

Brady Creek Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) Implementation Project

FINAL

Meeting Agenda

February 3, 2023 @ 9 a.m.

Municipal Court Building

207 S. Elm

Brady, Texas

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Project Updates
 - ⇒ Site monitoring and maintenance
 - ⇒ Community Outreach
 - ⇒ Final Report
3. Next Steps
4. Group Discussion
5. Final Remarks and Adjournment

MEETING NOTES

Brady Creek Watershed Protection Plan Implementation (WPP) Project
Stakeholder Meeting
February 3, 2023 -- Brady, Texas @ 9 a.m.

Welcome & Introductions:

Ellen Groth introduced herself and expressed appreciation to everyone for their attendance at the meeting. Groth provided an overview of the meeting agenda and introduced the rest of the UCRA staff; Scott McWilliams, General Manager and Lexi Woods, Environmental Specialist. Groth discussed what has been accomplished since the last meeting, stating that the two main goals of this project were to:

- Enhance water quality of stormwater runoff into Brady Creek to remove dissolved oxygen (DO) impairment status.
- Develop an education and outreach program while building partnerships with local Brady city & community organizations.

Scott McWilliams spoke to the group about the construction process of the BMP in Richards Park and showed photos of what the site looks like now. The bulk of the work was completed by UCRA and City of Brady staff to save costs. The construction began in Spring 2020, and while there were some delays due to the pandemic was completed in August 2020.

Woods discussed the monitoring process with the group. The first monitoring event took place in the spring of 2021. Monitoring occurs during each storm event. Stormwater samples are collected and sent to LCRA Labs in Austin. Rainfall and flow data is also collected. Routine maintenance occurs at the site and drought drives the sampling process. As a result of the drought, we have been unable to gather as much data as we had originally hoped for.

Education and Outreach initiatives were discussed by Groth. Community involvement is crucial to the success of any project of this kind. Though education and outreach endeavors were impacted by the pandemic, UCRA was able to conduct a comprehensive campaign. Initiatives completed included:

- Water bill inserts
- Stakeholder meetings
- Webpage coverage
- Social media outreach
- BioBlitz & Trash-off event
- Partnerships with local organizations

UCRA partnered with Keep Brady Beautiful (KBB) in April 2022 and hosted a large-scale educational event called "BioBlitz". The event, Woods' brainchild, was held in Richards Park in conjunction with KBB's annual Trash Off. UCRA worked closely with KBB Director, Silvia Diaz and her contribution to the event was invaluable. Additional partners for this event included the Central Texas Master Gardeners (Texas A&M Extension) and the Hickory Underground Water Conservation District.

McWilliams spoke to the group about the monitoring results and the data gathered in a power point (PPT attached to this file). The following measurements are collected for:

- Total Suspended Solids (TSS)
- Total Nitrogen (TN)
- Total Phosphorus (TP)

- Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)

Load reductions were calculated in pounds and percentages.

McWilliams discussed the problems encountered with BMP design, data collection and the pandemic. He stated that the City of Brady (COB) staff has been extremely helpful in cleaning the site on a regular basis and UCRA feels confident that obstacles encountered are lessons learned that will be used to improve operations during the next project. While there were mixed results, the information obtained so far is promising.

UCRA submitted a project proposal to TCEQ for continuation of the Brady Creek WPP implementation plan. UCRA was notified in December that the proposal has been selected and funding for the work to begin on the new project is anticipated in September 2024.

Discussion ensued regarding changing the discharge point of Brady's wastewater treatment facility to Richards Park, above the Memory Lane bridge. Steve Miller with COB said the primary obstacles to routing a pipeline to Richards Park would be in obtaining easements. It was generally agreed that the next step for moving the WWTF discharge point would be to apply to the TWDB for a planning grant.

UCRA was asked if there was a specific number of monitoring events required. McWilliams said that the project design was for three small, three medium and three large events to be sampled. However, the prevalence of drought conditions and the intensity and duration of storm events were the factors that determined the amount and duration of runoff received. In only seven events did the auto-samplers collect adequate volumes for laboratory analysis.

Woods closed the meeting with acknowledgement to Project Partners and thanked everyone for coming.