

In summary, the new Consent Decree's full compliance deadline is now December 31, 2030; 65% of Capital Projects are complete - 20% in the construction/design/easement phase; the Consent Decree identified 117 Recurring SSOs/86 of those locations have been abated and total project cost still trending below the 2014 projection, but cost escalation risks remain.

Questions and comments - In response to a question from Brian Stephens, Mr. Martin said that the odor control is not part of the RMP and it was only mentioned because it related to the other projects. Several improvements have been made at the West Hickman Treatment Plant. After the first of the year, another project will begin that replaces the activated carbon units. Mr. Martin noted in the past, the solids were not being managed correctly and the plant became constipated. In the last year, sludge was hauled out of the plant by the trailer and that made a big difference in managing solids. He said that the odor would not ever go away 100 percent. At the time the treatment plants were constructed, they were at the edge of town, then developers came in and built the town around them.

Mr. Martin then said that trying to regulate municipal wastewater treatment plants for odor would be hard because there are limited things that can be done. In the meantime, some things can be done to be more responsible and be more attentive to handling or reducing the problem. It's an ongoing process.

Mr. Martin said that they reached out to Alexa Minton, WKYT Meteorologist & Reporter, to ask if the weather influences the odor. Ms. Minton indicated that as high pressure pushes the wind down and out, during the evening, as the air starts to cool off, that is when the odor occurs. Mr. Martin further explained that odors are collected in the upper atmosphere and as the sun goes down the high pressure creates an inversion pushing what is collected downward. The City of Lexington is working with Webster Environmental Associates on this issue.

Mary Murray asked if the meeting was with the residents of the Stonewall Estates or the whole area regarding the Blenheim Trunk. Mr. Martin said that the meetings he attended involved the residents who would have construction in their backyard; not necessarily the entire neighborhood.

Ms. Murray indicated that some of the neighbors, who backed up to the field, had asked her about it because they did not know to attend those meetings. Mr. Martin replied that the people who were at those meetings were mainly focused on the horses, but he agreed he thought the same thing because the residents on Gladman Way were not present.

Ms. Murray appreciated the City taking care of the horses. Mr. Martin said that the City works with a lot of farms and on a typical farm there is the ability to transfer the livestock to another field. In this case, the city was concerned about a horse getting out on Man o' War Boulevard and getting hurt.

Mr. Cooke asked how many gallons of sanitary sewer overflow were saved by replacing the Wolf Run Pump Station with a larger pump station. Mr. Martin said that they would have to compare the frequency at which something overflowed vs. the frequency of the new, replaced, or upgraded station. He couldn't speak to Wolf Run Pump Station but East Hickman Pump Station was the third worst for overflow in Fayette County in the beginning. Now due to the oversized capacity of the East Hickman Pump Station, it doesn't overflow or have any wet weather in the storage tanks, which is why the work is being done.

Mr. Martin explained that when the Peninsula was done, all of the trunk sewers along the Reservoir were lined, removing a tremendous amount of water, more than expected.

Mr. Martin said that he can't remember the last time the Wolf Run Pump Station overflowed.

Mr. Cooke asked who was working with the post-construction restoration. Mr. Martin replied that Mr. Cooke should reach out to Bob Peterson and if that doesn't work he could reach out to him as well. He said that pipeline contractors, other than throwing grass seed down, do not part take in the restoration of an area. The City has talked about hiring landscaping companies and is open to suggestions.

Mr. Cooke then asked what is the design lifespan of the material being used. Mr. Martin replied between 50 to 100 years. The material is PVC or fiber-reinforced so there is no corrosion but the lifespan is a function of if there is underground utilities work going on that could create damage to the pipeline.

Traci Wade, Division of Planning, asked if the New Circle Road project is fixing overflow problems. Mr. Martin said that there are three (3) Consent Decree projects in Elkhorn Park which is where the problem lies. There is also a basin at Edgelawn Avenue that was constructed that helps.

Ms. Wade then asked if the New Circle Road sanitary sewer project was to abate sanitary sewer overflows. Mr. Martin replied it is unknown whether the source is infiltration or direct inflow or whether the origin is coming from private property or public property. He explained that when the Consent Decree was being negotiated, the concept was to build the sanitary sewer large enough to handle a 2-year, 24-hour storm in addition to sanitary flows. The New Circle Road project is built to handle all of the flow including infiltration and inflow.

Russ Turpin asked if there are any noticeable trends in E. coli as a result of the RMP projects. Mr. Martin replied that from his vantage point, exfiltration is the bigger problem, but it would be interesting to see the data from the past few years. It's been so dry, that overflows have not been the issue. There have been a few wet weather events but those are more rare versus what they were in the past. There are alarms in key manholes all over Lexington that are used to activate the Sewer Overflow Response Inspection Team but he could not say the last time those alarms were sounded. It would be interesting to see the data from the dry weather screening and monitor the areas with higher E coli or bacteria. He said that after the Consent Decree, the next big focus would be working in the collection system and other critical areas looking at private lateral lines for ongoing problems with exfiltration from older sewers.

2024 Stormwater Section Drainage and Flooding Update

Mark Sanders, Division of Water Quality, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the 2024 Stormwater Section Drainage and Flooding Update.

Mr. Sanders said that steps must be taken before a property can be listed on the Stormwater (SW) Priority Project List.

1. Notification of the flooding problem must be given to Water Quality.
2. LFUCG will investigate to determine if the flooding is caused by a 25-year, 24-hour event (5.23 inches) storm event or less.
 - a. If so, maintenance will be sent out to determine if the problem requires a capital project.
3. If the problem requires a capital project, a preliminary engineering report quantifies flooding, identifies solutions, computes cost, schedules public meetings, and identifies acceptable solutions.
4. If the problem does not require a capital project, resolved list maintenance solves the problem.
5. For events less than the 25-year, 24-hour event, structure flooding or street/road flooding (greater than 1 foot in the driving lane, or reducing visibility to the crown of the road) is what qualifies the project for consideration on the priority list.
6. Opportunity list:
 - a. green: ready
 - b. yellow: minor constraints
 - c. red: major constraints
7. Resolve list project completed

Also, at least one of the following conditions must be met:

- Structure flooding (surface water entering a structure through an opening such as a door, window, or vent); or
- Street/road flooding with either greater than 1 foot of water in the driving lane or the crown of the road is not visible.

Mr. Sanders indicated that the Stormwater (SW) Priority Project List is updated every January and can be found on the Lexington-Fayette Urban County government website (<https://www.lexingtonky.gov/government/departments-programs/environmental-quality-public-works/water-quality/stormwater-storm-sewer-system>).

He directed the audience to the following slides/photographs and gave a brief description.

Active Capital Projects – Construction

- East Third & Ohio Stormwater Project
- 3rd Street at the Lyric Theater
- Lyon Drive Stormwater Project
- Joyland Area Stormwater Project

Active Capital Projects – Design

- Cooper Drive Stormwater Project
- Mentelle Park North Stormwater Project

“Minor” Capital Projects are larger “Repair” projects, which require engineering design and are openly bid for construction. These would not likely meet the criteria for Priority Capital projects.

- Pebble Creek Stream Bank Stabilization
- Elizabeth Street Culvert
- Town Branch Culvert

Advertised, Awarded, and Construction ongoing or completed

- Meadowthorpe Phase 2
- Dogwood Park
- Barnard Drive

Final Design

- Savannah Lane/Guilford Lane
- Masterson Station/Great Acres
- Lakewood Court
- Furlong Drive
- Haggard Court

Preliminary Engineering Report

- Kenesaw Drive
- Gayle Drive
- Taborlake Drive
- Longwood Drive
- Southland Drive
- Walnut Grove

Stormwater Infrastructure Maintenance, Repair and Cleaning

- Wyndham Hills & Clays Mills
- (Buried Inlet – Impacted Storm Pipe)
- Edgelawn Detention Basin
- (After Big Storms – Help (as-needed))
- Race Street
- (Broken Storm Pipe and KAW Conflict)
- Curb Inlets full of Trash

- Cleaning Concrete Flumes
- Completely Broken Inlets
- Debris blocking Storm Pipes
- Working at Night

Mr. Sanders noted that three (3) full-time employees manage a contractor to clean and repair stormwater infrastructure, and the annual budget is \$1,000,000.

Completed Work Orders

Year	CCTV	Point Repair	Clean/Repair Basin	Total
2018	16	25	46	87
2019	17	56	69	142
2020	15	21	25	61
2021	30	108	50	218
2022	49	122	61	232
2023	22	156	46	224

Mr. Sanders directed the audience to a series of photographs and gave a brief description of the following:

- Wishbone Circle
- Werne Drive
- Cross Bore-Utility Company
- Winter Garden
- Parkers Mill
- Man o' War Boulevard and Polo Club Boulevard
- Versailles Road

Questions and comments – Eileen Burk, Kentucky American Water, asked if the Mentelle Park North Stormwater Project will improve the flooding that occurs at N. Ashland Avenue and Cramer Avenue. She indicated that it becomes dangerous in the winter. Mr. Sanders commented that the consultant has been asked to keep that area in mind when working on the final design.

Brian Stephens asked if there is a policy for when concrete flumes should be used as opposed to vegetated channels with the promotion of infiltration through the vegetated channels. Mr. Sanders said that the consultant usually makes that determination, but he didn't recall if the city has used concrete flumes in the past. Mr. Martin said that the city did not have a stormwater maintenance program before the Consent Decree. The stormwater maintenance program was funded in 2016 and it continues to grow because of the need for it.

Ken Cooke asked about the status of the projects within the Southland area (South View Drive). Mr. Lubeck said South View Drive is pending until the city can figure out where to place the water. They are trying to have a meeting with the residents who own property within that area.

Greg Lubeck, Division of Water, indicated that Environmental Services is working on Derby Drive. Mr. Cooke said that Derby Drive has been transitioned to a 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant.

Ken Cooke then asked about the Mulberry Springs project. Mr. Martin replied that the last public meeting didn't go very well.

Russ Turpin said as the city develops there will be more impervious areas. He asked if there would be restrictions for existing or the potential increase of flooding on the streets. Mr. Sanders replied that as long as development continues, the water will have to be contained on that site before it goes into the system.

Proposed Monitoring Program Update – Third Rock Consultants, LLC.

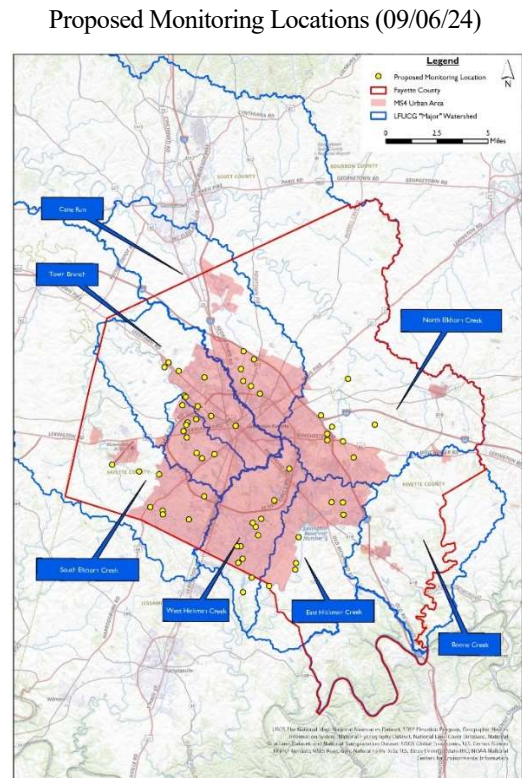
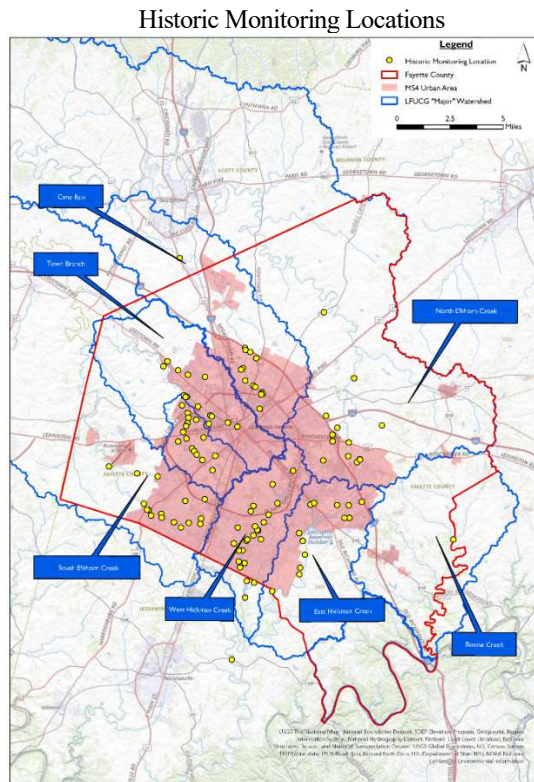
Mac Hall, Third Rock Consultants, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Proposed Monitoring Program Updates.

In response to a previous question from Russ Turpin, Mr. Hall said that Third Rock Consultants are about to do a statistical analysis from the past five (5) years to see if there was a statistical trend instead of the general trend with E. Coli or other pollutants. Some projects and repairs had not been done in 2019 so now they can see if there were some good improvements made. He noted that TetraTech also does a little bit of crunching numbers with the RMP projects and for any questions to contact Abby Terry.

Mr. Hall said that the last update to the proposed monitoring program was at the September 6, 2024, SSAC meeting. This presentation is based on the feedback after the workgroup with the community, volunteers, scientific community, and project team.

At the September 6th meeting, to determine the integrated effects of upstream conditions, more than 100 small subwatershed-scale in-stream sites were evaluated. They had to consider the location and influence of constituent sources and previously collected water quality data, as well as how many volunteers would be able to participate to collect data for future monitoring and statistical analysis. Sites were further evaluated based on their proximate location on a stream and drainage size.

Mr. Hall directed the audience to the two maps below and gave a brief description of Historic Monitoring Locations and Proposed Monitoring Locations.



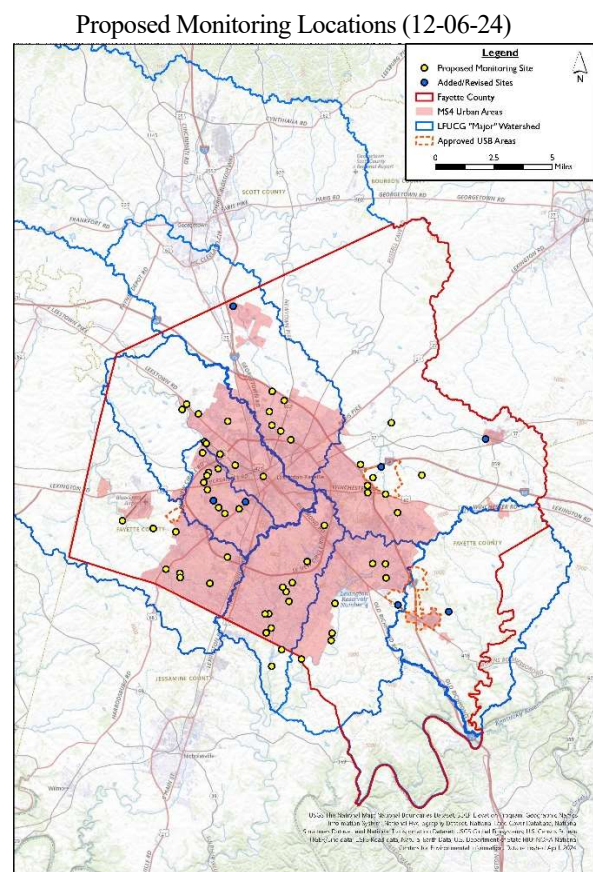
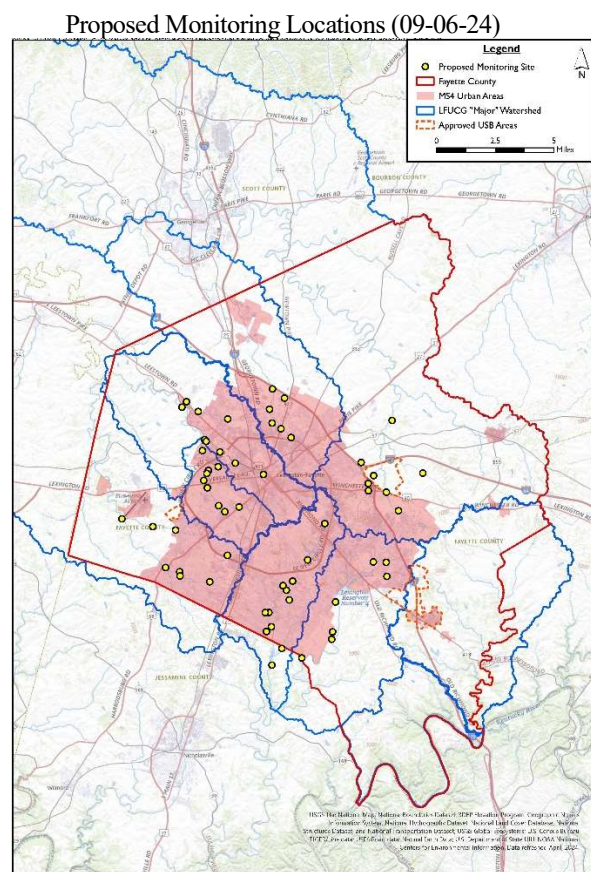
On October 10, 2024, he said that along with the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government and Tetra Tech, Third Rock met with the volunteers and other members of the scientific community to discuss the proposed monitoring program and what needs to be done going forward. During those discussions, the strengths and weaknesses of the program were discussed, as were the sampling methods and locations. Following that meeting, along with continued correspondence with volunteers, feedback was incorporated into the site selection and monitoring methods.

The summary of the site revisions included adding sites downstream of isolated urban service areas and proposed expansion areas. Sites were shifted closer to schools to provide the opportunity for water sampling field days. One (1) site was added at the request of volunteers/scientific community.

The proposed monitoring methods and frequencies included:

- Quarterly water quality grab sampling by trained volunteers (*scheduled sampling regardless of weather*)
- Annual wet weather grab sampling by a qualified sub-consultant.
- Quarterly wet/dry weather grab sampling at seven major watershed sites. (Revised based on feedback from the project team and community)
- Bi-annual macroinvertebrate sampling and identification by a qualified sub-consultant. Annually at major watershed sites.
- Bi-annual geomorphic and erosion assessment by a qualified sub-consultant.
- Bi-annual fish sampling by a qualified sub-consultant who holds current state and federal scientific collection permits.
- Continuous monitoring by USGS.

Mr. Hall directed the audience to the two maps below and briefly described Proposed Monitoring Locations (09-06-24) and Proposed Monitoring Locations (12-06-24).



Questions and comments – Katie Beard asked if Lexington had to report on total maximum daily loads (TMDLs). Abby Terry replied that Lexington does have bacteria TMDLs, but there are not numeric limits associated with those in the MS4 Permit. The language is that we have to make progress toward achieving those waste load allocations and that is done through the implementation of the SWQMP. She indicated that a draft TMDL strategy was submitted with the 2020 MS4 Permit Report and a status report is being drafted on what actions have been implemented to date.

Referencing the benthic macroinvertebrate sampling, Ken Cooke asked if there are only seven (7) sites that are being done or if there will be more sites included. Mr. Hall said that they were doing benthic macroinvertebrate sampling for all sixty-four (64) sites but only seven (7) sites are currently on an annual rotation and the other sites are done biannually. Mr. Cooke commented that the macroinvertebrate sampling is the best money that could be spent.

Abby Terry explained that the routine monitoring sites include quarterly sampling whereas the samples collected through the Watershed Focus Monitoring Program were separate grab sampling efforts. What is being discussed today is an attempt to merge the two. Originally there were fifty-nine (59) sites which included some of the sites from the Watershed Focus Monitoring Program and those historic sites. Based on the feedback of the workgroup, the seven (7) routine sites will be monitored quarterly to maintain the quarterly data and the remaining fifty-four (57) sites will be collected annually during wet weather.

Jerry Weisenfluh asked if there have been any observed improvements to water quality with the RMP Program. Mr. Hall replied that they are doing a statistical trend analysis of the water quality data for the annual report that is submitted in July. When the data was submitted in 2019, the RMP Projects were not completed so it would be nice to see if there are any significant statistical trends or decreases or increases in the pollutant loads. More data will be included with the completed projects but he cannot give a definite answer.

Abby Terry said that the analysis will include a ten (10) year time period because the first trend analysis was the five (5) year period from 2015 to 2019. The next one will incorporate 2020 to 2024 so we should be able to see some good trends.

Molly Cummins, Third Rock Consultants, LLC, commented that it is a matter of extrapolating the data. The trend analysis is done every five (5) years as part of the program evaluation that is required by the permit. Teasing out that specific information will be something that will need to be done separately from the general trends that come out of the evaluation. In terms of tying those projects, geographically and where they pulled the water from, would require a little more focus.

Ken Cooke understood the stormwater outfall monitoring was removed from the program but asked how many sites were included. Mr. Hall replied that the stormwater outfall monitoring will be included in another program.

Mr. Cooke then asked when there be an opportunity to discuss the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program (IDDE) in the stormwater outfall monitoring. Ms. Young replied that the staff has had internal discussions about the illicit discharge screening factor and should have a draft in Spring 2025. Ms. Terry also replied that the dry weather screening was going on at the same time the Watershed Focus Monitoring Program was going on. Every two (2) years, all major outfalls are included in the dry weather screening. The dry weather screening will continue while they are working on the new program but they wanted to do the IDDE Program first. Once they submit a letter to the Kentucky Division of Water, the focus will turn back to the illicit discharge screening factor effort with the intent to focus on priority areas. Hopefully, they will be able to see with the trend analysis and areas with high levels of E. coli and prioritize the focus of the dry weather screening on those areas.

In response to a question from the audience, Mr. Hall said that they already have a good volunteer base, but the specifics of who will be coordinating with the volunteers are still to be determined. He explained that this information is being presented to the Stormwater Stakeholder Advisory Committee before it has been submitted to the Kentucky Division of Water. They wanted the volunteers and community to provide feedback before anything was sent to the Kentucky Division of Water. KDOT must approve the proposal before anything is implemented with the scheduling.

Denise O'Meara, ECD/Greenspace Trust, asked, when the monitoring list was being finalized, what determined if a particular site would remain or be removed from that list. Mr. Hall said that a lot went into determining which sites would remain or be removed. For example, having one site just downstream from another site would not give any new information. Another evaluation method was to review the historical data of the impaired water stream or segment with the highest exceedance of parameters. Most of the drainage areas are the same size so Third Rock wanted to have a good distribution to help establish priority in the future. Also, if an area was previously assessed for macroinvertebrates, they wanted to have data points for future analysis to see if any implementation strategies could be integrated to improve the stormwater quality.

Steven Evans, UK KWRI, said that Lexington streams are very flashy and to get to those sites during the hydrographic rise is often challenging. He asked about the logistics of the wet weather sampling and how it will be met. Mr. Hall replied that it would be an all hands on deck kind of sampling event when that happens. Originally, they were looking at trying to hit the sites

in one day, but with 64 sites that may not be possible. Depending on the number of people, the wet weather sampling event will be broken into sampling dates that make sense.

Molly Cummins explained that the dry weather events can be scheduled in advance, but the wet weather events are unpredictable which make your available resources decrease.

Ken Cooke disagreed and said that screened, trained, and equipped volunteers could be used for wet weather events.

Potential Topics for the Next Meeting

Ken Cook proposed the following presentations for 2025:

1. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program in terms of buying properties;
2. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Program; and
3. When will the new MS4 Permit be issued from the State.

Approval of Meeting Dates for 2025

- March 7th
- June 6th
- Sept 5th
- Dec 5th

A motion was made by Ms. Carey; seconded by Mr. Vogel, and carried unanimously to accept the 2025 meeting dates.

Announcements

- On Black Friday, we collected 470 gallons of cooking oil at the Gobble Grease Toss. (This event allowed LFUCG to educate the public about proper waste disposal, such as not pouring cooking oil down drains or outside.)
- Thanks to everyone who visited the Art by Nature gallery at the Living Arts and Science Center. We had over 100 pieces of art representing Monarch Waystations across Fayette County.
- December 9 – Wolf Run Watershed Council Meeting
- December 13 – Workshop with the Engineering, Development, and Construction Industry
- December 31 – LFUCG's new website will be available by the end of the year.
- March 7 – Next SSAC Meeting
- March 22-30 – Sixth Annual Water Week. The event submission form will open on January 13.
- Lexington's webpage is being updated. Check out the Stormwater Quality Projects Incentive Grant Program webpage to review past projects.

Adjournment

The meeting concluded at 10:35 a.m.