

Public Works and Buildings Committee
City Hall Council Chambers
Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor Donald Hamann, Chairman
Councilor Daniel Fitzpatrick
Councilor Kevin Sullivan
Councilor David Walker

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilor Alexander de Geofroy (Excused)

OTHERS PRESENT

Peter C. Nourse PE, Director of City Service
Dan Camara, Coordinator GIS & Asset Mgmt.
Lisa Clark, Deputy Director, DPW
Renee Bourdeau, Geosyntec Engineers

MINUTES

Councilor Hamann called the Public Works and Building Committee to order at 7 PM

1. Roll Call

Ms. McDormand took the roll call attendance. Chair Hamann, Councilor Sullivan, Councilor Walker and Councilor Fitzpatrick were all present. Councilor de Geofroy was absent with excuse.

2. Approval of the November 16, 2023, PWC Minutes

Councilor Fitzpatrick made a motion to accept the minutes of November 16, 2023, meeting as presented. Councilor Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Input

There was no public present for public input.

4. Overview of the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit (MS4) and Progress Update.

Mr. Nourse stated that the Department of Public Works (DPW) annually updates the Public Works Committee (PWC) on this MS4 Permit compliance and status. Mr. Nourse noted that the MS4 permit is one of the big three permits environmental permits for the City of Rochester, the other two being the Wastewater discharge permits at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This is a significant permit, and the City is on year five of this permit. Mr. Nourse introduced Renee Boudreau, Stormwater Engineer with Geosyntec Engineers, as the City's consultant for MS4 Permit Compliance. Ms. Bourdeau presented a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the process of permitting, the history of the City's

permit, the permit requirements past and present, the status of compliance and requirements of the current permit that will continue until the next permit is issued. Ms. Bourdeau's Power Point presentation is attached to the minutes. Ms. Bourdeau explained the current permit objectives include public education, public involvement, illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE), a construction site stormwater control program and good housekeeping and pollution control prevention. She went over the current and future measures being used for compliance and she discussed the need for maintenance of the City's MS4 infrastructure. Chair Hamann asked who was responsible for the culverts under the driveways. Mr. Nourse referenced RSA 236:13 that requires property owners to maintain their own driveway culverts. He noted that this statute requires abutters to provide their own access to the right-of ways and to maintain their drainage including culverts. Councilor Sullivan asked what stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) on private properties are. Mr. Nourse stated that typically a BMP is a pond or rain garden, the City does have about 78 of them. Councilor Sullivan asked is there a schedule or operation maintenance plan for the 78 that the City does have. Mr. Nourse stated that they did not have a plan yet, in the proposed budget there is a request for funding required to get the ponds to a functional condition that City forces could maintain in the future. He noted that there is a significant amount of work to bring them to a functional status and then the City will need to implement a long-term schedule. Councilor Walker asked the question if the Inflow/Infiltration (I/I) programs were completed in the City. Mr. Nourse stated that Sewer System master plan is a decade long program, and they are in year two at this time. The first year of construction is in FY 2025. Mr. Nourse noted right now they are doing inflow investigations they are now inspecting 4,500 buildings and getting results. Mr. Nourse stated that several areas in the City will get relined pipes and neighborhoods will be addressed, but we are still gathering information in order to direct that work. Chair Hamann said that he spoke with Councilor de Geofroy who could not be at the meeting tonight. He stated that Councilor de Geofroy is the chair of the Codes and Ordinances Committee, and he is having discussions with the Building and Licensing Department to see what changes may be necessary for code enforcement. He asked Mr. Nourse if Public Works should be working with them as well to see if there is anything they can do to help enforce the MS4 and Wastewater permit compliance. Mr. Nourse noted that Code enforcement is very important and that DPW should work with them on these discussions.

5. Overview of Topics to be Discussed at Public Works Committee in 2024.

Mr. Nourse discussed an overview of 2024 Public Works Committee agenda items; specific dates were not specified, and other agenda items will be added as required. The list is below:

- Overview of MS4 (Stormwater) Permit and Progress Update (January)
- Capacity and Safety Improvements to NH Rt 11

- Suitability of Public Waste and Drinking Water Utilities to Support the Granite Ridge Development District
- Round Pond Reservoir Project Overview
- Water Treatment Facility Hydraulic Analysis and Water Residuals Management
- Cocheco Well Treatment Upgrades for Manganese/Iron/PFAS
- Wastewater Treatment Facility National Pollution Discharge System (NPDES) Individual Permit
- Tebbetts Rd. / Old Dover Rd. Intersection Improvements
- Portland St. New Sidewalks – TAP Grant
- Sewer System Master Plan
- Milton Rd./Amarosa Dr./Salmon Falls Rd. Intersection Improvements
- City Water Meter Replacement Program Update
- Signalized Intersection Master Plan
- Municipal Bridge Inspection Report and Planned Bridge Work
- Lead and Copper Rule Revisions
- Columbus Ave./Summer St. Intersection Improvements
- The Cyber Security of the Industrial Control Systems of Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities
- Asset Management

Mr. Nourse note that they are having a Public Meeting for Local Concerns regarding the Capacity and Safety Improvements Project on NH Route 11 on January 31, 2024, at 7 PM at the DPW 209 Chestnut Hill Road.

Mr. Nourse also noted that there's an informational meeting for the Milton Road, Amarosa Drive, and Salmon Falls Road Intersection Improvements Project on Thursday January 25, 2024, at 7 PM at the DPW, 209 Chestnut Hill Road.

6. **Other**

Adjustment of Meeting Time for the Public Works and Buildings Committee

Mr. Nourse addressed the committee regarding the meeting time. Mr. Nourse asked the committee tonight if they would like to adjust the time of the Public Works and Buildings

Committee to 6 PM, similar to the Public Safety Committee meeting and other City meetings. The committee agreed to change the PWC meeting time to 6 PM.

Introduction of Grethen Young, New Technical Director of Public Works

Mr. Nourse introduced the committee to the new Deputy Director for Technical Services as Gretchen A Young, PE. Mr. Nourse noted that the DPW is happy to have her, and she has good reputation with the municipal engineering network. Mr. Nourse further noted she has extensive background in stormwater and drinking water, and she fills a key position at DPW. Mr. Nourse further stated that Gretchen Young was hired in 2014 as a Construction Engineer and performed extremely well and Mr. Nourse stated they are extremely thrilled to have her back. The committee welcomed her back.

Strafford Square Circle

Councilor Sullivan said he had a resident come to him with concern regarding the first three driveways as you go around the circle to exit onto Walnut Street. He stated they cannot see backing out of their driveways and he was wondering if there was anything that could be done. Mr. Nourse thanked Councilor Sullivan for bringing it up and stated he will look into this to see if something can be done. Councilor Walker asked Mr. Nourse if there are any plans to put the watering trough back. Mr. Nourse noted the trough will be placed in the area where there is some greens space Walnut and Washington Streets.

Councilor Hamann adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura McDormand, DPW Administration & Utility Billing Supervisor



STORMWATER PROGRAM UPDATE

Public Works and Buildings Committee Update

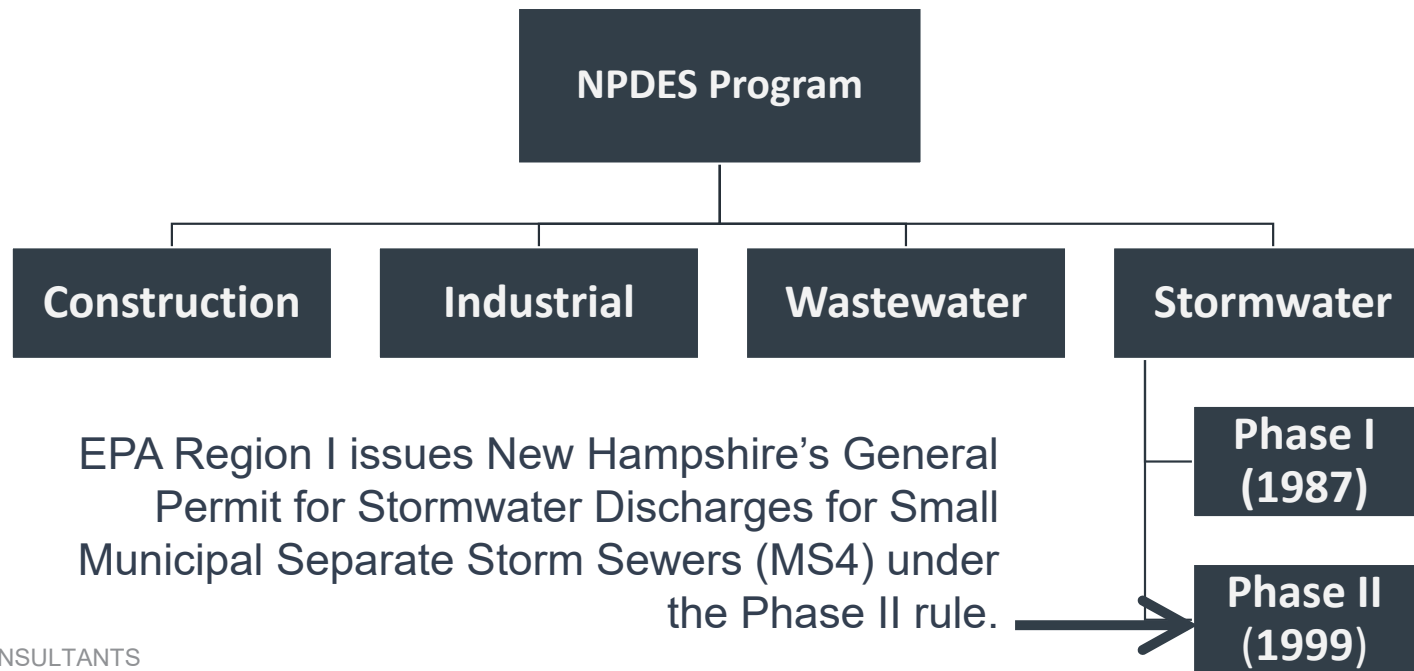
January 23, 2024

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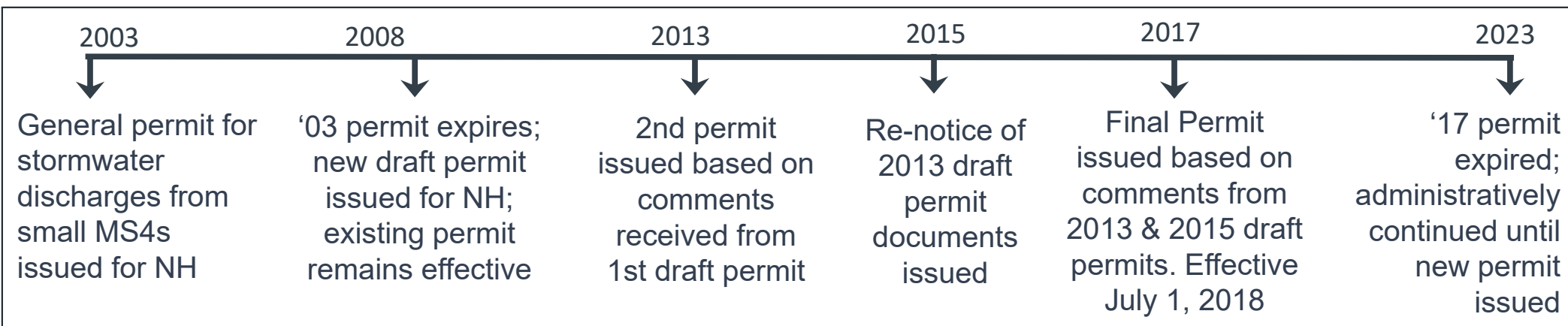
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NPDES OVERVIEW

Clean Water Act of 1972 established the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)



MS4 PERMIT OVERVIEW



- **2017 MS4 Permit**
 - Applicable to 60 Traditional MS4s and 3 Non-traditional MS4s
 - Additional requirements compared to 2003 permit
 - 5 Year Permit Period (administratively continued June 30, 2023, until new permit is issued)
- **DPW Overall Objectives**
 - Develop and Implement new MS4 Permit Requirements

MS4 APPLICABILITY

MS4 Permit applies to all City-owned property and assets within the regulated area, which includes those maintained by the School Department.

- Area of City-Owned Property (including school): 2,626 acres
- Area of City-Owned Property within MS4 regulated area (including school): 1,365 acres
- Area of School Maintained Property within City: 149 acres
- Area of School Maintained Property within MS4 regulated area: 149 acres
- Number of City Owned Facilities/Parcels (including school owned): 165 parcels
- Number of School Maintained Facilities/Parcels: 9 parcels

Have conducted outreach with the School Department and Maintenance Staff to educate them on the permit requirements



MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURES (MCMS)

Stormwater Management Program (SWMP)

MCM#1: Public Education

MCM#2: Public Involvement

MCM#3: Illicit Discharge Detection and
Elimination

MCM#4: Construction Site Stormwater
Runoff Control Program

MCM#5: Post Construction Site Stormwater
Control Program

MCM#6: Good Housekeeping and Pollution
Prevention

TMDL/WATER QUALITY LIMITED REQUIREMENTS

Supplemental Permit Requirements:
Implement targeted Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce identified pollutants causing impairment in high-priority water bodies

City of Rochester Action Items

Bacteria/Pathogens Impairment

- Increased Ranking for Outfalls in IDDE Program
- Additional Public Education and Outreach Requirements

Nitrogen Impairment

- Additional Public Education and Outreach Requirements
- Additional Good Housekeeping & Pollution Prevention Measures
- Nitrogen Reduction Tracking
- Additional Stormwater Management Requirements

Metals Impairments

- Additional Good Housekeeping & Pollution Prevention Measures
- Additional Stormwater Management Requirements

COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE

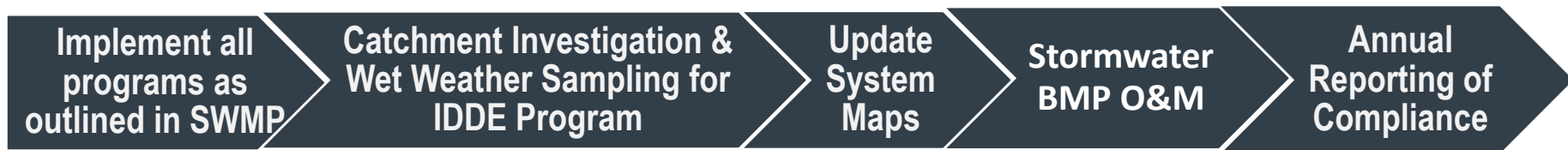
Completed Year 5 Activities



Ongoing and Planned Year 6 Activities



Future Activities





BENEFITS TO ROCHESTER

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- Ongoing satisfactory compliance with 2017 MS4 requirements
- Improved water quality in receiving waters
- Expanded public education on stormwater management
- Improved tracking and inspection of stormwater assets
- Reduction of illicit discharges to City's storm drain system
- Prioritization for structural stormwater retrofits of City-owned properties

RECENT PROGRESS



CITY STORMWATER ASSETS

- 3,500 catch basins
- 860 drain manholes
- 165 outfalls
- 35 Culverts
- 800,000 linear feet of drainpipes and culverts (6" - 84" diameter)
- 78 City-owned and maintained stormwater treatment practices

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STORMWATER TREATMENT PRACTICE MAINTENANCE

- Inspected 78 practices in Fall 2021
 - Identify/confirm treatment practice type
 - Identify maintenance needs
- Level of Effort to Revive Practice
 - High (\$\$\$): 11 practices
 - Medium (\$\$): 19 practices
 - Low (\$): 24 practices
 - Annual O&M: 23 practices

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SEDIMENT BUILD- UP CREATING LIMITED CAPACITY



WOODY VEGETATION LIMITING CAPACITY OF POND

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LOCATION: EBONY DRIVE

**SEDIMENT BUILD-
UP CREATING
LIMITED CAPACITY**



LOCATION: INDUSTRIAL WAY

**EROSION
ALONG A
BASIN SIDE
SLOPE**



LOCATION: MISTY LANE

**WOODY VEGETATION,
LEAVES, AND BRUSH
LIMITING CAPACITY
OF POND**

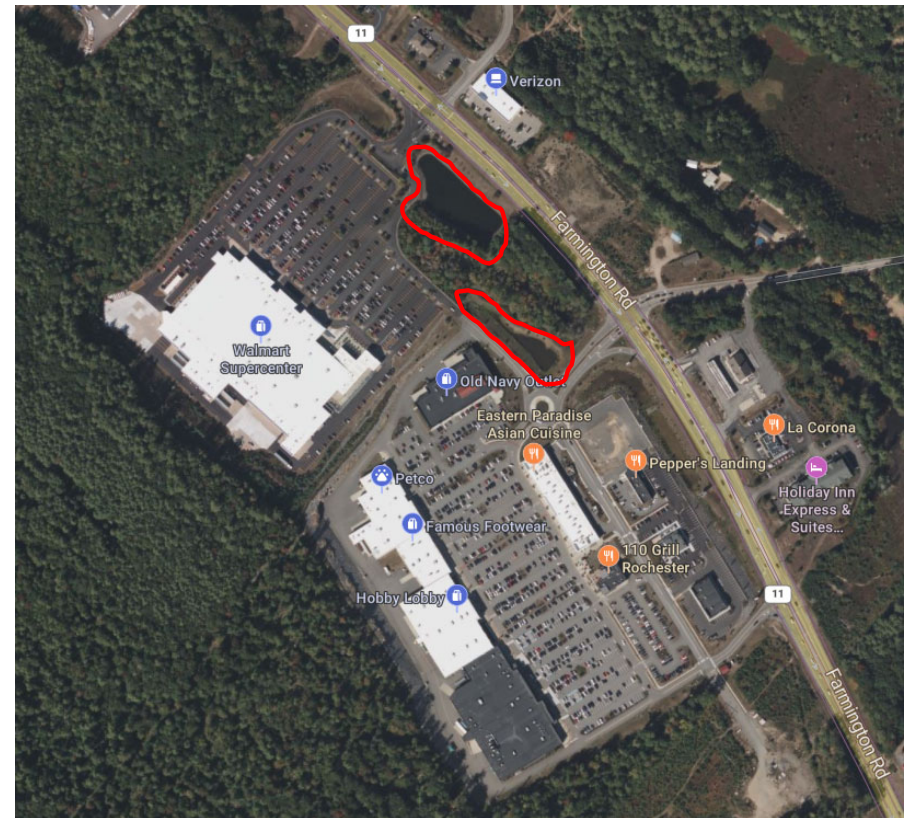


WHY IS MAINTENANCE IMPORTANT?

- Reduces flooding
- Improves water quality
- Allows the City to get nitrogen load reduction for Great Bay Total Nitrogen General Permit Adaptive Management Plan & Settlement Agreement

PRIVATE STORMWATER TREATMENT PRACTICES

- Identify locations and verify types of privately owned stormwater practices
 - Quantify the pollutant load reductions associated with these practices
 - Upload this into the DES tracking and accounting system
- Determine if stormwater practices have a maintenance agreement in place
 - Develop an e-permitting module to track maintenance of private practices
 - Send a letter to each property owner to indicate when annual maintenance is due and how to submit reports
 - Provide maintenance agreement template for those practices that do not currently have them



CATCHMENT INVESTIGATION

- Investigate each outfall to look for evidence of illicit discharge or connections
 - Any discharge to the storm drain that is not comprised of 100% stormwater
- Starting at the outfall look for dry weather flow or evidence of an illicit connection (odor, turbidity, floatables)
 - If flow is observed sampling is conducted
 - Make observations through entire outfall catchment area
- Collecting asset data (inverts, diameters, pipe type)



CATCHMENT INVESTIGATION

165 Outfalls need to be investigated

- 11 Complete (end of Year 5)
- 48 are on-going
 - Need additional data review to determine next steps
 - Need wet weather sample before they can be considered complete
- All outfalls need to be investigated by June 30, 2028

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WET WEATHER SAMPLING

- 1 sample required at all 165 outfalls
- Required before a catchment investigation can be complete
- 54 Completed
- All sampling need to be completed by June 30, 2028

NEXT MS4 PERMIT

- Timeline – unclear
- IDDE program should remain the same (10-year program)
 - Possible recommended actions for wet weather exceedences
- Additional water quality impairment requirements (Appendix H)
 - Retrofit of City properties to include stormwater treatment practices
 - Tracking and accounting requirements for City stormwater treatment practices
- Expanded reduction credits for structural and non-structural stormwater practices
- Optimization of catch basin cleaning and street sweeping

QUESTIONS

