

**Minutes of the Ad Hoc Stormwater Committee  
Village of Shorewood Hills**

Wed., June 5, 2019

(reviewed and approved at the June 27, 2019 Committee meeting)

- 1) **Called to Order:** at 7:02 PM.
  - a) **Roll Call:** Committee Members Present: Chair/Village President Dave Benforado, Carolyn Benforado, Gloria Beach, Peter Hans, Mark Mandel, Eric Riedner. Greg Brauer was absent.
  - b) **Others Present:** Village Administrator Karl Frantz, Village Engineer Brian Berquist (Town and Country Engineering), Trustee Mark Lederer and Village Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee Chair Anne Readel.
- 2) **Meeting Notice:** D.Benforado inquired and K.Frantz confirmed that the meeting had been properly posted in compliance with open meeting laws.
- 3) **Review Prior Meeting Minutes:** Committee reviewed draft meeting minutes from May 6, 2019, meeting. **Motion to approve by P.Hans, second by M.Mandel.** D.Benforado suggested certain minor edits/corrections. **Motion approved (6-0).**
- 4) **Presentation and discussion of draft Village Sustainability Plan:** D.Benforado and A.Readel provided the background and origin for the draft plan. Readel briefly summarized it, and emphasized the plan was not binding, that it outlines potential strategies to reach goals, that it is a plan for the municipal government of Shorewood Hills, and that the Sustainability Committee is seeking feedback on the plan from all Village Committees. Committee discussion and feedback ensued. Comments included a suggestion that the plan incorporate an acknowledgment and distinction between regular every day rain events and stormwater problems associated with those events, and more serious stormwater flash flooding events which put human life, residential homes and businesses at risk, and impede Fire/EMS/Police vehicles. It was also suggested that once the plan is reviewed and approved by the Village Board, that it be incorporated into the Village Comprehensive Plan, perhaps by reference or by adding it as a new chapter.
- 5) **Update on Village/City of Madison discussion regarding stormwater issues:** K.Frantz/B.Berquist updated the Committee on recent discussions between the Village and the City of Madison regarding stormwater matters in the Univ Ave corridor.
  - a) Based on Amber Lefers (AE2S) stormwater model runs for the City (that were shared with the Village) and the Village, the City now believes that the best and least cost option to remediate stormwater problems in the Univ Ave corridor is a new tunnel from the area of the intersection of Midvale Blvd/Univ Ave to Lake Mendota (that option in lieu of a new proposed 96" stormwater conduit from Shorewood Blvd to Grand Ave). Madison has asked KL Engineering (major contractor for the proposed 2021 reconstruction of Univ Ave project) to amend the project agreement to include a \$68,500 AE2S Scope of Work (SOW) proposal that would examine the technical potential for and provide cost estimates for a new stormwater tunnel from the Midvale/Univ Ave area to Lake Mendota. Committee members received copies of the AE2S SOW proposal dated June 5, 2019, and the proposed Amendment No. 1 dated June 5, 2019, to the City /KL Engineering contract. Frantz explained that the Village would not be a signatory to that amendment since it is not a signatory to the original City of Madison/KL Engineering agreement, and instead the Village will consider signing an amendment to the existing IGA (intergovernmental agreement) between the City and the Village on the Univ Ave reconstruction project. Frantz explained that this IGA arrangement has worked out very well for the past two years, that he and B.Berquist attend monthly update meetings regarding the project, that they have a seat at the table, that their questions and concerns of the Village are noted and addressed.
  - b) Frantz explained that the Village share of the \$68,500 AE2S scope of work proposal would be roughly 16% (\$11,200).
  - c) Frantz also indicated that the total estimated cost of this new tunnel as part of the Univ Ave project is \$26M, which is twice the amount of the \$13M estimated cost of the new 96" stormwater conduit that had been proposed as part of this project between Shorewood Blvd and Grand Ave and that the new tunnel would replace. That additional \$13M, which would be a part of the Univ Ave project and thus eligible for a 60% federal cost share as a stormwater remediation project, will need to be approved by the MPO; the City

is working on that request. (“MPO” is the Madison Area Transportation Planning Board, the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the greater Madison area). Assuming the MPO approves the additional cost and the new \$26M tunnel is built, the Village share of the new tunnel would be roughly \$1.5M.

- 6) **Discuss Special Village Board Meeting on Stormwater Issues (Wed., June 12, 7 PM):** B.Berquist, K.Frantz and A.Lefers (AE2S) will present an update for the Board of Trustees as to Univ Ave corridor stormwater model results. D.Benforado asked Stormwater Committee members to attend if they were able.
- 7) **Discussion of AE2S Stormwater Model Results Presented to Committee on May 6 and Potential Recommendations to Village Board:**
  - a) Committee discussed the AE2S model results for the City that A.Lefers presented to the Committee at the end of their May 6, 2019, meeting (the Committee did not have time at that meeting to discuss those results). The City had asked AE2S to model 16 different scenarios, each one containing a mix of various features. The model results were illustrated on an 11X17” color summary sheet showing the performance results of each model run at the four main intersections along the Univ Ave corridor (Midvale Blvd, Shorewood Blvd, Farley/UBay Drive, Grand Ave).
  - b) The Committee discussed the risks and benefits of the new stormwater tunnel to Lake Mendota as a potential solution to the flooding problems in the Univ Ave corridor:
    - i) Benefits:
      - (1) Improves life safety in the village, provides protection to private and public property, and enables community safety improvements (e.g. ambulance access to UW Hospital, Fire access to Village).
      - (2) Only solution of which we are aware that can substantively address 25 to 100-year stormwater.
      - (3) City of Madison is motivated to address Univ Ave corridor flooding.
      - (4) The Univ Ave reconstruction project may be able to provide 60% federal cost share for stormwater remediation features.
    - ii) Risks:
      - (1) Modeling may overestimate or misestimate flooding levels.
      - (2) Plans for the tunnel are still tentative, pending site evaluation. If cost is excessively higher or significant complications identified, then this may diminish feasibility or interest.
      - (3) Will the city retain/detain less water upstream in Willow Creek Drainage Basin if they are counting on the tunnel to completely solve this problem?
      - (4) Temporary inconvenience to the Village during the construction process.
      - (5) Temporary disruption to Blackhawk Golf Club.
      - (6) Permanent changes to outflow into the lake (but stormwater through the tunnel will not accumulate organic material by running over land; petrochemicals through gas stations; etc.).
      - (7) Will need to identify 1-2 large sites that can funnel stormwater into the large tunnel.
      - (8) Cost sharing with the city may not include the excessive burden borne by the village.
  - c) Sense of the Committee was that these model run results point to the best option/least cost option to remediate stormwater problems in the Univ Ave corridor being a new tunnel to Lake Mendota from the area of the intersection of Midvale Blvd/Univ Ave. (Alternative P on Lefers’ 11X17” summary handout).
  - d) **Motion by E.Riedner, second by M.Mandel, that the Committee recommends that the Village Board pursue continued technical investigation of the stormwater tunnel to Lake Mendota as the preferred flood control solution for remediation of flooding problems in the Univ Ave corridor including approving the AE2S proposed Scope of Work in that regard dated June 5, 2019. Motion passed (6-0).**
- 8) **Future Meeting Dates:** Committee confirmed their next meeting dates:
  - a) Thur., June 27, 2019 (7 PM) – in lieu of regularly scheduled July 3 meeting.
  - b) Wed., Aug. 7 (7 PM).
- 9) **Adjournment:** Committee adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Benforado on June 9, 2019.