



**Stormwater Management Advisory Commission (SMAC)
Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2026
3:00 PM**

5611 Jaguar Park Drive (Thomas G. Crowder Woodland Center)

Commission Members Present: Graham Smith (Chair), Nicola Hill (Vice Chair), Josh Dalton, Barrett Jenkins, Samantha Krop, Ian McMillan, Robert Paschal, Lou Ann Phillips, and Marinel Streit

Commission Members Absent: Melody Whitford

Staff Members Present: Byron Sanders, Dori Rathmell, Ariel Bushel, Justin Harcum, Barbara Moranta, Wayne Miles, Stephen Jeltema, Ben Brown, Javier Echaniz, Mani Kumar, Scott Bryant, Matthew Hunt, Tonka Wilkins, Jackie Gill, Natalie Hoy, and Scott Smith

Guests: Sujit Ekka, Jay Jayakrishnan, Phillip Todd

Meeting called to order: 3:00 PM by Graham Smith (Chair)

Welcome, Introductions, Excused and Unexcused Absence

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve an excused absence for Ms. Whitford, and Mr. Dalton seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

February 6, 2025, Minutes for Approval

Ms. Phillips made a motion to approve the minutes, and Mr. Dalton seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment: (email submittal - see attachment)

Commission /Stormwater Staff Update on Matter of Importance

- **Planning Commission** (*Nicola Hill and Ben Brown*)
Z-38-25: 1000, 1017 & 1100 Trailwood Dr, 13.8 Acres – *At Planning Commission on 3/10/26*

Motion:

Ms. Krop made a motion that the developer of Z-38-25 come and present to SMAC due to lack of information, and Ms. Streit seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



- **City Council**
 - Z-29-25: 1116 & 11126 Trailwood Dr, 2.81 Acres – *Public Hearing scheduled 4/7/26*
 - TCZ-14-25: 2211, 2221 & 2231 S New Hope Rd, 58.65 Acres – *Public Hearing scheduled 4/7/26*
- **Commission Staff Updates** (*Wayne Miles, Stormwater Program Manager*)
 - New SMAC Member Appointed – Colin McCarville
 - New City of Raleigh Director of Engineering Services – Byron Sanders, Jr., PE, CPM
- **Stormwater Staff Updates** - *No updates*
- **High Priority Topics**
 - FY27 Stormwater Management Program proposed budget and fee rate presentation to SMAC today (March 5) and City Council on March 9 which is a public meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend or watch the streaming online.
 - Regional Creek Week upcoming March 14 – March 21
 - Raleigh's Earth Day event will be Friday, April 24 at Dix Park; Today's Capture It! Winners will be announced by the SMAC Chair
 - Reminder of Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange - 2026 Annual Meeting to be held in Raleigh, May 4 – 7
 - Web link for Upcoming Stormwater Public Meetings: [Events | Raleighnc.gov](https://www.Raleighnc.gov/Events)
- **Notices Prior to Construction** – In accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-499.4, the City is hereby providing public notice of the construction of the following projects, with construction anticipated to begin within the next 90 days:
 - Demolition of the acquired property at 3111 Lake Woodard – flood mitigation project
 - Stormwater Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project Bundle 2 (Advertised for bids - 2/20/2026)
 - Weldon Place – Drainage Assistance Project
 - Fairlie Place Rehabilitation – Drainage Assistance Project
 - Crandon Lane Rehabilitation – Drainage Assistance Project
 - Lord Ashely Drainage Improvements – Drainage Assistance Project
- **Raleigh Rainwater Rewards Project(s) for Review**
(*Justin Harcum/Stephen Jeltema – Stormwater Water Quality team*)

On March 6, 2018, the City Council approved revisions to the Stormwater Quality Cost Share Policy that included delegation of authority to the Commission to review, approve, and/or deny applications with a City Stormwater cost contribution of more than \$5,000 and less than \$30,000. The following applications are requesting a City contribution that requires Commission review and approval.



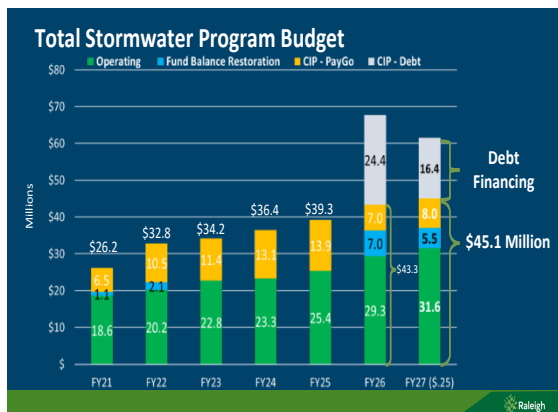
1. **2106 Watkins Street:** The resident has applied for funding assistance to install 210 square feet of rain garden to treat 1,992 square feet of impervious surface runoff on their property. This property is in the Pigeon House Branch watershed and qualifies for a 90% cost share. The total project acceptable cost estimate is \$17,883, with the applicant's share being \$1,788 and the City Stormwater share up to \$16,095.
2. **118 Summit Avenue:** The resident has applied for funding assistance to install 324 square feet of rain garden to treat 1,945 square feet of impervious surface runoff on their property. This project is in the Rocky Branch watershed and qualifies for a 75% cost share. The total project acceptable cost estimate is \$18,682, with the applicant's share being \$4,670 and the City Stormwater share up to \$14,012.
3. **710 Penn Road:** The resident has applied for funding assistance to install 1,850 gallons of cistern to treat 1,782 square feet of impervious surface runoff on their property. This project is in the Pigeon House Branch watershed and qualifies for a 90% cost share. The total project acceptable cost estimate is \$16,675, with the applicant's share being \$1,667 and the City Stormwater share up to \$15,008.

Motion:

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to approve (all three projects), and Mr. Dalton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Stormwater's FY27 Budget and Supporting Utility Fee Rate Proposal** (*Wayne Miles - Stormwater Program Manager/Assistant Engineering Services Director; Javier Echaniz – Stormwater Fiscal Manager; and Scott Bryant – Stormwater Business & Financial Operations Manager*)

Building upon last month's stormwater budget and rate overview, and CIP budget presentation, staff provided Stormwater's FY27 program budget proposal including the supporting utility fee rate adjustment recommendation. The presentation provided the proposed FY27 operations budget including staffing plans.



	FY26	Proposed FY27
Single-Family Equivalent Unit Fee Rate	\$8.22 per month	\$8.47 per month (\$0.25 per month increase)
Total Stormwater Budget	\$43,341,026	\$45,052,500



- **Capture It! Arts Contest Finalists**

(Dori Rathmell, MEM – Community Relations Analyst, Water Quality Team; Ariel Bushel – Stormwater Communications Lead)

- SMAC reviewed and selected award winners from staff-recommended finalists. Winners will be recognized at Raleigh’s Earth Day event at Dorothea Dix Park and select artwork will be displayed at the Pullen Arts Center Youth & Teen Gallery.

- **Election of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Planning Commission Liaison**

Motion:

Chair Smith made a motion to open the floor for nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair, and liaison to the Planning Commission.

Wayne Miles facilitated and asked Commission members if there were any other nominees other than Mr. Graham Smith for Chair, Ms. Nicola Hill for Vice-Chair, and Ms. Samantha Krop for liaison to the Planning Commission. No other nominees from the Commission.

Motion:

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to accept all three nominations for Mr. Graham Smith as Chair, Ms. Nicola Hill as Vice-Chair, and Ms. Samantha Krop as liaison to the Planning Commission, and Mr. Paschal seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Other Business**

Rescheduling of the April SMAC Meeting – the April SMAC meeting has been moved from April 2nd to April 9th due to a scheduling conflict and will be held at the City Transportation Field Operations Center from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Motion:

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to reschedule the April meeting from April 2nd to April 9th. Mr. Dalton seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. Jenkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Jenkins seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 4:49 PM.



Attachment – Public Comment

Happy March!

I am not able to make it out to give a public comment (I'm sure that's something to rejoice), but I wanted to let you know that I'm working on the Brookside Wanderlust sidewalk mural installation I brought to SMAC many moons ago begging the commission to see it as a community conversation starter.

I can whole-heartedly assure you that this stormwater-themed artwalk is no doubt a conversation starter and it is making a big ripple throughout the community. I would love to discuss the depth of this project with you, if you have some time.

Meanwhile, Brookside is officially celebrating Creek Week with the debut of the first phase of the artwalk, an iNaturalist bioblitz, and a stormwater creek ecosystem + litterwalk pop-up event in Meadowbrook Park (by Conn Elementary) on March 18th. From 3-6pm, I'll be with Partners for Environmental Justice with kid-friendly ways to celebrate our stormwater creek. From 6-7:30pm, I'm partnering with Pelagic & The Great Raleigh Cleanup for the gunky gunk litterwalk.

I'm humbled that so many passersby are so excited and eager to get involved. I'm also thrilled to introduce stormwater creek awareness in such a connecting way.

With paint and critter tracks from Brookside,
-Athena M. Wollin
541.788.6432 | 1109 Brookside Drive