

TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION
Meeting Date: October 12, 2009

SUBJECT: Presentation of the Town Stormwater Master Plan, an update on projects undertaken as part of the planning process, including a successful stimulus application for Tomahawk Branch improvements, debris removal at area of trestle, and a potential stimulus grant for a FEMA buy-out for the Chevy dealership property. The Board is also being asked for specific scope of, and contract with, McGill Associates and State Stimulus Program for Tomahawk Branch project(s).

AGENDA INFORMATION

Agenda Location: New Business
Item Number: 6-B
Department: Planning
Contact: Elizabeth Teague
Presenter: Elizabeth Teague, JP Johns

BRIEF SUMMARY: The Stormwater Plan was developed through a \$50,000 grant from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, along with \$5,000 of local match, to map and assess the Town's stormwater infrastructure with the goal of improving stream water quality (see Board Action item from June 9, 2008). The plan was developed on the Town's behalf by McGill Associates to help implement the Town's adopted Stormwater Management Plan which was submitted to the State as part of our NPDES permit application (March 10, 2003) by identifying priorities for improvement of the Town's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).

The Plan resulted in the successful application to the State Construction Grants and Loans program for stimulus funding for drainage improvements along Tomahawk Branch. This proposal was approved by the Board on March 16, 2009 and includes re-shaping selected areas along Tomahawk Branch and improvements to the forebay above Lake Tomahawk to control sediment. Estimated cost for this project is \$412,840, of which \$206,420 would be paid by a grant and the remaining \$206,420 would be a no interest loan which could be paid back over 20 years at \$10,320 per year with the first payment due after construction is completed (probably after May of 2010). The Town may scale back on this project to just include repair and improvements to the forebay at Lake Tomahawk if desired and must execute the contract with the State and McGill to move forward with this project.

The Stormwater plan also includes United States Army Corps of Engineers and NC Division of Water Quality permitting for removal of debris and an abandoned sewer pipe, streambank stabilization to address erosion issues and the construction of an in-stream rock vane to improve the flow capacity of the Swannanoa River under the railroad trestle. This work was completed with the assistance of the County's contractor who was working on stream clean-up throughout the Swannanoa.

Thirdly for the Board's consideration, the Plan recommended State purchase of the Chevy Dealership for the purpose of stormwater retention and flood mitigation. Staff has been in discussions with the property owner and the State to forward on this proposal through the application process.

MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Direct Staff to execute the stimulus project Grant Agreement and to initiate a purchase order with McGill and Associates based on their proposed Scope of Work for Tomahawk Branch Improvements.
2. Direct staff to pursue a no-rise study for a greenway bridge under the railroad trestle.
3. Adoption of Resolution of Support for FEMA buy-out proposal.
4. Adoption of the Stormwater Master Plan.

FUNDING SOURCE: Up to \$10,320 annually from General fund beginning next FY through 2030 for Tomahawk Branch project; Federal purchase of property at 75% of appraised value.

ATTACHMENTS: Stormwater Plan Document; Background Memo; State Grant Agreement; and McGill Contract and Scope of Work; Local Resolution for Stimulus Buy-out program

MANAGER'S COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: In addition to an assessment of our Town's stormwater infrastructure, which includes ditches, pipes and drainages within the Town right-of-way, this project also examined mitigation opportunities along Tomahawk Branch and the Swannanoa River. The project included in Motion #1 has already received approval by the Board on two occasions – first, when it approved the ARRA application for funding, and again, when it adopted the FY09-10 budget, approving funding for this project. Motions 2-4 represent new proposals to the Board.