



**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**ALLIANCE OF DOWNRIVER WATERSHEDS**  
*Joint Technical & Public Education Committee Meeting*

January 10, 2008  
 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Allen Park  
 Berlin Township  
 Brownstown Township  
 Dearborn Heights  
 Ecorse  
 Flat Rock  
 Gibraltar  
 Grosse Ile Township  
 Lincoln Park  
 Melvindale  
 Riverview  
 Romulus  
 Southgate  
 South Rockwood  
 Sumpter Township  
 Taylor  
 Van Buren Township  
 Wayne County  
 Wayne County  
 Airport Authority  
 Westland  
 Woodhaven  
 Woodhaven-Brownstown  
 School District  
 Wyandotte

The Alliance of Downriver Watersheds Public Education and Technical Committees held a joint meeting on January 10, 2008.

**Attendance:**

Noel Mullet	Wayne County
Dean Tuomari	Wayne County
Matt Best	Wayne County
Susan Thompson	Wayne County
Nancy Gregor	Wayne County
Leah Groya	Wade Trim
Dan Brooks	Wade Trim
Ric Lawson	Huron River Watershed Council
Robert Burns	Friends of the Detroit River
Lisa Appel	International Wildlife Refuge Alliance
Craig Lyon	City of Taylor
Brent Florek	CERCO
Kevin Buford	City of Westland
Neil Greene	Woodhaven-Brownstown School District
Roy Schrameck	ECT

**1) Interagency Agreements (IAA's)**

Noel Mullet indicated that the County had completed draft IAA's for the Friends of the Detroit River, Huron River Watershed Council, and the Downriver Stream Team. The front portion of the agreements is boilerplate language with Attachment A being the language unique to each entity. Wayne County indicated that some feedback has been received from each of the three entities. Noel distributed a revised HRWC Attachment A based on edits and discussions over the past few days.

**Action Item:** Wayne County will make HRWC edits as well as update the footer and change the Planning and Design date from 2007 to 2008.

**Recommendation:** The Public Education/Technical Committee recommends that the ADW approve the IAA's with the noted changes at their January 24, 2008 meeting.

## 2) **Grow Zone Project Sites Draft RFP**

Wayne County developed and emailed out a draft Grow Zone RFP for the selection of project sites. Much of the language is from the CMI grant application and mimics the Federal grant submitted for additional funding. A successful applicant would get design and plant materials funded and organized by Wayne County and the designer. The only expense for the applicant would be associated with the preparation of the site, assistance on the day of the planting, and continued maintenance for 5 years.

Projects could be completed within a Wayne County Drain easement, however, permission from the property owner would be needed as well as a commitment to maintenance. Permits are not required from the DEQ for planting (as long as not in wetland). Funded projects will not be “streambank stabilization” projects due to the limited amount of grant funds available. Designs will need to get grant approval (ADW and MDEQ/CMI) prior to expending any construction efforts.

The HRWC emailed editorial comments to Wayne County for incorporation. An applicant does not need to have 501(c)(3) status. Less formal groups can partner with a land owner and apply for a grant, however, they must be able to commit to maintenance for 5 years.

**Action Items:** Wayne County will make HRWC emailed edits as appropriate; add as a priority selection criteria the applicant’s ability to provide monitoring assistance; and move the submittal deadline to February 15, 2008.

**Recommendation:** The Public Education/Technical Committee recommends that the ADW approve the Grow Zone Project Sites RFP with the noted changes at their January 24, 2008 meeting. The Selection Committee will be comprised of those that attend the Technical/Pub Ed Committee on February 21st (as long as they’re not an applicant). RCM TAC and State DEQ (Tricia Huddas) will also be involved in the evaluation process. Individual ADW members are urged to distribute the RFP as much as possible to schools and other significant landowners after it is approved.

## 3) **Grow Zone Design Services Draft RFP**

Wayne County developed and emailed out a draft Grow Zone RFP for the selection of a design consultant. This professional services RFP was based off of language in the ADW Watershed Facilitation Services RFP. It was agreed that it would be more productive to be able to list the selected sites in the RFP to make it less ambiguous. This would push the release date out until after project sites are selected. The construction drawings do not have to be full blown, engineered construction drawings. Construction survey staking would likely be the most costly item for the design consultant.

For each project, the designer would be responsible for contacting the grantee, walking the site and setting goals for the project. They would then design the plantings, review it with the grantee and county for final input. The designer would get approval from the ADW and State/CMI and provide assistance to the grantee and the ADW team on the day of construction. Each design will likely be limited to one plan sheet with the plant list, planting details, notes, and layout all on one sheet. WC DOE has examples from past projects.

**Action Items:** Wayne County will edit the RFP to include a placeholder for listing the selected sites in RFP and announcing the pre-bid meeting date. Date of release will need to be delayed to do so. In Task 1 indicate that no survey/topo work is needed. Use existing GIS data or data supplied by site owner. In Task 2C add that an electronic copy of the record drawings is required. A pre-bid meeting should be scheduled after the RFP is released and example plan sheets should be able to be reviewed.

Wayne County will modify the RFP and email it out to the Tech/Pub Ed Committee for final review.

**Recommendation:** The Public Education/Technical Committee recommends that the ADW approve the Grow Zone Design Consultant RFP with the noted changes at their January 24, 2008 meeting.

#### 4) Other Items

##### a) MDEQ TMDL Meeting

The MDEQ held a TMDL meeting in December 2007 for the Ecorse Creek Watershed regarding *e. coli* sampling results. The DEQ's plan is to develop a draft TMDL plan in January, hold a public hearing in March and finalize the plan by this summer. The severity of the problems were greater than some anticipated. It was disappointing to have human *e. coli* present at all sampling locations.

##### b) Green Infrastructure Imagery

Wayne County is lining up a contractor and American Forest to come in and make a presentation to the Technical Committee in March. After the presentation, the ADW can determine how/if to proceed.

**Action Item:** Wayne County schedule and coordinate presentation.

##### c) Retention Basin Maintenance Program

The issue of providing maintenance procedures and information to privately owned retention basins, such as those owned/operated by Homeowner's Associations was brought up at the previous ADW meeting. Wayne County distributed the brochure developed for the Rouge Watersheds and indicated they have distributed that at workshops where targeted stakeholders are invited to attend. The Technical/Public Education Committee is interested in using the portion of the Grow Zone Grant that must be used for public education to have Wayne County edit and reproduce the brochure, and schedule 2 workshops to be held within the ADW. The City of Taylor would like to host one of the workshops.

**Action Item:** Wayne County will develop a cost estimate for 2 workshops and the reproduction of the brochure and bring it to the next Tech/Pub Ed meeting for review and further discussion.

##### d) Monitoring

The HRWC had developed comments and recommendations regarding monitoring within the ADW. Ric Lawson briefly reviewed these and indicated that some further discussion was needed with Wayne County prior to making final recommendations to the ADW.

**Action Item:** HRWC and Wayne County will meet to discuss collection methodology differences and monitoring locations. Once that is completed, the Grow Zone sites will be selected and then a more specific monitoring plan can be developed for ADW approval.

#### NEXT MEETINGS

Joint Public Education/Technical Committee meetings have been scheduled for the following dates/times:

**February 21, 2008** 1:30 pm at the Wayne County DOE-Wayne Office (Grow Zone Site Selections)  
**March 18, 2008** 1:30 pm – Location to Be Determined (Green Imagery Presentation)