

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

Item No. D(2)

**AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT**

**MEETING DATE: JUNE 21, 2011**

**TITLE: Update on Surface Water Protection and Restoration Activities**

<b>DEPARTMENT: PLANNING</b>	<b>PUBLIC HEARING: YES __ NO <u>X</u></b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b> A. Resolution B. Staff Memo	<b>FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:</b> Randy Dodd – 918-7326 Patricia McGuire – 918-7327

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an update on nonregulatory and regulatory activities related to surface waters in Carrboro.

**INFORMATION:**

Town staff continue to be involved in both regulatory and nonregulatory activities related to surface water management. These efforts are associated with ongoing monitoring of creek biota, current and potential grants through the Bolin Creek Watershed Restoration Team (BCWRT), reissuance of the Town’s National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permit, and implementation of state rules passed in 2009 to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus inputs to Jordan Lake. Benthic monitoring of creeks in Carrboro is continuing and lending insight into creek health and management needs. Staff have continued to work with the BCWRT to: complete construction and pursue outreach for projects at McDougle Middle School and Baldwin Park; plan for a restoration project on Dry Gulch; monitor runoff from Pacifica; and prepare to draft a watershed restoration plan. With regard to the reissuance of the NPDES permit, staff have submitted comments to the Division of Water Quality (DWQ), and are expecting DWQ to issue a new permit in the near future. With regard to Town activities pursuant to the the Jordan Lake rules: the Town has adopted regulations pertaining to stream buffers and fertilizer applications as required by these rules; stormwater management requirements for new and existing development and other actions are pending. This report includes an update on required Town compliance activities.

**FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT:**

Fiscal and staff impact are anticipated over the next 12 years and potentially beyond to meet the requirements of the Jordan Lake rules, particularly as they pertain to retrofitting existing development. A very preliminary and conservative estimate of a minimum impact of \$3M between 2014 and 2023 has been estimated to comply with the 8% nitrogen reduction requirement; note that it is feasible that costs could substantially exceed this amount, and higher costs could be incurred after 2023 to meet the 35% nitrogen reduction. Sources of funding will need to be identified to address this fiscal impact, for example from a stormwater utility, bonding, general revenue, or other sources to be identified. Additional staff impacts are expected for the new NPDES permit. Staff intend to further define these impacts after the final permit is received and in the process of developing a new Stormwater Management Plan under the permit.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen accept this report.