



Jersey City START - April Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2018

Present: Kate Lawrence, Matthew Ahearn, Yvette Coleman, John Pietoykoski, Marques Eley, Debra Italiano, Tom Gibbons, Chris Obropta, Elmer Andal, Aaron Johnson, Bill Montgomery

Next meeting: Thursday, June 14 at 10am in JCMUA's Conference Room

I. Introductions

- **New member Matt** – tech and data, Office of Innovation
- **Staffing Update:** Rosana has moved on to serve as the Water Quality Manager for the Hudson River Foundation. Going forward, Tom & Kate will chair START. Group should review roles of participants.

II. Sustainability Updates (Kate)

- **Office Location** – The Office of Sustainability will be located 5th floor City Hall. New Community Engagement Specialist starting May 1st.
- **Year of Energy** – Outreach delayed until new person starts. EV charging, solar panels DPW building, etc. in the works. Clean Energy Audit recommendations but extra steps need to identify funding sources. Kate is working with Gabel Associates regarding next steps.
- **Green Infrastructure Standards and Maintenance Process** – Kate and Aaron will chat with Brian Miller and Platt.
- **Open Space Master Plan** – City is searching for funding for new Open Space master plan. Bill Montgomery offered NJCU support in plan preparation. Requested 1-month notice. Kate to talk to Annisia about this. Chris recommended tying in GI to Open Space Planning. Also suggested possibility to link health benefits of 10-minute walk to go after Robert Wood Johnson grant funding.
- **LTCP** – MUA could utilize the NJCU mapping to get credit for GI or identify GI opportunities.
- **GI Mapping** – Matt provided update on mapping that was already completed. Prepared a list of GI, maps of completed and maps of future projects. Public should coordinate with Matt, Chris recommended the creation of a Google form. Aaron and Matt to coordinate.

III. Project Updates

- **Martin Luther King Dr. Projects (Elmer/Yvette)** – Bid spec needed to incorporate traffic issues and amend the schedule. It was submitted to the state last month to NJDEP. Awaiting approval. Elmer and Jeremiah will coordinate a call. Trees should be planted in the fall.
- **Green Acres Funding (Aaron)** – Thomas McGovern, Lafayette, & Bayside Parks will have rain gardens
 - All three project designs went to Green Acres and are waiting for approval. Parks & Forestry is doing the matching funding.
 - Currently no funding for monitoring. Aaron and Bill to talk about using NJCU students for measuring before and after metrics. Need to calculate GI for rain gardens to get credit for LTCP reporting on storm water disconnected from system.
- **Colombia Park (Aaron/David/Marques/Jeremiah)** – Marques to create agreement for the funding of GI project. Needs guidance regarding whether the agreement should be with the City or the MUA.



IV. Policy Updates

- **Stormwater Ordinance Updates (Kate)** – No current updates
- **GI Projects in Parks** – 30% markup for contractors to add GI. So, Architecture sneaks in benefits of GI to park projects through grading. Without accurate topographic data it's hard to accurately calculate benefits or appropriate GI.

V. Activities/Initiatives

- **April 17th CSO Supplemental Team Meeting** - Tuesday, April 17th from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm in Council Chambers, City Hall in Jersey City.

VI. Action Items

- Have NJCU give mapping update in May
- Have Richie give update on LTCP