Spring Creek Watershed Commission

Stakeholder Subcommittee Meeting – July 10, 2018

Group Breakout- Ideal Watershed Vision

* Balanced priorities- meeting local community needs
* Integrated water/sewage management
* Spring Creek watershed governance structure for surface water- not dependent
* Surface and ground water boundaries are different
* Sustainability without degradation
* Government accountability without degradation
* Healthy clean water (clean and clear of contaminants) for people and wildlife
* Support biodiversity for region
* Regulations with teeth- managing entire watershed
* With overarching collective governance- robust against outside forces
* Growth and prosperity for all living creatures
* Decision making criteria from unintended consequences and encroachment from larger forces
* Creative use (recharge of groundwater) of wastewater for sustainability
* Awareness of cost of regulations, management framework that impacts families, persons, ag systems.
* Innovate with science/ fact driven education
* Energy positive/ water positive regenerative economy
* Water not seen as ‘commodity- or should it be seen as a commodity on which we all benefit
* Well informed engaged community

“Humans and the rest of the environment living together in a way that allows for growth & prosperity for all living creatures to thrive and flourish”

* We don’t need extractive industries
* PSU as environmental leader and part of the solution
* PSU cooperative activity and respectful with transparency
* Everyone is not on the same page with respect to growth
* How to turn a liability (stormwater/ growth) into an asset.
* Regulate population growth
* Make better what we have an draw population with our assets
* Watershed management from municipalities
* Eco-systems approach
* Good access and communication- How to be good stewards- Public awareness and education
* High quality, protected, maintained (surface and ground)
* Considers the High-Quality Water Source- uses it well & cares for it.
* All stakeholders work together in responsibility
* People understand the watershed concept and outside watersheds do their part too
* We are what we are and probably can’t change it. We need a voice from the non centre county region municipalities.
* Well managed pipes/delivery
* Celebrate watershed as a community (agriculture resource, recreation, drinking, etc.
* Willingness to work together & BE RESPECTFUL of decisions that are made
* Help us to become Aware & Educate us to take care
* Double down on Education and Community Outreach
* We need to find ways to replace the water we pull
* Utilize beneficial reuse of water
* 2050-2100 have a master plan – preservation of open space; water quality- use of resources impact of agriculture
* Master plan for development, especially impervious surface, non- personal and nonindustrial, controls on development, consumption, fewer roads, less driving
* Steady state economy- not growing more, sustainable agriculture
* Better education about different needs for water (conservation, science-based surface water, protected springs
* Quality and quantity- healthy water benefits to all (regulations, all streams meet designated uses and controls, so quantity meets demand and quality downstream goals
* Policies to achieve goals, planning documents, guidelines
* Enjoying clean, drinkable, swimmable, good standard of living
* Get out into the environment to appreciate it
* Remain on of the most admired communities in the country
* Sustainable use of resources – economy, electricity, self-sufficient, food
* Respect water- be water citizens
* Balance of water- what’s coming in/ what’s going out
* Be water neutral (balance)
* Collectively reduce water footprint
* Informed use and innovation for water conservation (education) to reduce water utility expansion
* Regenerative purity
* One organization that oversees water
* Reduction of water use by citizens
* Understanding of priority and collaboration
* Education on management of hazardous materials (septic systems)
* Education is backbone to water management
* Communicate and understand common use beyond municipal boundaries
* Educate businesses on water reuse and recharge
* Limit land use growth- carrying capacity
* Rethink what we mean by economic growth
* Identify compatible businesses
* Sound/ updated pipelines
* Plant more trees to reduce the need for more infrastructure
* Stormwater management- use of Best Management Practices- potential for small business startups to implement BMP’s (rain gardens, plants, etc.
* Use technology to monitor water use, to save money and conserve water
* Dedicated water authority representative to be responsible for education outreach
* Financial incentives/ water use audit as implemented in other cities
* Carbon capture potential for climate and water resiliency
* Communication on water use/ equipment failure
* Actions to take-
* Work with school districts on education
* Still should use some silo approaches
* Develop a coffee table book to celebrate the watershed
* Use art to educate and engage artists
* School educational tools/ partnerships for education
* Substantial buy-in by government (local)- help government engage in vision
* Shared data
* PSU to add water resource monitoring reports
* No development that degrades water quality
* What is data on impacts of development / what are the gaps
* Experiences to get people out and engage them in water issues
* Use of new technology
* Get municipalities regulations and policies
* Coordinate planning commissions around us- zoning
* Restrictions form state facility development
* Use creativity to get around
* Proposing framework of laws for all to use
* Identify areas worthy of protection- equal investment in open space
* Use examples from other places
* Need enforceability – county wide? Have teeth, who controls zoning?, have to be onboard with the plan
* Zoning priorities (residential, commercial)
* What’s the role of citizen groups? - influence on master plans
* Public education- local media- get the word out
* Protecting what we have
* Township solicitors- what’s possible (friendly)
* Understanding history of the watershed – assessment of stormwater management plan