Summary of Survey Results
A New Approach to Financing Stormwater Management:
Stormwater Utility Districts Workshop Series
Workshop 1- Managing Stormwater in Tough Budget Times
October 25, 2011

Sixty nine persons attended this workshop and a total of 29 attendees answered and turned in this survey. The means for questions numbered 4, 5, and 7, which were most relevant to this workshop, ranked above 4, indicating that the majority of attendees found this workshop to be relevant and meaningful. Perhaps most importantly to this workshop topic, the highest mean (4.32) is associated with question 7, “I plan to share this information with others”. Twenty-six respondents ranked this question with a 4 or 5 and several comments on the evaluation sheet indicate the attendees intention to explore the topic of stormwater utilities within their communities.

Demographics:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>8.70%</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal</td>
<td>44.93%</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other MS4</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State or Fed.</td>
<td>14.49%</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonprofit</td>
<td>13.04%</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>13.04%</td>
<td>9</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>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. I will be able to use what I learned in this workshop.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. The exercises were useful.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. I plan to share the information I learned with others.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. I feel better prepared to use the new standards.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9. What was the most useful part of the program?

A total of 27 participants answered this question. More than half of the participants (15 responses) specifically identified Andy Reese’s presentation or a topic he covered (e.g., costs, types of districts) as being the most useful part of the program. Others identified the question and answer period or presentations by the local municipalities as being the most useful.

**Actual Responses:**

- Presentations and question and answers
- Idea of costs
- Reese’s presentation
- Mr. Reese’s presentation
- Presentations by public works directors
- Andy Reese presentation and question/answer
- Andy Reese briefing, town public works managers
- Andrew’s presentation
- Question and answer period
- Keynote-design utility E.g., Description of projects
- Explanation of what other towns are doing and stormwater utility discussions
- Informational
- Various types of SW districts
- Overview from Andrew Reese
- BMPs East Greenwich
- Mr. Reese
- Andy’s examples
- All very informative
- Continued education
- The introduction of a stormwater utility district
- All four programs were equally valuable
- Storm utility presentation
- All...sorry! Andrew’s conceptual presentation with examples gave a good basis, the three town presenters provide real world perspectives.
- Director presentations
- Andy's presentation about stormwater utilities
- Three town panel-perspectives
- As a single entity with no-one else to bill, requiring this MS4 being required to attend is a waste of time

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

Only 9 participants chose to answer this question. The remainder of responses were either left blank or answered with N/A, none, or some variant of “all of it was useful”. The majority of responses indicated the municipal panel was least useful too them.
Actual Responses:

- Question and answer- people asked questions that were very specific to their own town/municipality.
- East Greenwich. More interested in stormwater utility specifically.
- Panelist presentations
- For this entity, the whole program
- East Greenwich-not enough hard data?
- Discussion of RIDOT helping
- Three presenters did not discuss the topic at hand, TMDL mandate costs, no discussion on funding/SW tax
- Practicality
- Too many base studies, impossible to read from the fourth row

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

19 people in total answered this question. With one exception, all of the respondents were positive and indicated they would be discussing the topic with at a minimum their peers, with many indicating discussions with town council members and other municipal officials. Most importantly, many of the responses indicated a specific action related to stormwater utility districts in their communities- creating a feeler memo, presentations to Town Council, putting costs together. Together, the responses indicate a strong interest in stormwater utility districts among the attendees.

Actual Responses:

- Initiate conversations/answer questions as to why we/town is going to entertain this utility
- Look into setting up system at our facility
- Relay it all to my town planner and gather together all the benefits of a stormwater utility. Then run it past Town Council.
- Present it to Town Administrator/Town Council
- Bring this to my council
- I would like to get funding and assistance to do a feasibility study
- Try to get a SUD up and running in the Scituate Reservoir watershed
- Good to have the info and experiences as we move forward on LID guidelines for communities, etc.
- Work on stormwater district feeler memo.
- Talk with peers
- Share with engineering
- Try to put some costs together to use as talking points with Town Council, Conservation Commission
- Discussion
- As information
- I will use info to better prepare myself for conversations with town manager and town council about possible benefit of stormwater utility
- Discuss with Mayor. He is very opposed to unfunded mandates and new fees/taxes
• I am adding this to information I’m collecting for future business consulting around guidance in the Third Industrial Revolution.
• This info did not help this MS4.
• Consider a utility as a real possibility and continue to research.

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

Few participants chose to answer this question (8 responses). Of the eight, half of the respondents are looking for more specific examples of communities who have successfully implemented a stormwater utility.

**Actual Responses (municipal officials):**
- More on setting up a stormwater utility and funding consultants
- Grant type funding mechanisms for capital and maintenance equipment purchases
- More presentations from communities talking about how they are dealing with new responsibilities and regulations. Practical examples of success stories.
- Proven BMP technologies that ensure smart use of financial resources
- More on TMDLs
- Presentations from rural communities

**Actual Responses (all others):**
- I recommend using “out of the box”, “sexy” marketing techniques to draw more to attend and to make the learning experience more digestible-experiential
- More detail on specific successes