DATE: 10/07/2025 TIME: 9:00 a.m. LOCATION: Executive Boardroom

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Tyler Antrup, Chair | Janet Howard, Vice Chair | Courtney B. Scrubbs Esq | H. Davis Cole | Kimberly A. Thomas, JD |

Strategy Committee Meeting Agenda

PUBLIC MEETING

All meetings are open to the public, and we encourage your attendance.
Those interested can join in person or virtually.

Join In-Person: Executive Board Room, Second Floor
625 St. Joseph St., New Orleans, LA 70165

Join Virtually: https://www.swbno.org/BoardMeetings

E-Public comments will be accepted via https://www.swbno.org/BoardMeetings.
All e-public comments must be received at least 2 hours prior to the meeting. Comments will be read verbatim into the record.

I. Roll Call

II. Presentation Items

A. Green Infrastructure Strategy - Jillian Croci and Grace Vogel, Environmental Affairs
B. Water Quality Master Plan Update - Steve Nelson, General Superintendent

III. Discussion Item

A. Strategy Committee Priorities and Goals

IV. Public Comment

V. Adjournment

Green Infrastructure Strategy

Landscape of SWBNO Green Infrastructure

- 2014 Green Infrastructure (GI) Plan - Complete
  - Dedicated $2.5 million to GI
  - Produced 10 demonstration projects and public facing technical tools
- Looking at the GI space in 2025
  - Office of Resilience and Sustainability – large projects
  - Community groups and non-profits – specializations
- Carving out a spot for SWBNO
  - Growing interest in stormwater fee and GI
  - Ability to leverage our unique relationship with customers

In each major rain event, retained

274,500 gallons of stormwater

with Green Infrastructure

Green Infrastructure Goals

- Stormwater Management
  - Increase water storage per inch of rainfall
  - Increase diversion time of storm water to the pump stations
  - Improve storm water quality – Consent Decree and MS4 Permit
- Community Impact and Trust Building
  - Increase number of education and demonstration sites
  - Increase property-owner participation in green infrastructure
  - Collect data and metrics
- Placemaking
  - Beautify SWBNO properties

Environmental Staff Recommendations

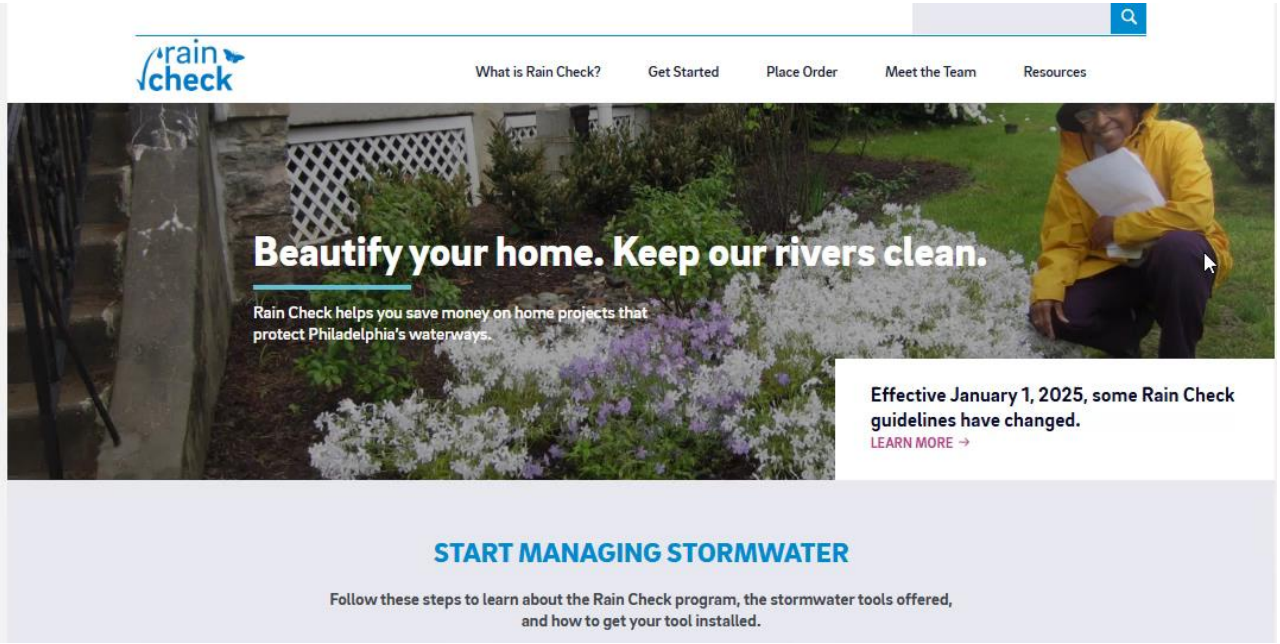
1. Build program and support tools to promote decentralized infrastructure
2. Prioritize partnership efforts and addressing barriers to partnerships
3. Document high-level plans to incorporate GI into CIP
4. Monitor for opportunities to take on multi-component GI installations

PRIORITY 1: DECENTRALIZED INFRASTRUCTURE

What is it? Supporting residents to install GI on their property to create a network of stormwater storage and filtration infrastructure.

What does this look like?

- Web-based decision-making tool
- Clearing house of how-to resources and GI vendors
- Partnerships with garden centers for DIY residential tool kits
- SWBNO coordinated workshop series
- Potential for SWBNO sponsored rebate program or direct installation



Screen Recording of Philadelphia Water's Pick Your Project Tool

PRIORITY 1: DECENTRALIZED INFRASTRUCTURE

Why is this important?

- Capitalizes on our unique relationship with customers and avoids redundant efforts
- Provides stormwater management support while eliminating O&M costs to the Board
- Faster project delivery and eliminates questions of liability and insurance
- Scalable based on availability of funding
- Builds community buy-in for stormwater fee
  - Strengthens the legality of the fee
  - Provides a pathway to stormwater fee credits
  - Potential to help manage on-property flooding

GI Goals Met:

- ✓ **Stormwater Management**
- ✓ **Community Impact and Trust Building**
- ✓ **Placemaking**

Residential Tool Kits

Small
Rain Garden Package

DO-IT-YOURSELF

$890.00

- 36 sq ft, roughly 6'x6'
- Holds 90 to 135 gallons of rainwater (2 – 3 bathtubs full)
- (1) Plant variety
- Planting layout template
- Mulch and bioretention soil

Medium
Rain Garden Package

DO-IT-YOURSELF

$1,490.00

- 64 sq ft, roughly 8'x8'
- Can capture 160 to 240 gallons of rain water (4 – 6 bathtubs full)
- 1 to 2 plant varieties
- Planting layout template
- Mulch and bioretention soil

Large
Rain Garden Package

DO-IT-YOURSELF

$2,290.00

- 100 sq ft, roughly 10'x10'
- Can capture 250 to 375 gallons of rainwater (6 – 9 bathtubs full)
- 2 to 3 plant varieties
- Planting layout template
- Mulch and bioretention soil

Pictures from greenmandan.com

DIY Rain Barrel Bundle with Diverter System 55 Gal. Black Plastic Drum

(85) Questions & Answers (61)

$130.50

Pictures from homedepot.com

PRIORITY 2: PARTNERSHIPS

<u>GI Implementation</u>

- Community-based groups
- Other City agencies (e.g. Office of Resilience and Sustainability)
- Local Businesses
- Exempt Entities (Churches, Non-Profits)

<u>Workforce Development</u>

- Thrive, Groundwork, and LA Green Corps
- GI implementation and maintenance programs

<u>Education</u>

- Schools via curriculum and on-site projects (Ripple Effect)
- Public/Community education programs (Water Wise Gulf South)

PRIORITY 2: PARTNERSHIPS

What are the pros to partnering on GI implementation?

- Low to no O&M costs, reduce/transfer current O&M costs to partner
- Faster project delivery timelines
- Educational opportunities for partners to expose the community to GI
- Builds external buy-in and builds credibility
- Partners can become advocates for SWBNO

What is needed to make this happen?

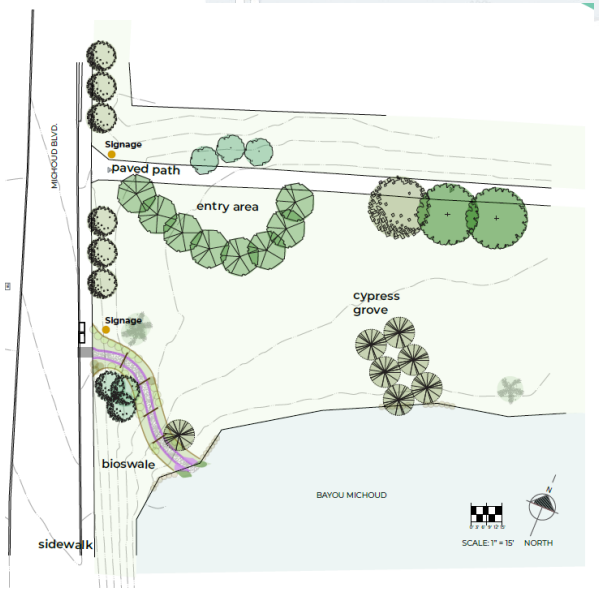
- Standardized processes and policies
- Decisions on liability/Insurance requirements
- Potential funding; scalable based on funding availability
- Internship/training programs

GI Goals Met:

- ✓ **Stormwater Management**
- ✓ **Community Impact and Trust Building**
- ✓ **Placemaking**

PARTNERSHIPS: Song CDC Case Study

SITE: Phase 1



PRIORITY 3: CIP LIST INCLUSION

What is it?

- Creating high-level green infrastructure or environmental project designs to match with existing capital improvement projects (CIP)
- Aspirational goal of incorporating a green infrastructure requirement for CIP projects similar to DBE requirements

What are the pros?

- Helps create more competitive grant and loan applications with multi-benefits; shovel ready projects are more likely to be selected
- Shows the long-term commitment to GI as a pillar of our stormwater approach

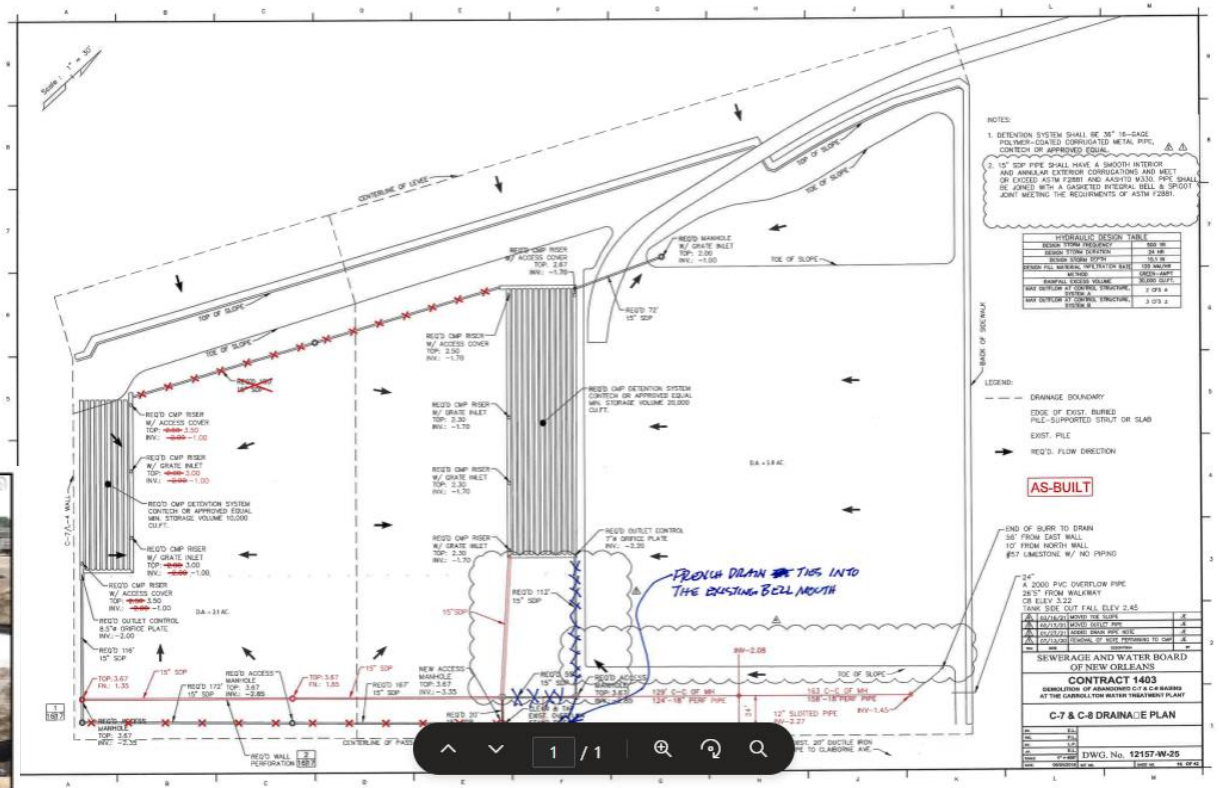
What is needed to make this happen?

- Staff time
- Internal investment and/or matching funds for grants; scalable based on funding availability
- Potential investment in design or engineering services
- Internal buy-in

GI Goals Met:

- ✓ **Stormwater Management**
- ✓ **Community Impact and Trust Building**
- ✓ **Placemaking**

CIP LIST: West Power Complex Detention Basins



PRIORITY 4: MULTICOMPONENT INSTALLATIONS

What is it?

Investing in multi-component GI projects such as underground water storage or large bioretention ponds

What are the pros?

- Preferable storage capacity to cost ratio
- Builds community buy-in
- Mitigate potential for increased flood risk
- Reduces burden on pumps

What is needed to make this happen?

- Funding for installation and maintenance
- Property or partnerships with landholders
  - Selection and Agreement policy
  - Insurance policy

GI Goals Met:

- ✓ **Stormwater Management**
- ✓ **Community Impact and Trust Building**
- ✓ **Placemaking**

Next Steps

- Get input from Strategy Committee and Customer Advisory Committee on EA staff recommendations.
- Present refined GI strategy to full board, with potential adoption of a resolution
- Convene an internal committee to develop and vet ideas to support the new GI strategy
- Ensure the new GI strategy provides guidance and supports the development of stormwater fee credits

Water Quality Master Plan

Status, Findings

- **Plan Completed Q4 2025**
- **Operational and Risk Based Analysis of Systems and Alternatives**
  - Identified key short, medium, and long term projects/initiatives
- **Lab Study of pipe loops**
- **Short, Medium, Long Term Initiatives**
  - Operational (pilot) projects – Zn Orthophosphate, ACH, Liquid Lime
  - Valve, control, filter media replacements, intake pump replacements, etc.
  - Carrollton Water Plant Replacement Upgrades

Water Quality Master Plan

Next Steps

- **Plan Adoption**
- **Operational Pilot Implementation**
  - Liquid Lime ongoing, Zn Orthophosphate imminent, ACH 2026
- **Pursue funding and execution of year 1 projects**
  - Prioritize internal funds for capital, pursue capital outlay, IAB
- **Long Term Upgrades**
  - Develop funding pursuits, select program manager, cast the vision