

MEETING SUMMARY

January 7, 2009
Ludlowville Stormwater Control Project
Presentation of Technical Report #1
Existing Conditions

Lansing Town Hall

Present:

Scott Doyle, Tompkins Co. Planning
Jack French, Lansing Highway
Craig Schutt, Tompkins Co. SWCD
Chuck White, B&L
Scott Nostrand, B&L
Dave Hanny, B&L
Dan Veaner, Lansing Star

Area Residents:

James Mason	Julie Wasmek
Dick Cowan	Stephanie Levy
Cheryl Hall	Steve Lauzun
Sarah McKane	Ken Gagnon
David Taylor	Nicola Lecki
Maria Terrell	

A public meeting for the Ludlowville Stormwater Control Project (LSCP) was held at 7:00 PM, January 7, 2009 at the Lansing Town Hall to discuss the findings of Technical Report 1: Existing Ludlowville Stormwater Conditions. This was the second public meeting to outline the project to area residents.

I. Items Discussed

a. Introduction

- i. Scott Doyle provided the welcome and opening. He identified that the report presents existing conditions within the study area and that it will set the focus for the evaluation of alternatives and basis of design to come in future phases. He introduced the B&L team of Chuck White, Dave Hanny, and Scott Nostrand. Presentation was conducted in an open format with questions and comments from the public interjected throughout.
- ii. Scott Doyle indicated that the Draft report will be available at Town Hall to review and will be posted on the County Planning website.
http://www.tompkins-co.org/planning/community%20planning/Ludlowville_Project.htm
- iii. A copy of the presentation is also posted on the above website.
- iv. Chuck White provided an outline of the presentation, and identified that the focus of this report and presentation is what is there today (current

These Meeting Minutes represent our understanding of what was discussed. If your understanding is different, please contact us.

limitations of the system). He identified that remedial solutions are part of the subsequent phases.

- v. James Mason asked to differentiate between hydraulic and hydrologic modeling. Chuck White indicated that hydraulics focuses on water movement through systems (i.e., culverts, pipes, channels) and that hydrology focus on the distribution of water in a natural system (watershed, rainfall/runoff relationship). Mason/White indicated that the two processes are integrated.

b. Project Overview

- i. Chuck White provided an overview of historic conditions. Overall project boundary is approximately 400 acres. James Mason asked if this was an expansion of the original scoped study area. It was replied that it was. White indicated that B&L used information from surveys and key site walks with residents to aid with input to the model.
- ii. Public comment indicated that the historic issues were caused by a line crew dropping a tree in a ditch that clogged the Ludlowville Road culvert. White indicated that the modeling is based on systems operating at capacity with maintenance. He stressed that maintenance issues (trees, carcasses, debris) will off-set the modeled results.
- iii. Chuck White indicated that the study was expanded beyond the Ludlowville Road culvert to look at issues on Lansingville Road, Ridge Road, and Salmon Creek Road.

c. Drainage Modeling

- i. Dave Hanny provided an overview of the modeling efforts. He indicated that is was completed with PondPack and other support models. The drainage basins were based on LIDAR survey received by County and field survey conducted by TG Miller. There are two primary model areas – The primary study area consists of drainage to the Ludlowville Rd culvert and Ludlowville Rd drainage system (comprised of 3 basins: A, B, C totaling 183 acres. The secondary study area consists of Basin D (Salmon Creek Road – 43 acres) that focused on reported driveway culvert washouts. The modeling is based on rainfall events; soil type, land use/cover type; drainage pathways; drainage structures (open channels, closed channels, culverts). The rainfall events evaluated include the 1-, 5-, 10-, 25-, 50-year storm events.

- ii. Public comment on the two main events which caused damage. Questioned if we knew what type of storm led to this damage? Chuck White indicated that they were not comparable since one event was spring runoff induced and the other was caused by a debris choked culvert.
 - iii. Dave Hanny provided a photographic walk through of the drainage areas. Basin A consists of a series of cross culverts that normally discharge water to the east side of Lansingville Road. This drainage area terminates at a cross culvert (Culvert 5) at Sarah McKane and Maria Terrell's property border. Significant flows with erosive velocities discharge through this culvert into the ravine. The culvert overtops at the less than 5 year storm event sending excess flows into Basin B.
 - iv. Significant public comment pursued regarding overtopping of Basin A and whether or not excess flows are routed into Basin A. B&L indicated that this area warrants additional investigation.
 - v. Basin B – flows to closed drainage at 34B; also identified 10 acres on south side of Ridge road that connects back into the Ludlowville drainage system via a cross culvert on Ridge Road (Culvert 11).
 - vi. Significant public comment on historic drainage that continued down the south side of Ridge Road. Once this flow was redirected to the north side of Ridge Road (and to the Ludlowville drainage system) is when local residents began experiencing the current issues.
 - vii. Basin C – Ludlowville Road – overflow from Basins B and A all directed here. Overflows from the Ludlowville Road culvert are conveyed down Ludlowville Road (overwhelming the Ludlowville Road open/closed drainage system and causing localized damage). Discharge ultimately daylighted from closed drainage east of Salmon Creek Road.
 - viii. Dave Hanny concluded with a discussion of Basin D (Salmon Creek Road watershed to culvert).
- d. Existing Conditions and Deficiencies
- i. Chuck White indicated that during low flows (1+ year storm events) that the systems function adequately.
 - ii. Basin A - Outlet (culvert 5) reaches full pipe flow capacity during events less than the 5-year storm.

- iii. Public comment that residents do not believe that culvert 5 overtops west of Lansingville Road. They indicated that all flow is through culvert 5 and into the severely eroded hedgerow stream. They also indicated that there is additional drainage to the culvert 5 outlet on the east side of Lansingville Road. B&L indicated that there are breaks in the east side Lansingville Road ditch that convey flows into the fields upgradient of culvert 5. Local residents disagreed. It was agreed that this area warrants additional investigation.
- iv. Basin B – Ludlowville Road culvert overtops at less than the 5-year storm event.
- v. David Taylor asked how the model handles snowmelt. B&L indicated that the model approximates as a rainfall event.
- vi. Basin C – drainage system on north side of Ludlowville Road is overwhelmed at events less than the 5 year. The upstream occurrences (Basins A and B) are contributing to the problem. Without the inputs from Basins A and B, the drainage system on the north side of Ludlowville Road would likely be adequate.
- vii. James Mason questioned the recent design of culverts and asked why they are so undersized? Dave Hanny indicated that the 2004 study suggested a 12' x 4' box culvert; much larger than what exists today. Interim retrofits were made to the Ludlowville Road culvert while the issues were being evaluated. Dave Hanny indicated that increasing the carrying capacity of the Ludlowville Road culvert could cause additional drainage issues or simply move the current issues downstream. Chuck White indicated that the purpose of the study is to solve the issues on a watershed basis, not shift problems downstream.
- viii. Chuck White indicated that the main issues are culverts 5 and 12.
- ix. Basin D (secondary study area): two culverts – southern not reported as an issue; northern overtops at 25-year storm.
- x. Dave Taylor asked where the project money comes from. Scott Doyle indicated that it is from a DEC (State funded) grant that requires a local share. The local share can be completed with in-kind services (equipment, personnel). Taylor indicated concern with money due to State economic conditions. Doyle stated that he has checked with State and this money is locked up for the project. Scott Nostrand indicated that there is the possibility for additional funding through the pending stimulus package.

- e. Conceptual Improvement Opportunities (Chuck White)
 - i. Culvert 5 – capacity; hydraulic improvements for channel.
 - ii. Culvert 12 modifications.
 - iii. Attenuation – stormwater ponds that release over time (lower peak flows and erosive conditions).
 - iv. Diversion.
 - v. Stabilization of eroded channels.

- f. Moving Forward (Chuck White)
 - i. Technical Report 2 (Spring 2009) will develop alternatives and recommendations for stormwater improvements.
 - ii. Technical Report 3 (late summer 2009) will provide design details.
 - iii. Phased construction anticipated end of 2009 and into 2010.
 - iv. James Mason stated that the decision process (locally) will be key after TR#2. This is where the design selection will be vetted and decided. Doyle agreed and indicated that the Project Team is committed to open process.
 - v. Technical Report 1 is open for public comment until January 23, 2009 at which time revisions will be made and the report will be finalized. Comments should be sent to:

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g. Additional Discussion

- i. Maria Terrell and Sarah McKane are concerned with lack of easements and stormwater discharges to their property. Scott Doyle indicated that this needs to be considered as part of the solution.
- ii. James Mason indicated that the report should include a statement on water quality impacts further downstream and into the Lake. This could potentially bring more stakeholders to the table.

h. Action Items

- i. Edit and finalize report based upon comments received.