

DRAFT Notes: Wednesday, Sept 20, 2023

Badger Mill Creek Stakeholder Group Kick-off

Agenda, notes, and meeting materials at www.madsewer.org/bmc-plus/

Desired outcomes:

- Decision about project charter, including decision rules and operating agreements
- Shared understanding of desired project outcomes, roles, responsibilities, and calendar
- Initial understanding of stakeholder group values, needs, hopes, and experiences

Attendees:

- Nick Bower, CARPC
- Laura Hicklin, Dane County Land & Water Resources Dept.
- Joleen Stinson, Dane County Parks Division
- Ben Schulte, City of Fitchburg
- Brian Christian, Friends of Badger Mill Creek Environmental Corridor
- Pat Bergen, Friends of Badger Mill Creek Environmental Corridor
- Greg Fries, City of Madison
- Kathy Lake, MMSD
- Martye Griffin, MMSD
- Topf Wells, Trout Unlimited Southern Wisconsin Chapter
- Lindsay Foy, Upper Sugar River Watershed Association
- Luke Diaz, City of Verona
- Chris Barnes, Town of Verona
- David Rowe, WDNR
- Mike Sorge, WDNR
- Amanda Wegner, MMSD
- Alison Lebwohl, Alison S. Lebwohl Consulting
- Mike Rupiper, EOR

Topic	Decisions, information gathered, actions
Welcome and introductions	<p><i>Each participant shared a story about a special time in their life that involved a body of water. Based on those stories, we identified values that will be important to this group (and the organizations and larger community represented by this group) in our work together. We expect these values to help inform the goals of the projects selected. Bolded values were mentioned multiple times or were noted as particularly important for one or more organizations.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connections between people & between people and water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community ○ Places to live, work and play ○ Formative (memories) ○ Childhood • Serenity & reflection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Beauty ○ Wonder • Adventure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recreation ○ Freedom ○ Exploration ○ Accomplishment • Stewardship & empowering people to be stewards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Protection over time ○ Conservation ○ Sustainability ○ Passion ○ Ecosystem services • Vitality & life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health ○ Nature
Charter review	<p><i>Participants walked through the charter, offered additions or edits to the Operating Agreements, and individually shared information about how they would initially define success and other context they believed was important to share in pursuit of that success.</i></p> <p><i>This project will be successful if, at the end, we can say... [what?]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durable, long-term fix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We have identified projects and we believe they will achieve our goal ○ Solutions acknowledge that we have limited time and scope ○ Take into account the watershed as a whole ○ We've identified organizations to move projects forward ○ We're minimizing backsliding ○ Minimized damage to the trout population • Have a solid plan with support from all stakeholders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We've built a shared definition of success that is rich, nuanced, informed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our common goal acknowledges everyone’s perspectives and needs ○ Everyone’s vision is in the solution ● We’ve (begun to) rebuild trust and we can work together in the future <p><i>Anything else we need to know?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Define health and resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What do we mean when we say health and resilience? ○ Nature’s timeline is different than ours ● How do we focus and select projects? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What indicators and metrics will we use? ○ Let’s use the expertise in the room ○ How do we know the Commission won’t just veto our ideas? How do we know what the Commission’s criteria for approval will be? ○ How will we gather feedback from the community? How do we bring stakeholder voices into the room? ● Operating agreements and even the deliverables should account for and acknowledge history of the first phase of this project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This experience can be a litmus test – or a model – for how groups like this can work together across differences. ○ Repairing trust is important. We want to see respect, honest, transparency. ● Agency participation in this process doesn’t mean that an agency is endorsing a specific project. Voting should reflect that. ● The District will post all agendas, meeting materials, and notes on the project website. Observers are also welcome at meetings. <p>APPROVED: As a stakeholder group, we agree to adopt these operating agreements to govern and guide our work together in the coming year. (100% agreed)</p> <p>Operating agreements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Start on time. End on time. ● Be present. Give this work and your fellow participants your full attention. Limit use of electronic devices. ● Encourage understanding. Speak plainly, ask questions, listen for understanding, allow some silence. ● Take good care of the group. We make stronger decisions by including all stakeholder values, experiences, and perspectives. ● Take good care of yourself. Come prepared. Let us know what’s working and what else you need.
Action items	<p>Alison & Mike [facilitators]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Type up and share notes with the group ● Revise charter to reflect discussion above ● Share design for fall community information-gathering event with stakeholder group participants once it’s developed. (Note that it is our hope that all or most of the stakeholder group will be able to help co-host this event.) <p>Stakeholder group participants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review these notes and email Alison & Mike with corrections ● Review the organizations participating and let Mike & Alison know if you believe that there are important stakeholders who are not represented

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure you've completed the stakeholder survey (Click here to participate). This will help us build a more inclusive process.• Come prepared in October to report out on how you plan to gather and share information with your organization to support this group's discussions and decisions |
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