



CWG Meeting Summary

Attendees Community Working Group Members:	Matt Benjamin Elizabeth Black Dylan Blaskey Tim Holbrook	Ana Casas Ibarra Joan Lutz Mar Caballero-Matlak RJ Pautch	Liz Payton Steve Pomerance Ann Quenzer
Attendees City of Boulder:	Katie Knapp, Project Manager Joanna Bloom, Utilities Deputy Director of Policy and Planning Brandon Coleman, Engineering Project Manager Laurel Olsen, Utilities Engagement & Outreach Senior Program Manager		
Catalyst:	Barbara Lewis, Facilitator		
Attendees Tetra Tech:	Vicki Scharnhorst, Project Manager Amy Murdick, Project Technical Lead Kellie Dubay, Outreach Specialist		
Date & Location:	July 16, 2021 Virtual Zoom Meeting		
Subject:	Comprehensive Flood & Stormwater Master Plan Community Working Group Meeting #6		

Materials Discussed

- I. Technical Memo #2: Policy & Program Evaluation
- II. CWG Outreach Toolkit
- III. Fall Outreach Plan

Technical Memo #2: Policy & Program Evaluation

- I. Tetra Tech provided an overview of the policy & program evaluation process, including work completed and how the information will be used to inform the upcoming analysis phase. CWG members participated in three breakout groups to discuss the improvement actions that were identified as part of the evaluation process. Identified policy and program improvement actions were discussed; and the CWG provided input on the community identified improvement actions to confirm they are aligned with what the CWG has been hearing.
- II. Highlights of the points of discussion raised during the breakout groups included the following:
 - a) Funding considerations will remain a significant focus moving forward.
 - b) Design and mapping seems to take significantly longer than construction. This is largely due to the robust public engagement process included with design and mapping. Major planning, engagement, and refinements are made upfront and therefore the actual construction period is much shorter, respectively.

- c) An outline of the master plan was requested. This will be provided at the next CWG meeting; however, it was noted that the final outline will remain flexible in order to accommodate ongoing community input. Alignment of the community vision with the city vision will continue throughout the process, which may necessitate adjustments to the outline as the process moves forward.
- d) There was discussion about climate change as it relates to stormwater quality and drainage. CWG members commented that it is important to focus on meeting more than just the minimum permit requirements; providing public outreach for private property owners to incorporate water quality features; and, it is important to look into regulations and enforcement.
- e) In reviewing the identified flood management improvement actions, CWG members noted that it was important to stay consistent in public outreach and messaging. For example, some materials talk about the City of Boulder having a high flood risk, while others say that the city has the highest risk in the state.
- f) While available funding is still an issue, it is also important to recognize that regulations can save money as well. More stringent regulations can increase resiliency, support better land use decisions, and prevent basements in areas of shallow flooding. Using regulations to keep development out of the floodplain reduces property loss caused by flood events.
- g) There was an expressed need to clarify that flood water doesn't necessarily stop at the regulatory floodplain delineations. The floodplain maps exist for regulatory/flood insurance purposes to identify areas of highest risk. These maps do not delineate all areas of flood risk.
- h) CWG members expressed that it would be interesting to see recent flood damages shown on top of a map of the social vulnerability index to see if there would be any correlation. Additionally, education on adequate preparation for floods and property protection should focus on the most vulnerable neighborhoods.
- i) Related to flood outreach, it was suggested that drainage-specific flood awareness public meetings be offered within each drainage basin.

CWG Outreach Toolkit

- I. Outreach materials have been assembled to assist CWG members with community outreach as the group begins a more robust engagement process this fall. The kit includes draft language and sample images for sending out emails or social media posts to networks. Materials created by the Outreach Subgroup have been included as well.
 - a) The briefing sheet created by the Outreach subgroup will be translated into Spanish.
 - b) A suggestion was made that language — like 100-year storm event — should be avoided as some persons may not understand what it means. However, others felt that the 1% annual exceedance probability storm would be just as confusing.
 - c) These tools are available for use now, but there is still the opportunity to refine them moving forward.

Fall Outreach Plan

- I. The current plan for fall outreach will include regional forums with different approaches by basin. The outreach events will introduce the master plan and discuss targeted issues based on individual drainage basins. Informational videos, virtual tours and site visits may be incorporated if feasible.
- II. Additional suggestions for targeted outreach included Flood Safety Day, a booth at the Boulder Creek Festival, adding a Water Quality Day, and school outreach activities.

Meeting Wrap Up

- I. CWG members were asked to respond to the questions related to the format of this meeting: “What worked well?” and “What should we change?”
 - a) CWG members noted that they appreciated the longer breakout sessions with more interaction between CWG members and city staff/consultants

Next Steps

- II. The next CWG meeting will be scheduled for August 13th from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.
- III. Prioritization criteria and fall outreach will be the main topics discussed.
- IV. “Early On Line Chat” will be available 15 minutes prior to the start of the next meeting for CWG members to have an open forum, if desired.