Summary of Survey Results
A New Approach to Financing Stormwater Management:
Stormwater Utility Districts Workshop Series
Workshop 2- Success Stories From New England
November 17, 2011

Sixty four persons attended this workshop and approximately a quarter of the attendees (17) answered and turned in this survey. The means for questions numbered 4-8 ranked at nearly or above 4, indicating that the majority of attendees found this workshop to be relevant and meaningful. The highest mean (4.47) is associated with question 6, “I have a better understanding of stormwater utility districts”, which nearly all of the participants agreed or strongly agreed with. The majority of comments received were in response to question 9, “what was the most useful part of the program”, to which nearly all of the respondents indicated hearing “real world” experiences in developing a stormwater utility district was most useful to them.

Demographics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal</td>
<td>58.7</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other MS4</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State or Fed.</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>9.5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Questions 4-8:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. This workshop was relevant and practical for my work.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. I will be able to use what I learned in this workshop.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. I have a better understanding of utility districts.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. I plan to share the information I learned with others.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. I am interested in learning more about utility districts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mean scores range from 3.94 to 4.47, indicating a high level of agreement with the statements presented.
9. **What was the most useful part of the program?**

A total of 14 participants answered this question. Nearly all of the responses indicated hearing from communities with “real world” experience was useful to them. Presenters’ comments on cost, credits, and success/failure were specifically mentioned by the respondents as being most useful.

**Actual Responses:**

- Each of the municipal perspectives was of value. It would be helpful to have links to their presentations to review more details.
- It was especially good to have the 3 different approaches and maybe unfortunately, to especially hear the report about Franklin. I think much of the public is only interested in civic involvement where it’s apparent to them that outcomes affect them directly. I listened to a presentation once about public outreach which said we have to find points that directly touch each particular audience in order to effect and affect our causes- from the Stewardship Network in Michigan- check it online for lots of ideas.
- The presentations of people who’ve been there, I found the first two most useful, the third humorous, but somewhat less useful for establishing SUDs.
- The 3 presentations
- Real world experiences and examples from municipal officials
- Understanding credit allotment techniques
- All of it
- Real world, relevant examples and good presenters. Process and success/failure.
- The actual communities discussing their experience
- Learning about different towns approach to the utility. And hearing about different stages of the program.
- Pros/Success and Cons/Failures of the towns experiences
- How much it costs
- Questions and Answers
- Hearing practical experiences

10. **What was the least useful part of the program?**

Most of the participants did not answer this question. One attendee noted that because the workshop was so condensed, there was little redundant information presented and therefore presumably the attendee was unable to select a “least useful” part to the presentations. It is possible other participants had a similar experience.
**Actual Responses:**

- All useful to me
- None
- None, but late afternoon time is only problem. I would like more time for questions.
- Effectiveness of S.W. Utility implementation wasn’t discussed. Did anyone see water quality improvements?
- N/A. Since the program was so condensed, I didn’t feel like there was any redundant information presented.

12. How do you plan to use the information presented today, and is there anything you will do differently?

Response this question was also limited (9), although it was all generally positive. The participants’ responses indicated they will continue to discuss stormwater utility districts within their communities and colleagues and in some cases advocate for it.

**Actual Responses:**

- To continue my efforts to encourage the towns that I collaborate with to pursue a funding mechanism for stormwater via utility district.
- I like talking with people and all knowledge is good knowledge when it comes to being able to support any ideas or opinion.
- Both working with colleagues and towns as we move forward with the new manual.
- Pass discussion onto DPW and Planning Re: Where we stand Community Wise
- Tell my planning dept. and try to get a plan together before we bring it before the council
- Advocate for a SUD
- Present to coworkers and help municipalities.
- Will talk to DPW director and planner

13. Are there any other topics you would like to see addressed in future training?

Again, response to this question was limited. See below for actual responses/suggestions.

**Actual Responses (municipal officials):**

**Actual Responses (all others):**
• It could be useful to invite elected officials who were involved when the utility was established and have a meeting in the early evening for elected/appointed local officials.
• I’m sorry I missed the 1st one and I’m looking forward to the 3rd. You know a lot more about this than I do so for now, I’ll trust your judgment.
• Results