



NYC Department of Environmental Protection Jamaica Bay Watershed Protection Plan

PROJECT UPDATE

Presented at Floyd Bennett Field, October 4, 2006



LOCAL LAW 71 (LL71)

- “Amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to developing a watershed protection plan for the water/sewershed of Jamaica Bay.”
- Primary reasons include:
 - ◆ Wetland Loss
 - ◆ Water Quality
 - ◆ Habitat Loss
 - ◆ Ecological Degradation



LL 71

Assess the technical, legal, environmental and economical feasibility of the following measures (at a minimum):

- BMPs to control soil erosion and stormwater runoff
- Minimization of impervious surfaces
- Creation of natural systems to control and minimize stormwater runoff
- Address threats to aquatic habitat (e.g., restoring salt marsh, soils, strengthen ecological buffers, etc.)
- Restore natural features to the water/sewershed
- Reestablish water flows
- Land acquisition and land use planning practices
- Coordination between federal, state and local entities
- Coordination with NYC Office of Env Coordination
- Public education program
- Increase enforcement efforts



LL71 MEETINGS & DEVIVERABLES

- January 11, 2006 – Public Meeting
- February 9, 2006 – Public Meeting
- June 14, 2006 – Status Update Meeting
- July 1, 2006 – Advisory Committee (AC) Preliminary Recommendations
- September 1, 2006 – NYCDEP Interim Report and Responses to AC recommendations
- October 4, 2006 – Public Meeting
- December 2006 – Public Workshop
- March 1, 2007 – Draft WPP
- April 2007 – Public Workshop
- June 1, 2007 – AC Final Recommendations
- October 1, 2007 – Final WPP



INTERIM REPORT

- Submitted to City Council and Mayor on September 1
- Summarized current efforts of the plan, proposed development and responses to the AC preliminary recommendations
- For each preliminary recommendation, a response plus the following determination was required:
 - ◆ recommendation will be incorporated into plan
 - ◆ recommendation will not be incorporated into plan
 - ◆ recommendation will be further assessed for inclusion in such plan



WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

- Continue meeting with Advisory Committee
- Continue evaluating AC preliminary recommendations (with AC)
- Continue defining and refining potential management strategies
- Coordinate with concurrent DEP planning processes (i.e., CSO planning and Comprehensive Water Quality Plan)
- Continue public/stakeholder involvement
- Develop realistic modeling scenarios
- Develop education and outreach materials
- Develop implementation for feasible and effective strategies



REVIEW OF BMP GOALS

- Assess realistic opportunities to employ appropriate and effective stormwater BMP's that could effect quality and quantity of stormwater generated.
- How many BMP's will it take?
 - ◆ We don't know....yet.
- Can some be used?....yes
- Where will they be used?
 - ◆ Unique features within watershed (subways, utilities, basements, high groundwater, etc...) require extensive evaluation.



TYPES OF BMPs

- Rain water harvesting (e.g., rain barrels)
- Vegetated systems (e.g., green roofs, swales, etc.)
- Street trees
- Urban wetlands
- Soil infiltration practices
- Reducing impervious surfaces with permeable paving materials



PROPOSED BMP TECHNICAL ANALYSES

- Methodology being used to assess BMPs for potential incorporation in final plan include:
 - ◆ Identify spatially within watershed and hydrologic position (streets, buildings, etc.)
 - ◆ Categorize BMPs by type
 - ◆ Determine benefits (e.g., volume reduction, pollutant removal, etc.) against impediments (management, perception, etc.)
 - ◆ Sort by land use
 - ◆ Field verification/identify suitable BMPs based on field data.



UPCOMING PUBLIC WORKSHOP

- Date: Early December
- Time: 6:00 pm
- Location: ???
- Format: Small group discussions including technical experts and stakeholders for each goal category (i.e., water quality, wetlands, education and outreach, etc.)
- Objective: To discuss potential management strategies and technical analyses required to evaluate each



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