



Charlotte City Council  
Environment Committee  
Summary Minutes  
March 26, 2018

---

**COMMITTEE AGENDA TOPICS**

- I. Storm Water Policy Review

**COMMITTEE INFORMATION**

---

**Committee Members Present:** Dimple Ajmera (Chair), Larken Egleston (Vice Chair), Braxton Winston, Matt Newton, Greg Phipps

**Guest(s):** Vy Lyles, Ed Driggs, Tariq Bokhari

**Staff Resources:** Kim Eagle, City Manager's Office  
Mike Davis, Engineering & Property Management  
Kruti Desai, Engineering & Property Management

**Meeting Duration:** 2:05 PM – 3:15 PM

**ATTACHMENTS**

---

1. Agenda
2. Presentation – Storm Water Services Program

**DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS**

---

Council member Ajmera called the meeting to order and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

**Storm Water Policy Review**

Mike Davis and Kruti Desai presented follow-up information from the Storm Water discussion held on March 5, 2018 and framed the conversation by emphasizing how this discussion focused upon policy rather than budget and finances. The Committee intended to take a vote on policy recommendations following the presentation.

Staff introduced a new recommendation to create a Cost Share Pilot Program where the program would receive \$5M over two years, \$2.5M in FY19 and FY20 to address 'C' projects. The Committee questioned if the City has responsibility to fix 'C' projects and asked what staff told residents on the wait list. Main question is what, if any, promises staff made about fixing and paying for wait list projects. Staff stated how no documentation existed of City guaranteeing funds to address 'C' projects.

The Committee also brought up the issue of equity in terms of how many residents have access to pay for the application fee and cost of project. Committee asked staff to analyze potential subsidies for different income brackets in order to create opportunities for more community participation in pilot program.

The Committee raised concerns on how staff would notify public on the pilot program. Chairperson Ajmera mentioned how Mrs. Eagle will collaborate with Charlotte Communications to begin developing a press release to communicate the program to the public.

Staff also emphasized how Storm Water does not want to divert funds or time from higher priority projects. The intent of the cost-share pilot is to maintain current service levels while also addressing 'C' projects identified prior to June 30, 2015.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Council member Egleston and seconded by Council member Winston to forward the staff recommendation to create a pilot cost-share program for 'C' requests funded at \$5M over 2 years and notify eligible citizens of new program, to full Council for consideration. *(Passed unanimously)*

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

# Environment Committee

Monday, March 26, 2018; 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.  
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center  
**Room CH-14**

Committee Members: Dimple Ajmera, Chair  
Larken Egleston, Vice Chair  
Matt Newton  
Gregg Phipps  
Braxton Winston

Staff Resource: Kim Eagle, City Manager's Office

---

## AGENDA

### I. **Storm Water Policy Review**

*Staff Resource: Mike Davis, Engineering & Property Management  
Kruti Desai, Engineering & Property Management*

Staff will present follow-up information from the Storm Water discussion the Committee held on March 5, 2018. Details concerning a cost share program for category C projects will be presented.  
*Action: Finalize recommendation for Full Council*

**Next Meeting:** Monday, April 9 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 280

---

Distribution:	City Council Bob Hagemann	Marcus Jones, City Manager Stephanie Kelly	Executive Team Environmental Cabinet
---------------	------------------------------	---	---



# Storm Water Services Program

City Council Environment Committee

March 26, 2018



## Overview

### Presentation Outline

- 1) Review of Previous Meeting
- 2) Proposed Revisions to Cost Share Pilot Program
- 3) Requested Action by Committee



2



## Purpose of Committee Review

**Purpose of Committee Review:**

Review the Storm Water Services Program to determine if it has the correct scope of work and consider any possible changes.

3



## Recent Council Activity

Date	Event	Note
6/12/17	Budget Adoption	2 <sup>nd</sup> consecutive 0% fee increase and referral to committee
8/14/17	Environment Committee #1	Review of program goals
9/18/17	Environment Committee #2	Review of unfunded projects: C's and private property work
11/13/17	Environment Committee #3	Fee relationship to unfunded projects
2/2/18	Council Retreat	Preview of Storm Water Services budget needs
2/19/18	Environment Committee #4	Abbreviated program review
3/5/18	Environment Committee #5	Consider elimination of C's as a modification to program scope
3/26/18	Environment Committee #6	Consider elimination of C's as a modification to program scope
3/29/18	Budget Committee	Present funding options based on program scope
4/11/18	Budget Workshop	

4



## Previous Staff Recommendation

### Previous Staff Recommendation (3/5/18)

1. Remove 'C' requests from regular minor repair list, and
2. Create a pilot cost-share program for 'C' requests funded at \$5M over 5 years. (based on 8% fee increase)

5



## Cost Share Pilot Program Key Terms

- Program is funded with \$5M over two years (\$2.5M in FY19 and FY20)
- Program funds will be used to partner with property owners to repair 'C' projects identified prior to June 30, 2015
- Final cost allocation between the City and the citizen will be on a sliding scale that considers how long a project has been on the list, and how severe the problem is
- Staff will use 6 months to make initial contact with citizens and determine an appropriate cost allocation

6



## Cost Share Pilot Program Key Terms (cont.)

- Staff will notify citizens on the 'C' repair list who still own the property (approximately 2,000 out of 4,205), beginning with properties on the list the longest
- In order to participate in the pilot program:
  - Citizens must share in entire cost of project
  - Donate all necessary easements
  - Pay an application fee for staff to begin work on request
  - Repairs that may create new problems on other properties, or cause impacts that outweigh benefits will not be eligible. Application fee would be refunded in this case.

7



## Pilot Program Evaluation

### Evaluating Success:

- 1) What level of citizen interest is there in the pilot?
- 2) What feedback are we getting from citizens?
- 3) Are we creating equitable outcomes?
- 4) What impact is the cost share pilot having on the rest of the Storm Water Services Program?

8



## Impacts to Higher Priority Work

- Funding the cost share pilot at \$2.5M per year requires a 4% fee increase to offset the cost to the Storm Water Services program
- \$5M funds approximately 50 A and B requests

9



## Look Ahead

### Next Steps

- The Environment Committee's action on the proposed pilot cost-share program will help inform the Budget Committee and Budget Workshop presentations.
- Following the budget process, staff will consider proposing a new program benchmark for unfunded work, based in part on a review of other cities and the possibility of an additional residential fee tier.

10



## Recommended Action

### Staff Recommendation

Create a pilot cost-share program for 'C' requests (lowest priority requests on private property) funded at \$5M over 2 years and notify eligible citizens of new program.