CYPRESS CREEK WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN

**CCP-WPP Stakeholder Committee Meeting/Update**

**September 25, 2017**

Agenda

1. **Welcome (3:45 pm)**
2. **CCP Status Update – Recap of Year 1 efforts (4 pm) \* Please see next page**
   1. Administration of grant
   2. Quality assurance planning – will submit in October 2017
   3. Review of contract and requested amendment
   4. Trainings, meetings and workshops
      * TAMU HLWH Program workshop on 10/13
      * RWH Demo installation at Patsy Glenn Refuge on 10/21 - pilot workshop
        + Will be filmed and posted on the website
      * Open to any ideas for workshops as long as funding is taken care of
   5. Best Management Practices
      * Tom Hegemier will continue working on design process
   6. Publications
   7. Education and outreach
   8. Ordinance Review and Fast Track Process
      * More detailed report in 5/or 6 months
      * More consistency, new ideas, incentives, coordinating with 3 entities in the spring next year (Wimberley, Woodcreek, and Hays County)
      * TCEQ – Edwards Aquifer Rules
      * Encourage SH Input and involvement
      * Q: How close are the 3 agencies?
        + Hays County is updating their drainage manual but more on drainage
        + TCEQ rules don’t have buffer zones
        + 2 city ordinances with buffer zones, treatment but not the same
      * Q: Is fast track and ordinance review related?
        + Yes, aligned but can also work independently. Ordinances approved before full fast track process but can help with current ordinances
      * Q: Why does it take so long?
        + Citizen process takes time (brings out developers, engineers, citizens), E/O, etc.
   9. Nonpoint source pollution, stormflow and flooding assessment
      * Water quality focus on drainage
3. **Upcoming deliverables, events and efforts (4:20 pm) \* Please see next page**
   1. Completion of contract revision/amendment
   2. Completion of QAPP
   3. Begin monitoring of surface water and groundwater sites
      * 3 new sites not covered under CRP – monitored monthly or quarterly
      * 2 groundwater sites
        + Monitoring quality of groundwater; where are sources of NPS pollution coming from?
        + Doug Wierman is determining the springshed for Jacob’s Well to identify important recharge features.
          - Doug to present findings in report sometime in 2018
          - Ex. Southwest Research Institute just released study for the Devils River showing the interchange between surface water and groundwater and how polluted runoff can show up as recharged groundwater in surface water. They’ve been able to extrapolate some findings to the Upper Guadalupe and are looking at the Trinity Aquifer as well.
        + Will look for funding/proposal to fund combined surface water and groundwater modeling
      * Continue with CRP monitoring
   4. Demonstration BMPs - Rainwater Cisterns
   5. Demonstration BMPs - Rain Gardens
   6. Biofiltration and Stormwater BMPs (later in year 2 and year 3)
   7. Continued Education and outreach activities
   8. Water quality reporting
   9. Continued Fast track Process
   10. Continued stormwater assessment and reporting
   11. Continued decision support system tasks (year 3)
       * Adrian Vogl developed modeling process that would help look at land use change development would affect water quality
       * What are some alternatives?
         + small contract with UT
           - $60K 🡪 $5K
           - Will help to come up with options for easy ways to update DSS or other systems
           - CHARM Model – Executive Committee will hopefully be able to participate
4. **Other Meadows Center and Cypress Activities (4:30 pm)** 
   1. Land conservation prioritization study completed (phase I)
      * 36 factors influencing the value of land for conservation – key areas to protect and focus $$ on
      * Ex. Boy scout camp property – $24 M property – big community effort to try to purchase as conservation easement – can use the study to show that there are areas like this one that need to be conserved
   2. Review of additional opportunities for funding
   3. Bacterial Source tracking
      * 3 Sampling events in Aug, Sept, and Oct upstream and downstream of downtown
        + Takes ~4 weeks to get DNA analysis for each sampling event
      * Will share information when available, 1st interim report in early October and final report expected December 2017
      * Q: Are you all testing for Personal Care Products (PCPs)? (Andy Grubbs)
        + We wanted to but could not find funding to test for these.
        + May be able to follow up with larger regional studies as a future recommendation
   4. Compiling information for Woodcreek Dam failure
      * Organizing subsequent study of dam maintenance in the watershed
      * We’re hoping that in the future, this stakeholder and executive committee communicate will be able to continue communicating relevant information to the community, as necessary.
   5. Applications submitted
      * Soil Board request for bacterial source tracking, 2016
      * Soil Board request for participation in regional Blanco Watershed planning efforts, 2016
      * Soil Board request for participation in regional Blanco Watershed planning efforts, 2017
      * Multiple private foundation requests for participation in regional funding
5. **Stakeholder Committee Purpose and Goals Review (4:40 pm)**
   1. Continued participation
   2. Executive Committee Function
   3. Potential focus of Committee Efforts, e.g. technical review, education and outreach, fundraising
      * Fully functioning springshed/watershed via stakeholder input 🡪 device for increased sustainability of implementation framework that is perpetual and allows for adaptive management (Joe Day)
      * Showcase, spend wisely, takes too long; tell the story more and better (Lila McCall)
        + Need to target the right folks for E&O- not to developers but to officials (Clint Garza)
        + Building consensus (Lila McCall & Steve Klepfer)
        + Is the entity that’s going to take over once MCWE funding is out going to develop the vision for the watershed? And can we start planning for this transition?
        + There’s a call for a greater vision for the watershed and how the WPP fits into that. When MCWE role is finished and funding is up, whatever entity takes over the WPP will also drive the greater vision for the watershed. Can we start planning for this transition now? (Michael Gatto)
          - MCWE will present options, but will need stakeholder input to develop long-term body to address any changes/anything that might come up with the project
      * Involve Linda Kaye Rogers and Joe about Doug’s task for SGMA
   4. Potential new members
      * Friends of Blue Hole
      * Nature Preservers
        + Group that holds conservation easement via WVWA to help manage
        + Destination point for a teaching area, not just a trail but to showcase general principles of the watershed plan
        + Scott Johnson to bring it up to the board for a vote
      * Others
        + Representatives for TNC (Rachel Ranft), HCC, and others
          - Identify which conservancies have conservation easements (Andy Grubbs)
6. **Adjourn (5pm)**

**Additional Information**

**Agenda Items II and III. CCP Status Update – Recap of Year 1 efforts**

1. Administration of grant – began September 2016
   * Project management
   * Project reporting
   * Updates via email and newsletters
   * Meetings with Executive Stakeholder Committee
2. Quality assurance planning
   * Monitoring and data collection protocols required by state and federal funders
   * Review of surface water quality monitoring plan
   * Development of protocol for groundwater monitoring
3. Review of contract and requested amendment
   * 2 year span between proposal and funding, review proposed activities
   * Focus more on demonstration and on the ground BMPs and less on research and studies – resulting in lower staff allocations and more money for construction and project implementation
   * Amendment is in progress and final version will be submitted 1st week in October
4. Trainings, meetings and workshops
   * 2 Open house events
   * Educational event at Blue Hole
   * 3 Lions Club Water Speaker Series Events
   * Riparian and Stream Ecosystem Workshop
   * Blanco Onion Creek Watershed Forum (assisted)
   * Texas Well Owner Network Workshop
   * CHARM Model workshop (to be repeated)
   * 3 Texas Stream Team Standard Core Water Quality Training
   * Texas Stream Team Probe Core Water Quality Training
   * Texas Stream Team Advanced Water Quality Training
   * Texas Stream Team Riparian Evaluation Training
   * Texas Stream Team Macroinvertebrate Rapid Bioassessment Training
   * Provided technical assistance to multiple land owners
5. Best Management Practices – planning, siting and initial design for:
   * 2 rainwater harvesting demonstrations in Wimberley (Blue Hole and TBD)
   * 1 rainwater harvesting demonstration in Woodcreek
   * 1 rain garden demonstration in Woodcreek
   * 1 rainwater harvesting and rain garden demonstration at Hays County Building
   * Others to be implemented throughout the watershed
     1. Next year, once amended contract is approved by TCEQ, there will be additional measures in each city, county, and on WVWA property
        1. Idea is to create a watershed tour
        2. Each site will have signage, printable resource guide to explain what was done, what materials were used and where to get them, technical expertise,
        3. Technical manuals for homeowners and builders
6. Publications (in progress)
   * Groundwater surface water interaction education briefs
   * Water quality education briefs
   * Educational signage
   * Educational posters
   * Low impact development, green infrastructure and nonpoint source pollution resource guides
   * Low impact development, green infrastructure and nonpoint source pollution resource guides for developers and engineers
   * Coffee table book/publication, including multiple brochures and summary reports – Our Community, Our Water, Our Future
   * Materials for classes, youth and other audiences
   * Website
   * Draft water quality dashboard
7. Education and outreach
   * Use of publications and other resources for educational partners
   * Website and dashboard
     1. We welcome your feedback!
   * Watershed tour planning
   * Riparian community resources
     1. Riparian Restoration Resources – Trello Board
     2. We will try to put together a workshop next year (2018) to do some riparian restoration designing for your own property
   * Community initiatives e.g. Round Up for Cypress Creek, Watershed Heroes
     1. FOBH – idea to work with the City to create a reserved parking for a watershed person for the quarter; led by the community to bring awareness
     2. Round up program – idea to raise funds for the watershed by rounding up to the dollar on purchases
   * Continued meetings and workshops
     1. Rainwater harvesting - multiple
     2. Riparian management, design and planning
     3. Art and water festival events
     4. Land Use Planning tools
     5. Speaker Series
     6. History of the watershed
     7. More….
8. Ordinance Review and Fast Track Process
   * Review and recommended alignment of regulations within the watershed
   * Recommendations to TCEQ for streamlining and improving guidance and requirements
   * Development of a process to provide support and fast tracking of permits with significant LID and GI components
   * Information for developers and builders to assist with LID and GI design
9. Nonpoint source pollution, stormflow and flooding assessment
   * Review of existing information and recommendations for siting BMPs, reducing stormflows and mitigating run off and flooding