



TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL

Town Hall
405 Martin Luther King Jr.
Boulevard
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Legislation Text

File #: [22-0470], Version: 1

Update from the Booker Creek Working Group.

Staff:

Loryn Clark, Deputy Town Manager
Lance Norris, Director
Chris Roberts, Manager of Engineering and Infrastructure

Department:

Manager's Office
Public Works

Overview: Tonight, the Booker Creek Working Group will provide the Council with an update on their work to date.

**Recommendation(s):**

That the Council provide feedback to the Working Group on its preliminary recommendations.

Background

In September 2021, Council established the [Booker Creek Working Group](https://chapelhill.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5142481&GUID=CAC8F63C-F84E-4C57-85EE-32AA417951BA) [<https://chapelhill.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5142481&GUID=CAC8F63C-F84E-4C57-85EE-32AA417951BA>](https://chapelhill.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=5142481&GUID=CAC8F63C-F84E-4C57-85EE-32AA417951BA) and withdrew support of the remaining flood storage projects from the Lower Booker Creek Subwatershed study.

Mayor Hemminger appointed eleven members to the Working Group that have a variety of expertise and interests related to stormwater and charged the group with addressing the following questions:

1. Where is it flooding in our community and by how much? (in layman's terms - 6 inches, etc.) How many homes, streets and businesses?
2. What ideas can help reduce flooding during big storm events - and by how much?
3. How to get the community engaged on their own properties with stormwater reduction
4. How long do you think it will take to come back with short term and long-term ideas?
5. Who is not at the table and what expertise are you still needing?
6. What role do our existing bottomland forests play in mitigating large stormwater events?

With facilitation assistance from Maggie Chotas of the Dispute Settlement Center, the Working Group has held eight virtual meetings that included guest speakers with a range of expertise, and staff from the Town's Stormwater division and other municipalities. [More information](https://www.townofchapelhill.org/government/departments-services/public-works/stormwater-management/know-your-watersheds/booker-creek-studies-and-projects) [<https://www.townofchapelhill.org/government/departments-services/public-works/stormwater-management/know-your-watersheds/booker-creek-studies-and-projects>](https://www.townofchapelhill.org/government/departments-services/public-works/stormwater-management/know-your-watersheds/booker-creek-studies-and-projects) about the Booker Creek Working Group, its members, meeting summaries, and resources can be found on the Town's website.

Next Steps

The Working Group plans to hold at least two more meetings before the end of June to continue development of its recommendations. A subcommittee will meet over the summer to finalize a draft of the Group's recommendations and reconvene in the fall. Once there is agreement, the Working Group will forward final recommendations to the Council.

Fiscal Impact/Resources: There are no fiscal impacts associated with this item.



Attachments:

- Draft Presentation from the Working Group

The Agenda will reflect the text below and/or the motion text will be used during the meeting.

PRESENTER: Booker Creek Working Group Co-Chairs John Morris, Pamela Schultz, and Vice-Chair Jeanette Bench

The purpose of this item is for the Council to provide feedback on the Booker Creek Working Group's preliminary recommendations.