



**Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District
Education Subcommittee of the
Technical Coordinating Committee
Meeting Summary
August 11, 2015**

Attendance

Jennifer Arp – Cherokee County WSA	Heather Moody – Gwinnett County
Tara Brown - Henry County WSA	Shayla Nealy – Clayton County Water Authority
Rick Brownlow – CH2M	Danita Ogandaga – City of Atlanta
Dave Butler – Dekalb County	Michael O’Shield – Dekalb County
John Butler – Gwinnett County	Rhonda Peck – Forsyth County
Vicki Cullbreth – City of Roswell	Timothy Pugh – Paulding County Water System
Jennifer Flowers – City of Gainesville	Josh Rogers – City of Holly Springs
Horace Gee – City of Gainesville	Kristin Rowles – Policy Works LLC
Harold Harbert – GAEPD	Sharon Smith – Fulton County Water Works
Tina Johnson – City of Cartersville	Tracy Thigpen – Coweta County
Shelley Lange – Fulton County	Chrissy Thom – CH2M
John Martin – - City of East Point	Emily Wingo – GAEPD

The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District’s Education Subcommittee of the Technical Coordinating Committee met on Tuesday, August 11, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. in the Childs/Young Room on Level ‘B’ of the Loudermilk Center (40 Courtland Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30303).

Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements

Kostoula Vallianos, Metro Water District, opened the meeting and initiated introductions. She made several announcements about recent and upcoming activities. Kostoula then explained that the Metro District plans to conduct a residential survey this year, to gain new understanding of trends and to inform the 2016 Plan Update. She explained that the data would be available at the county level. She also explained that the District website would be redesigned this fall.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comments.

2016 Water Resource Management Plan Schedule and Stakeholder Involvement Approach

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Rick Brownlow (CH2M) Brownlow provided a summary of the decision support process and key milestones in the planning process.

Review of Goals and Evaluation Criteria

Kristin Rowles (Policy Works LLC) directed the group to the plan update e-mail address (planupdate@northgeorgiawater.com) and noted that anyone could use this to provide feedback at any time during the plan update process. She then explained the evaluation criteria for the decision analysis process and the role that the BAC has played in weighting the evaluation criteria. She explained how the BAC provided the input through a pairwise comparison process that was used to assign weights to the evaluation criteria. Ms. Rowles reviewed the weighting results in three scenarios that will be used in a sensitivity analysis to evaluate the Implementation Actions. She said that this process of weighting and scoring to evaluate the Implementation Actions is an information tool.

Ms. Rowles finished by explaining the next steps of the goals, evaluation criteria and the scoring. At the next meeting, the Education TCC will review the scores for the candidate Implementation Actions that result from the application of the evaluation criteria.

2009 Implementation Actions Review

Ms. Rowles explained that the Education TCC would review the Implementation Actions in the Water, Wastewater, and Watershed plan sections that have been proposed for refinement in the plan update, with a particular focus on the Education related items. A handout of these proposed changes was used to guide the discussion; in the handout, education related items were highlighted.

The proposed changes were identified, in part, through discussions with the Water, Wastewater, and Watershed TCC subcommittees in the spring. Ms. Rowles reviewed these education related items and asked for feedback from the group.

Review of "Strawman" Education Requirements

Next, Ms. Rowles explained some preliminary draft requirements for the Education section of the plan. She began the discussion with a review of the 2009 plan education requirements. It has been suggested that for the 2016 update we should better accommodate the diversity of communities in the District and provide more specificity and clarity in the requirements. She presented a matrix (hand-out) with proposed requirements for the plan update that attempts to address these comments. The matrix included requirements for Water, Wastewater, and Watershed. For each area, activities of two types will be required (as they were before): public education (passive) and public participation (active).

Ms. Rowles said that the requirements document was a preliminary draft intended as a starting point for discussion, and she asked for input from the subcommittee.

Integrated Update of Education Sections of the 2009 Plans

Ms. Rowles explained how the Education section of the updated plan would be a single section of the integrated plan, rather than a section in three different plans. She said that intention is that the requirements will reflect the diversity of the District and move away from one-size-fits-all approach. The plan update will include a summary of innovative and successful practices from metropolitan areas of a similar size that could be considered for use in the District. Ms. Rowles presented a list of possible examples for which short case studies will be developed and asked for other suggestions.

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These examples will be sent to the subcommittee members in late September to provide ideas for discussion at the November Education TCC meeting about possible additions to the updated plan.

Next Steps

Ms. Rowles finished up the meeting by noting that the next Education TCC meeting is November 4. She listed several key agenda topics for that meeting: case study examples, messaging tables, decision analysis tool results. The meeting was adjourned.