

The Case for Being Different: **Autonomy and Collaboration in the Era of Watershed Regulation**

Keith Readling, PE – Raftelis Financial Consultants

Discussion Topics

- Introductions
- The premise
- Working together to achieve better outcomes
 - examples of collaboration
- How to get started

Introductions

- Reading
- Attendees

The Premise

- Water management becoming steadily more integrated and more expensive
- Collaboration and teamwork between water management programs achieves better outcomes, but there are many barriers
- Rising costs will fuel innovation and collaboration and help break down barriers

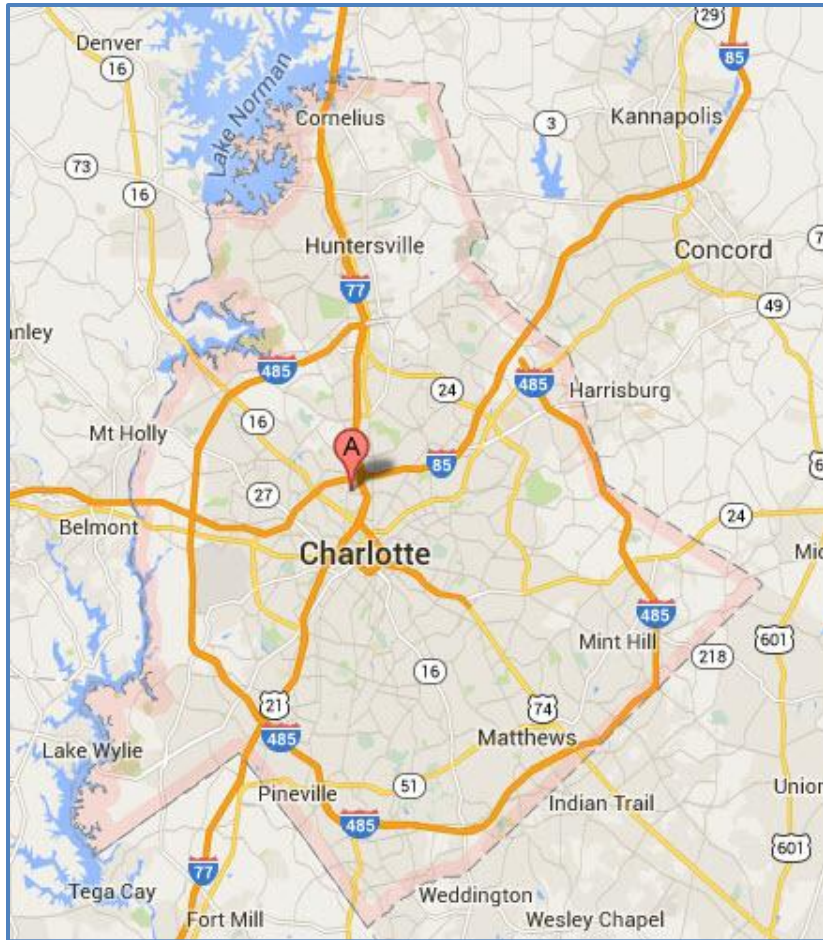
Working Together for Better Outcomes – Examples

- Divisions of labor and service
- Shared in-house expertise
- Shared outside expertise – “group buys”
- Shared administrative efforts

Divisions of Labor and Service

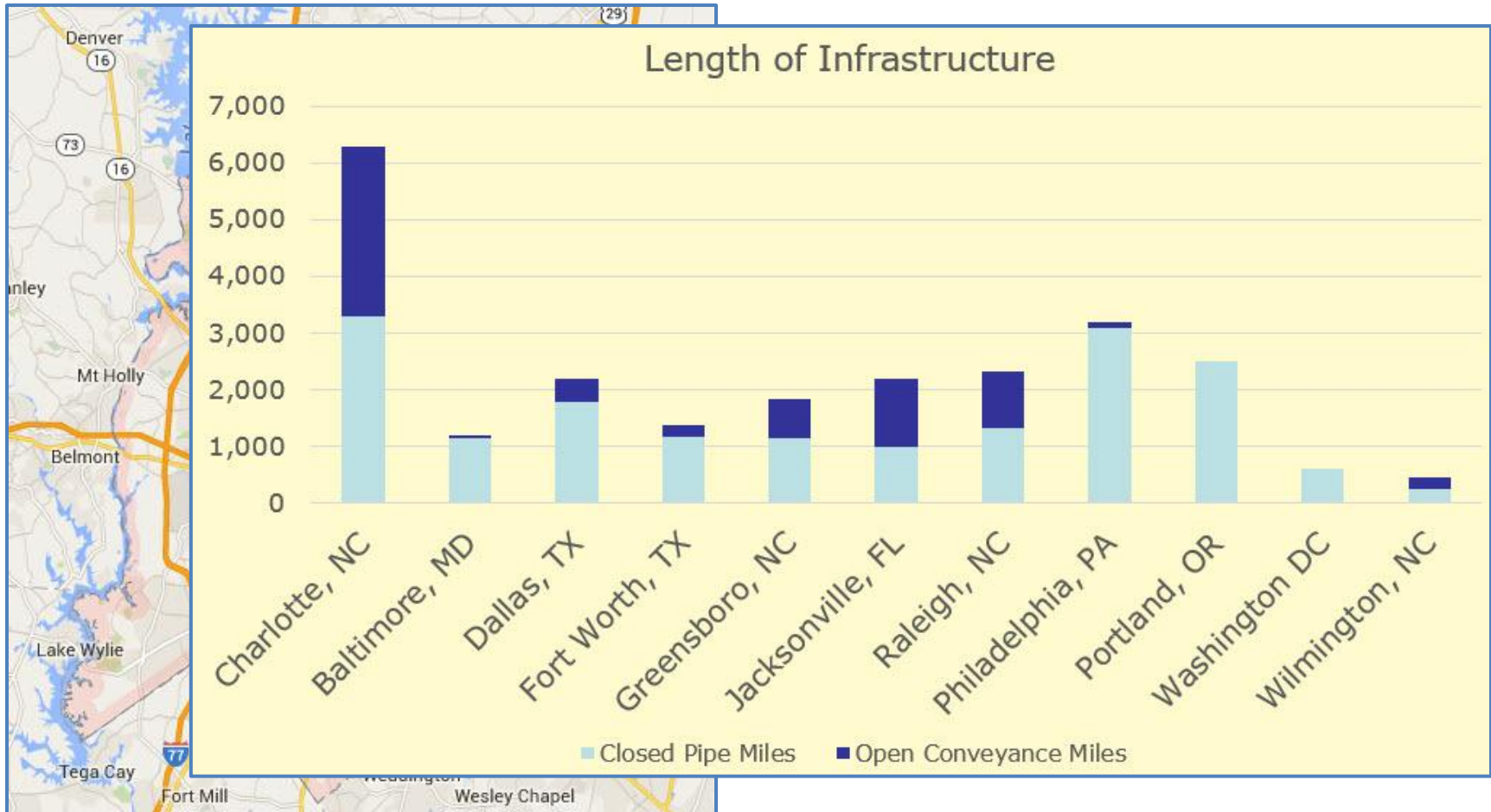
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Stormwater Services
 - Major system, minor system, ILAs
- Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
 - Major system, minor system

Divisions of Labor and Service



Charlotte-Mecklenburg Stormwater Services

Divisions of Labor and Service



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- **Service provision**


- Storm Water Services utility partnership with Mecklenburg County is successful
- Level of service is fact-based and appropriate
- Project prioritization hampered by lack of data, but improvement on the horizon
- Insufficient revenue to keep up with incoming requests or reduce workload. Low priority (C) requests especially problematic







Priority Level	Number of Requests	Approximate Time to Construction
AI	124	Within 1 year
A	772	1-3 years
B	721	3-5 years
C	6,004	No current program to address

Divisions of Labor and Service

	Major System (County)	Minor System (City)	Billing Process Fee	Total
Detached Single-Family Residential				
Tier I < 2,000 sq ft	\$0.77	\$5.52	\$0.85	\$7.14
Tier II 2,000 to <3,000 sq ft	\$1.20	\$8.13	\$0.85	\$10.18
Tier III 3,000 to <5,000 sq ft	\$1.73	\$8.13	\$0.85	\$10.71
Tier IV 5,000 sq ft & up	\$2.96	\$8.13	\$0.85	\$11.94
Attached Single-Family Residential and all other non-residential				
Per Impervious Acre	\$20.00	\$135.56	\$0.85	\$156.41


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stormwater&watersheds

UPDATE 2013 09/30: Late Thursday, the Ohio Eighth District Court of Appeals ruled against the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District in finding that, among other things, the Sewer District does not have the authority under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 6119 or its Charter to enact and implement the Regional Stormwater Management Program under Title V, or to collect its stormwater fee.

As a result of this ruling, the District is suspending Regional Stormwater Management Program activities and the collection of stormwater fees for the program while the District pursues an appeal of the Court's ruling to the Ohio Supreme Court.

[Full story...](#)



Dogs can't flush.
PUP reminds you to Pick Up Poop!

QUICK LINKS: [Stormwater Management Program](#) | [Controlling stormwater at home](#)

FEATURED STORY

Understanding stormwater, the issues, and solutions

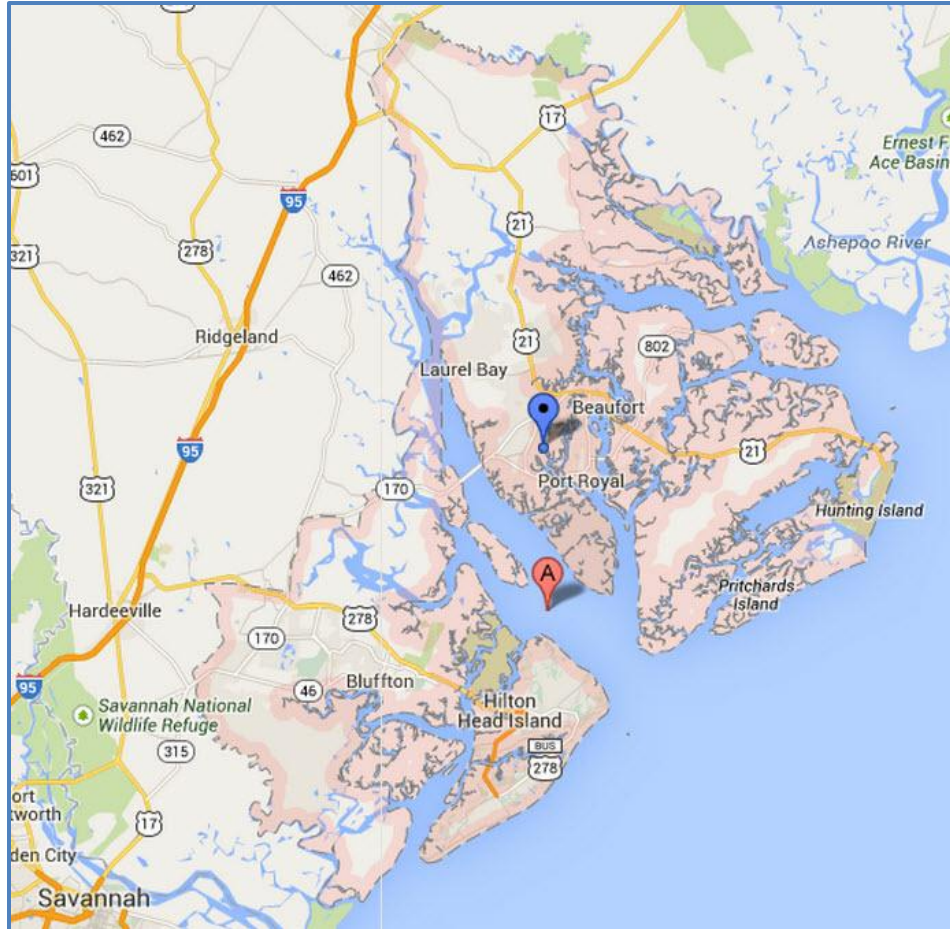
What's the link between water flow and watersheds?



Shared In-house Expertise

- Beaufort County, SC
 - GIS, water quality, open channel maintenance
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Stormwater Services
 - GIS, FEMA

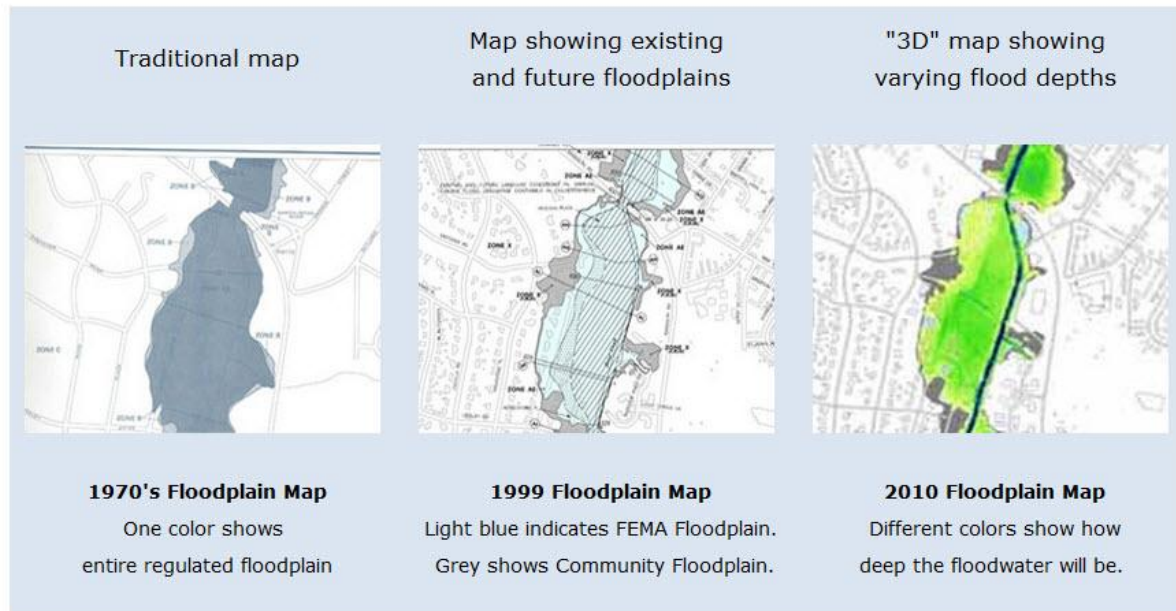
Shared In-house Expertise



Beaufort County

Shared In-house Expertise

How floodplain maps have changed over the years



FEMA Floodplains and Community Floodplains

In 1999, Charlotte-Mecklenburg became the first community in the nation with Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) containing two floodplains and two floodways. The floodplain maps identify both:

- current flood zones (called the Federal Emergency Management or FEMA Floodplain)
- areas likely to flood in the future when the watershed is fully developed (called the Community Floodplain.)

Shared Outside Expertise

- Upper Falls Region Stormwater Program
 - UNRBA, Utility manager, Legal
- Beaufort County, SC
 - Rate studies and rate structure analyses

Shared Outside Expertise

Task Title: Stormwater Utility Rate Study

Description of Task: The ATM team will assist Beaufort County Stormwater (County) with a detailed stormwater utility rate study as a supplemental task to the financial planning services provided under Task 3. Under Task 3, the team conducted a full accounting of planned stormwater program costs over the next five years, which are expected to increase driven by the combination of existing operations and maintenance activities, a significant capital project backlog, and emerging NPDES compliance needs. The financial planning task resulted in the development and consideration of a number of funding options, all of which included a rate adjustment, which were described in the County Council stormwater workshop meeting January 22, 2015.

Shared Outside Expertise

Task Title: Stormwater Utility Rate Study

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Description of Task: In concert and on a parallel timeline with the detailed rate study with which the ATM team is assisting Beaufort County (Task Order 4), the ATM team will provide detailed stormwater utility rate study services to Port Royal, Bluffton, Hilton Head Island, and Beaufort (the four jurisdictions). This effort will be similar to that provided to the County.

The ATM team will conduct detailed cost of service and rate studies for these four jurisdictions concurrent with the budgeting process for the fiscal year that will begin July 1, 2015. The rate study will begin with a thorough assessment of each jurisdiction's rate base and the data development necessary to standardize the underlying rate base data. It is anticipated that rate base assessment and data development will take place in February and March 2015.

Shared Outside Expertise

BACKGROUND

The jurisdictions of Town of Butner, City of Creedmoor, Granville County, Person County, and Town of Stem are implementing stormwater programs cooperatively under an interlocal agreement. Under the agreement, they share the resource and share in the cost of a Stormwater Utility Services Manager (USM) who carries out a variety of duties for the jurisdictions. The USM position is currently contracted to Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. (RFC) and the majority of duties are carried out by Henrietta Locklear. She has served in the role since the utilities' implementations in July 2012.

UTILITY MANAGEMENT

Stormwater Fee Billing

Butner, Creedmoor, Granville County and Stem first billed property owners a stormwater fee in 2012. Person County began billing a year later in 2013. To date, stormwater fees have been calculated using 2010 aerial imagery and annual updates on development or redevelopment provided by each jurisdiction. This year, revised aerial imagery is available through the State and the USM will oversee new billing data development and updates for bills going out in mid-2015.

The USM has procured new billing data from Granville County and is awaiting new data from Person County to begin these updates. The Counties have agreed to the following schedule for data transfer and billfile development to allow ample time for reviewing and additional quality control measures.



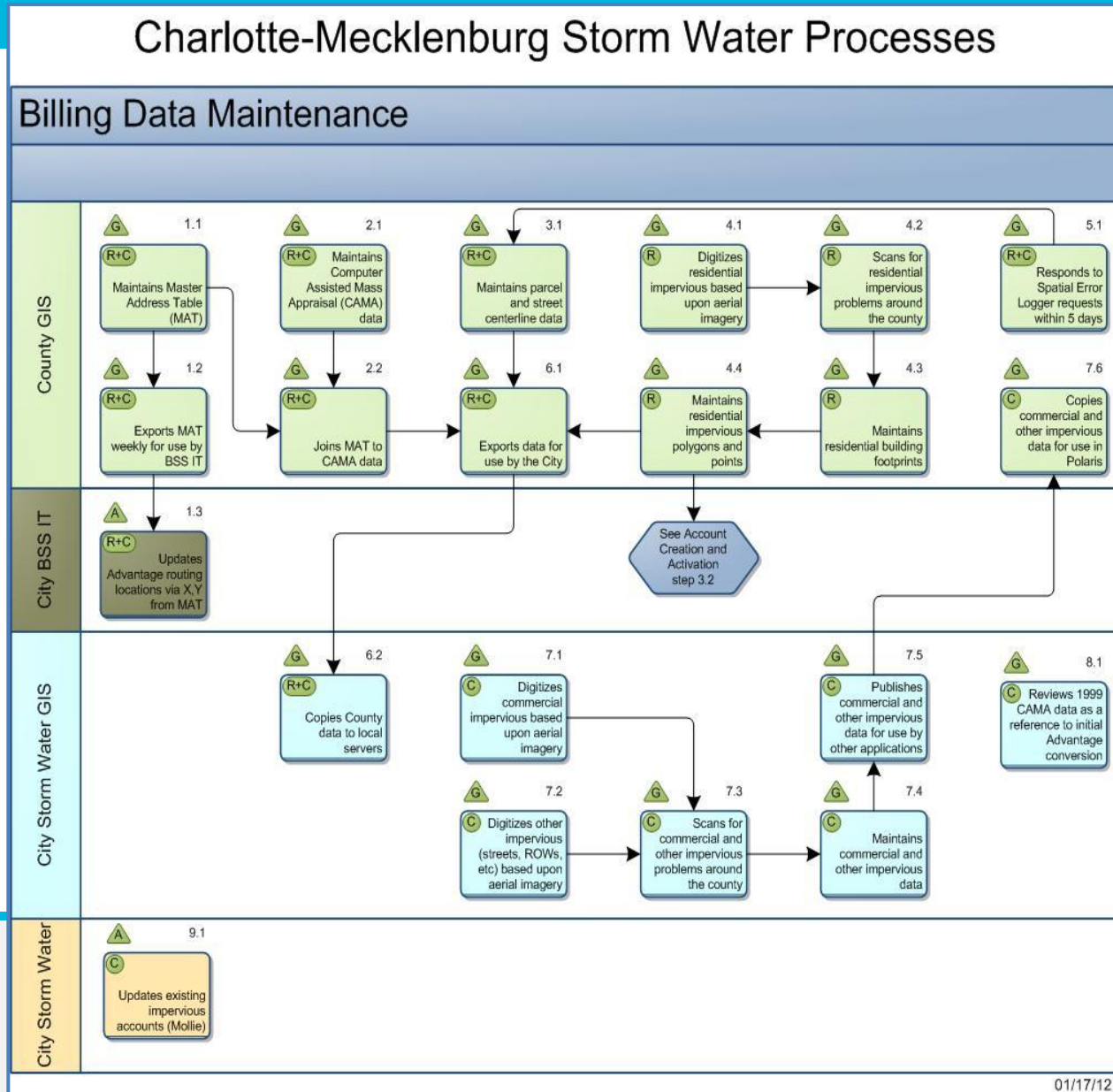
Timeframe	Action
Mid-February	County GIS offices to deliver parcel data reflecting 12/31/14 changes
May 1	County tax offices to deliver tax roll for CY 2014
May 25	USM to return draft stormwater bill files to County tax offices
June 1	USM to deliver final stormwater bill files to County tax offices

Customer Service

Shared Administrative Efforts

- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Stormwater Services
- Beaufort County, SC
- Upper Falls Regional Stormwater Program
 - For all:
 - » Billing, collections, data maintenance, customer service

Shared Administrative Efforts

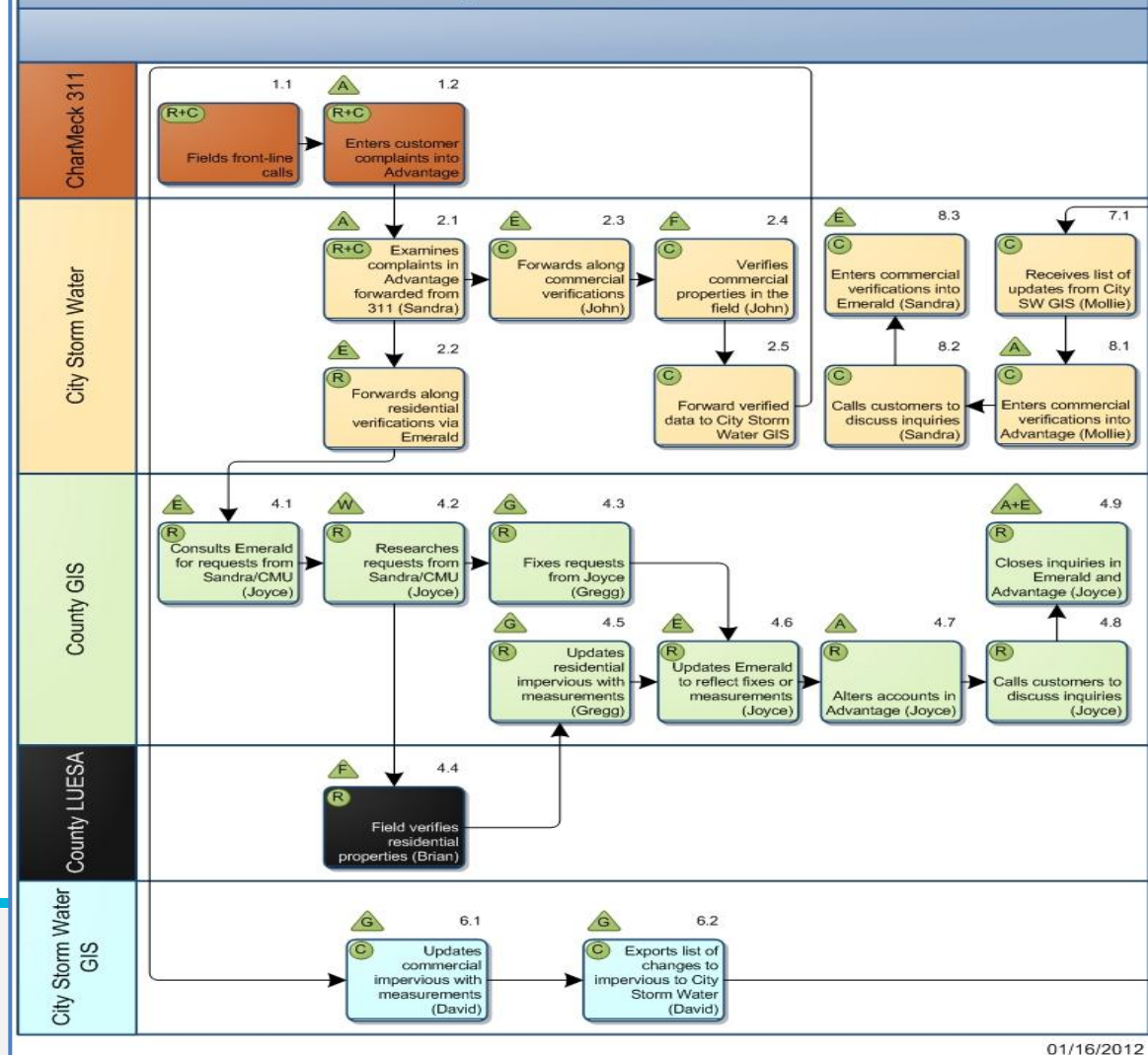


March 25, 2015

Shared Administrative Efforts

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Storm Water Processes

Field Verification Requests



March 25, 2015

01/16/2012

Shared Administrative Efforts

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Town of Butner Stormwater Rates

Single Family Homes on Individual Lots

<u>Lot Size</u>	<u>Fixed Charge</u>	<u>Gross Area Charge</u>	<u>Impervious Area Charge</u>	<u>Total Annual Charge</u>
0-2 acres	\$12	\$25	\$30	\$67
2-10 acres	\$12	\$50	\$30	\$92
10-100 acres	\$12	\$75	\$30	\$117
100+ acres	\$12	\$100	\$30	\$142

Vacant Land (no home on the lot and less than 500 square feet of impervious surface)

<u>Lot Size</u>	<u>Fixed Charge</u>	<u>Gross Area Charge</u>	<u>Impervious Area Charge</u>	<u>Total Annual Charge</u>
0-2 acres	\$12	\$25	\$0	\$37

NEIWPCC Stormwater Utility Workshop – March 25, 2015

How to Get Started

- Talk – a lot
- Start small
- Be transparent
- Focus on service and value
- Capitalize on regional and local strengths
- Be prepared to go first

Contact

Keith Readling, PE

Raftelis Financial Consultants

919.780.9151

kreadling@raftelis.com