

**Olentangy Watershed Planning Partnership
Meeting of Thursday, December 2, 2010
The Willis Building
2079 U.S. Highway 23 N
Delaware, Ohio 43015
Meeting Summary**

Attendees:

Partner Communities

Jay Shoup, City of Marion
Jim Hatten, Oxford Township
Matthew Shad, City of Upper Arlington
Lynda Bitar, City of Worthington
Beth Hugh, Orange Township
David Efland, City of Delaware

Stakeholders

Barbara Martin, ORVA
Dan Stewart, MCRPC
Don Glosser, Columbus Chamber of Commerce
Barb Lubberger, Ohio EPA
Ryan Pilewski, Franklin SWCD
Brian McCombs, City of Delaware
Malcolm Porter, BIA
Amy Dutt, FLOW

MORPC Staff

Joseph Kitchen, Planner
Erin Grushon, Planner
Annie McCabe, GIS Specialist
Andy Taylor, Planning Coordinator
Brandi Whetstone, Outreach Specialist

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. and Erin welcomes the OWPP and thanks them for coming to MORPC to review the draft Priority Area maps.

Erin reminds the group that we must come away from the meeting with an adopted amended criteria list based on data availability in addition to addressing a percentage cut off for the maps and a methodology for dealing with Priority Area overlap areas.

The OWPP reviews the amended list of criteria with minor changes:

PCA- Upground reservoir changed to Corridor Management Zone

PDA- Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) data not available in time for mapping so it will not be included.

PAA- A few additional criteria were added including areas adjacent to agricultural districts and areas where parcel size was greater than 50 acres. Prime farmland was broken into three separate categories: Prime Farmland, Prime Farmland if well drained and near surface drainage, and Prime Farmland if well drained.

David Efland moved to adopt the amended criteria list as the official list of the OWPP. David Hull and Matthew Shad seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

Erin explains a case study of a parcel analysis based on the criteria for a Priority Development Area (PDA). Erin explains the improvement to land value ratio utilized in the analysis.

David Efland points out that local review will capture things that the criteria missed, recognizing that the data is not perfect and officials know their communities best.

The OWPP debated over the appropriate threshold for Priority Area coverage, with three options: 5%, 15%, and 25% coverage of the watershed planning area. Staff recommended 15% of the planning area and this was generally well-received. Partners wished to see some of the lower scoring areas on the map that cover up to approximately 25% of the planning area as well to guide the local review process. The community maps will highlight 15% of the planning area in addition to showing the 25% threshold.

The discussion turned next to places where Priority Areas overlapped and the way in which the OWPP will deal with these situations. David Hull stated that Priority Conservation should be given priority over the other two priority areas. He also believes that local government review will play a critical role in dealing with overlap areas.

The partnership showed general agreement that there should not be a separate category named "local preference areas" as designated in one of the past plans because they felt it would make the maps more confusing.

Erin solicited ideas from the partnership for decision tree or guideline ideas for communities to deal with overlap during the local review process. These are general guidelines to assist the community in the revision process.

Some guidelines offered by the OWPP when dealing with overlap areas were as follows:

- Address during the local community map review
- If there is conflict between conservation and agriculture or development, greater consideration for conservation
- Decision for designation should depend on the Priority Area score
- Refer to community plans
- Refer to OWPP Goals and Definitions

Partners requested that MORPC staff draft a guidance document to be sent along with the maps to assist them in reviewing, revising, and addressing priority area overlap areas.

Jay Shoup noted that these maps are only one piece of the plan, a tool for communities looking forward, a sentiment echoed by many fellow partners.

The next step in the process will be to create community scale maps to provide to the community for review prior to the deadline in early 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.