



**THE FOUNTAIN CREEK WATERSHED
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Memory

July 20, 2007

PPACG Lower Level Conference Room

INTRODUCTIONS & WELCOME VISITORS

Meeting Participants

Bill Alspach
Carol Baker
Barbara Dallemund
Mike Fink
Dawn Gladwell
Duane Greenwood
Bob Hamilton
Kim Headley
Kevin Houck
Greg Langer
Gary Rapp
Paul Sobiech
Graham Thompson
Pam Zubeck

Representing

City of Woodland Park
Colorado Springs Utilities
El Paso County DOT
City of Fountain Water
Colorado Water Conservation Board
City of Fountain
SECWCD
Pueblo County/PACOG
Colorado Water Conservation Board
NRCS
Recycling Coalition of Colorado Springs
Matrix Design
Matrix Design
The Gazette

REVIEW OF MAY 18, 2007 MEETING MEMORY

The Meeting Memory was accepted as written.

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

Charles Wilson, of the Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District, was on the phone to provide an update on the series of stakeholder meetings that took place in June. Charles Wilson reported that the Corps met with individual sponsor's, public citizens, the Air Force Academy, members from the Vision Task Force, those interested in wetlands, a few Pueblo County Commissioners, the Pueblo Chieftain newspaper and Colorado Springs Utilities over a three day period - June 11th - 13th to discuss projects that could be included in the project formulation phase.

Most of the problems and issues mentioned were the same from the previous meetings a few years back in addition to some of the new projects that the City of Colorado Springs has going on in and around Sand Creek. There seemed to be more interest this time in water

quality and water rights impacts which have not been considered thus far. There were issues identified and raised regarding the Corps' regulatory authority by some citizens and agencies. The CDOT greenway project from the confluence of Fountain Creek and Monument Creek to Manitou Springs was discussed. The Corps met with the Pueblo Chieftain and Mr. Petros and committed to looking at a project that involves one dam along Fountain Creek just above Pueblo. Mr. Petros had at least a half dozen additional proposals, but due to funding constraints the Corps will not have the funding available to look at more than one alternative.

All of the GIS data provided by URS on the Corps Study has been received and this data will be available through PPACG beginning in August or by the August TAC meeting. It is 30 gigabytes.

The Corps and URS have developed screening criteria to screen for potential locations or possible key indicators that will help to identify other places or other possible issues that were not mentioned by sponsors. Pre-screening is underway and the Corps expects to have that completed by July 30th. During that last week in July the ACOE team will be back in Colorado Springs meeting with the URS team to develop the alternatives for the study and expect to have a presentation of the initial recommendation at the August TAC meeting and at the Vision Task Force Consensus Committee.

Kim Headley asked about an update on funding. The remaining \$149,000 for next year was put in by Mr. Salazar on the House side. It was reported in the paper yesterday that the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill was passed by the House, and now the Senate version needs to be passed. This will provide the necessary funding to finish the study by next year without any adjustments.

The Fountain Creek Reports completed by URS are posted on the Fountain Creek Website at: <http://www.fountain-crk.org/ACE%20Watershed%20Study/ace.htm>.

EL PASO COUNTY FEMA MAP MODERNIZATION PROGRAM

Dawn Gladwell gave an overview of the Map Modernization process that is taking place in El Paso County.

This program is a National effort to digitally convert FEMA floodplain maps to GIS format.

- Began in 2003, Initial Estimated Cost of \$1 Billion
- Five-Year Program
- CWCB - Cooperating Technical Partner (CTP) (11 counties in progress)
- Cost share - 80% FEMA/20% State and Local

First Step to "real time" maps

- Conversion of all paper floodplain Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) to digital format

- Georeferenced and digitized
- Integration of Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) and studies reviewed/accepted by FEMA.
- Next Phase after 2008: Map Maintenance

\$1,197,101 is the total project value for El Paso County

Straight up digital conversion

- No new studies
- County's LIDAR points -> Generate Countywide Contours for floodplain redelineation
- ~ 60+ Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) integration
 - Have requested from FEMA \$681,466/ State \$75,635/Local In-Kind \$440,000

Local In-Kind Contribution

- Countywide 2005 Digital Orthophotography and E9-1-1 Geocoded Street Centerlines

Planned Schedule for El Paso County

- FEMA reviewing Grant request for funding
- Coordinate Scope of Work with State Consultant (Anderson Consulting, Inc.) July/August 2007
- Begin project August/September 2007
- New studies must be reviewed/approved by FEMA by May 2008
- Preliminary maps late 2008
- Goal: 24 months to final effective maps late 2009

Templeton Gap Levee within El Paso County

- Federally built levee (1945/1946)
- Part of the Corps (ICW) inspection program
- Colorado Springs responsible for Operation & Maintenance
- Contact made with the Corps and FEMA
- Last Corps inspection: maintenance required
- Full Corps inspection anticipated April 2008
 - If maintenance required, must be completed within 1-year of receipt of inspection results

Community Participation

- Are there any other levees?
- Submit new studies to FEMA for review
- Provide original work maps (if available)
- Review Preliminary Maps
- New community contact?

Carol Baker asked why the ACOE Fountain Creek Watershed Study data is not going to be included into the Map Modernization process for El Paso County. Dawn Gladwell stated that El Paso County was put on hold so that the Corps study information could be incorporated and CWCB is still trying to figure out how to incorporate it. The Corps data is not FEMA compliant and additional work will need to be done to use it in the creation of the DFIRM maps. Dawn stated that she is working with FEMA, the county and the local governments to get data and background information.

Kim Headley asked why it not FEMA compliant. Dawn Gladwell responded that the model cross sections were filtered and for the data to be used will require additional cross sections which will require additional funding. The hydrology data has been accepted and CWCB hopes to include this information into the maps but the question lies within the hydraulics data and the funding issues.

Bill Alspach offered to help explain the assumptions that were used in the FCW Study and be a point of contact for URS since he was technically involved in the modeling. It was not the intention for the models to be FEMA compliant so that they could be used for creation of the DFIRM maps, but URS did everything they could to facilitate its future use. URS put in the necessary number of cross sections for the model so that the data could be used for the Corps Study, however creation of the DFIRM maps requires additional cross sections. Graham Thompson also volunteered to help with this effort.

Barbara Dallemand of El Paso County clarified that El Paso County has all of the licensing agreement bugs worked out in case there will be a need for an IGA or other type of agreement. Dawn Gladwell replied that the email that was received from Tony will work just fine. Barbara Dallemand then went on to report that the Corps has delivered the Black Squirrel report and maps and will be sent on to FEMA within a day or so.

Graham Thompson stated that it was his understanding that there will be a direct conversion from the paper maps into the digital versions without new study information. The hydrology data has been approved for use by FEMA but according to Ken Sampley, CWCB is not going to be able to use the new hydrology data because CWCB would then have to update all of the old hydraulics models to modify the new floodplain. Dawn Gladwell responded that they may not be able to do a hydraulics study to update the maps because of the cost. Through the contours that CWCB has received through the county CWCB can take the zone A's and make sure that they line up on top of the flooding source on a contour by contour basis, perpendicularly to the source. It is not known yet whether or not the hydrology data will be incorporated or not.

Greg Langer offered to share historical Fountain Creek data that he has stored at his office.

FOUNTAIN CREEK WATERSHED VISION TASK FORCE UPDATE

Carol Baker from Colorado Springs Utilities gave an update on the Fountain Creek Watershed Vision Task Force. On the website (www.fountain-crk.org) there is a 14 minute voice over power point presentation that gives a fairly complete overview of the Task Force.

OTHER TOPICS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Kim Headley reviewed the Green Infrastructure handout to get buy-in and/or support for the State wide training (2-3 days) in this area and to begin incorporating this philosophy into future projects. The FCWTAC thinks that Rich Muzzy would be the best person to coordinate this effort.
2. Bill Alspach from the City of Woodland Park gave a brief update that the Fountain Creek improvements near the new Wal-Mart in Woodland Park and water has been diverted back into the new channel of Fountain Creek.
3. Kevin Houck of the CWCB asked how the recent rain storms have affected those in this area and Pueblo. Bob Hamilton commented on that there is an unnamed tributary into the Arkansas near Pueblo West that is running pretty high and fast and there was structural damage to roads in the area.
4. Kim Headley announced that there is a Vision Task force Meeting this morning at 10:00 am and a Vision Task Force Consensus Meeting later today at 1:30 pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - August 17, 2007 at the PPACG office at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.