



**Coordination & Policy Workgroup  
Meeting Summary  
Tuesday, March 25, 2014  
10:00 PM to 12:00 PM  
H-GAC Conference Room C, Second Floor**

**Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions**

Linda Broach, Richard Chapin, Danielle Cioce, Catherine Elliott, Jonathan Holley, Tom Ivy, Alisa Max, Linda Pechacek

**Review Notes from 12/16/2013 Meeting**

The workgroup reviewed notes from the previous meeting and made one correction.

**Discussion: BIG's Ground Rules**

Workgroup reviewed the BIG's ground rules to determine if any changes are warranted. The workgroup was presented with a strike-out version for review. The workgroup suggested one change which would be corrected prior to the BIG meeting in May.

**Discussion: Address New TMDLs – BIG Region and Outside**

Workgroup discussed new and recently completed TMDLs within the BIG watershed and those adjacent or near the BIG watershed. The BIG charged the workgroup with reviewing the I-Plan language that allows adding additional watersheds. The workgroup determined that for a watershed outside of the BIG project area, that the stakeholders would need to either submit a signed petition requesting to join the BIG or provide a demonstration such as holding a vote by the coordination committee the overwhelmingly supports adopting the BIG I-Plan and willingness to join the BIG. Additionally, the workgroup suggested that the BIG would not need to sign a letter accepting these new watersheds, but that H-GAC on behalf of the BIG could send a letter to TCEQ that presents the BIG's vote to accept the watershed.

**Discussion: BIG 2014 Annual Report**

Workgroup reviewed implementation activities in 2013 and the 2014 approach to the Annual Report for each strategy area:

***I-Plan Strategies:***

Implementation Activity 1.0: Wastewater Treatment Facilities

Effort over the past year saw activity covering permit review and analysis of DMR data. Education and training was provided to operators covering bacteria and Harris County initiated a WWTF design set review program. Additional work in 2014 should cover review of TCEQ compliance and enforcement data and track any effort of TCEQ to increase the number visits to WWTF.

Implementation Activity 2.0: Sanitary Sewer Systems

Stakeholders participated in review of chapter 217. It has been noted that the comment process has been extended till August 2014. There has been significant effort to increase FOG education. In 2014, the focus will be on gathering SSO data to better track activities, set a baseline and track any improvements.

Implementation Activity 3.0: On-site Sewage Facilities

H-GAC continues to gather OSSF data and refine mapping tools. H-GAC also collected OSSF compliance data. H-GAC will be using this information to establish target areas to distribute funding from an approved SEP.

#### Implementation Activity 4.0: Stormwater and Land Development

Efforts in 2013 focused on analysis of MS4 reports and tracking BMP implementation. Also, a draft recognition program was developed. Work in 2014 will include working with trade organizations and local governments to begin implementation of the recognition program; develop an online implementation tracking database to assist in coordination with local MS4; and gathering information on local government efforts to support LID through regulations and ordinance promulgation.

#### Implementation Activity 5.0: Construction

Much of the focus has been on providing education and training during inspections and through H-GAC's Clean Waters Initiative workshops.

#### Implementation Activity 6.0: Illicit Discharges and Dumping

Activities looked at eliminating illicit discharges using the top ten "Most Wanted List."

#### Implementation Activity 7.0: Agriculture and Animal Sources

Work under this activity has focused on education through existing programs towards landowners, particularly feral hog workshops.

#### Implementation Activity 8.0: Residential

Efforts over the past year centered on pet waste and FOG education. Additional education through CWI workshops targeted MS4 with bacteria specific education and training.

#### Implementation Activity 9.0: Monitoring and I-Plan Revision

During 2013, implementation effort continued through CRP ambient monitoring and increasing non-ambient water quality data. Effort will continue to complete a non-ambient water quality data quality assurance program in 2014. Additionally, some level of effort should be expended to determine the best means to track or capture partner implementation activities.

#### Implementation Activity 10.0: Research

H-GAC staff noted that the research workgroup would be meeting in the afternoon. The goals of the meeting would be to review current and planned research and to discuss avian and wildlife bacteria contributions.

#### Implementation Activity 11.0: Geographic Priority Framework

Current activities support full implementation with organizations using the top ten "Most Wanted" list to target segments for bacteria sources. In addition, Harris County has developed a model geographic framework for this workgroup to evaluate that considers recreational use, density and other factor

### **Discussion: Wildlife Bacteria Follow-up**

The workgroup discussed information provided by TX DOT during the research workgroup meeting.

### **Adjourn**

### **Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

**May 27, 2014:** BIG Annual Meeting