



FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT- October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006

The Long Island Sound Watershed Intermunicipal Council's (LISWIC) main objective has been to organize, manage, and improve the Council as a means of encouraging cooperation among the member municipalities. The cooperating municipalities share a number of common goals including the prevention of non-point source pollution, the remediation of existing pollution and the preservation of open space and natural resources. The members of the Council are the Cities of Mount Vernon, New Rochelle and Rye, the Town of Mamaroneck, the Town-Villages of Harrison and Scarsdale, and the Villages of Larchmont, Mamaroneck, Pelham, Pelham Manor, Port Chester, and Rye Brook.

The Council is organized under bylaws and is governed by an Executive Committee and Board of Representatives. The Executive Committee officers re-elected in October 2006 for one year terms were Phyllis Wittner Chair (Mamaroneck Town), Steven Otis Vice Chair (Rye City), Leonard Verrastro Treasurer (Mamaroneck Village), Christopher Bradbury Secretary (Rye Brook). The two members from the Board of Representatives who will sit on the Executive Committee are Daniel Sarnoff (Scarsdale) and Scott Pickup (Rye City).

The Board of Representatives consists of two members representing each municipality.¹ Each of the latter may have up to three alternates. A part-time Coordinator serves as the staff aide. Meetings are held monthly; the Annual Meeting takes place in October. Subcommittees are formed when specific issues are to be investigated. Annual membership dues of \$500 were collected in 2006.

Phase II Compliance- **Remove Illegal Connections**

Discussions continued regarding methods by which the members can work together to implement the Federal Stormwater Phase II Regulations promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the New York State (NYS) Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). With the problem of residential/commercial infiltration and inflow (I and I) into sanitary sewer lines still an issue, it was decided to redo the four-color brochure developed by LISWIC in 1999 to explain I & I to residents and the need for correction of violations. 4,000 copies were printed for members.

Stormwater Utility District (SUD) **Background:**

A NYS Environmental Protection Fund grant application was submitted to the DEC in October 2003 accompanied by nine letters of intent (Mamaroneck Town and Village, Mount Vernon,

¹ See Appendix-I.

New Rochelle, Pelham, Port Chester, Rye City, Rye Brook and Scarsdale) to participate in a Regional Stormwater Utility District. Larchmont joined the group by adding its letter of intent in April 2006. The grant, *Creation of a Regional Stormwater District for the Lower Long Island Sound Drainage Basin*, was awarded on May 18, 2004 in the amount of \$100,000. The required 50% local match is comprised of \$45,000 in cash (\$4,500 from each of the ten participating municipalities) and \$83,000 in in-kind services. The participating municipalities have pledged their financial and administrative support for their proportional share of the local match by resolution of their governing bodies. In response to letters sent to State Representatives and Senators (March 2004) requesting member item funds for the project, State Senator Suzi Oppenheimer forwarded an additional \$3,000 towards the grant.

The grant provided funding to hire an experienced professional consulting firm to produce a district management and operations plan providing for the appropriate methodology for establishing a regional stormwater utility district (SUD) including a governing body and funding mechanism (fee supported) for the implementation of identified stormwater pollution preventive measures within the lower Long Island Sound drainage area. The SUD is an effective way to deal with the issue of stormwater management and compliance with the Phase II regulations.

DEC requested a work plan be submitted by the end of November 2004 with the expectation of issuing a contract by April 2005. The contract was finally in effect by August 23, 2005. The Request For Proposals document was written by Village of Scarsdale staff and critiqued by a subcommittee before it was finalized by the Board of Representatives at its September 2005 meeting.

Current Year in Review:

A Request For Proposals Committee² held a pre-submission conference on October 14. Present were representatives from AMEC, Baker Engineering, Black & Veatch, Cashin Associates, CH2M Hill, Dolph Rotfeld, Dvirka & Bartilucci, Greenman Pedersen, Inc, Malcolm Pirnie and Sector Management. Ultimately, proposals were submitted on October 28 by Cashin, Dolph Rotfeld, Dvirka & Bartilucci and Malcolm Pirnie.

The proposal review committee³ interviewed the four firms that responded with proposals. Malcolm Pirnie Environmental Engineers with their consulting attorney Lester Steinman was selected.

Each Mayor/Supervisor was sent a list of required information to start the process, and was asked to appoint a representative to work with Malcolm Pirnie. From April through August, the latter worked with all ten municipalities to obtain the necessary data. At the September 2006 LISWIC meeting, Richard Franzetti and Michael Beyer of Malcolm Pirnie provided an update of preliminary findings. This was followed by a summary table of collected data that was sent to the ten communities to review and verify.

² Victor Carosi, Dan Sarnoff, Omar Small, Charles Strome, Phyllis Wittner, Curtis Woods, Robert Yamuder.

³ Victor Carosi, Alfred Gatta, Dan Sarnoff, Omar Small, Charles Strome, Phyllis Wittner, Curtis Woods.

Storm Drain Markers

Last year the group purchased 6,500 storm drain markers which read “DO NOT DUMP, DRAINS TO WATERWAY; NO TIRE DESECHOS AQUI, CONTAMINA EL AGUA”. The colorful emblem has a red border and pictures an active striped bass. Port Chester reported that Boy Scouts from Troop 6 began a program of public education by asking residents not to dump, push or sweep anything down storm drains that they didn’t want to swim in or eat fish or shellfish from because the storm drain empties into Long Island Sound waters. They applied about 100 discs to the storm drains and distributed literature door to door. The Town of Mamaroneck also had girl scouts, church groups and adult volunteers working on this program.

Westchester Municipal Officials Association

Phyllis Wittner and Dan Sarnoff spoke about LISWIC at a WMOA meeting in November 2005.

Shared Municipal Services Incentives (SMSI) Grant

Jason Molino of Port Chester submitted an SMSI grant application for six of the LISWIC communities. They applied for funding to hire a consultant to complete digital storm drain mapping. Westchester County is to provide each municipality with planimetric maps at a cost of \$600/square mile, based on 2004 aerial photography. However, these maps will only capture between 50 and 65% of the existing manholes and catch basins. The grant request was for funds to map the remaining 35 to 50% of these features.

Cooperation with other organizations

Jim Lee of Cornell Cooperative Extension discussed a few ideas with possible collaboration with LISWIC in mind. For example, writing and distributing educational materials about lawn care practices and/or the use of native plants to reduce phosphorus and nitrogen pollution. He distributed many examples of the educational materials they have created.

Cesare Manfredi, formerly the Regional Engineer for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and currently a member of the Board of the Federated Conservationists of Westchester County, attended a number of meetings to discuss inter-organization possibilities. At DEC he had worked on projects including infiltration and inflow (I/I) to the sanitary sewer system and the impact this has on sewage treatment plants. LISWIC members discussed some of the problems associated with sanitary sewer overflows and the efforts to eliminate I/I. One problem that was identified is that individual municipalities are fined by the state when the county bypasses sewage treatment plants and sewage is dumped into Long Island Sound even though the problem is regional. It was suggested that a representative from DEC and/or the Westchester County Department of Environmental Facilities be invited to a LISWIC meeting to discuss the problem.

Guest Speaker

Following up on Mr. Manfredi’s suggestion, Robert Funicello of the Westchester County Department of Environmental Facilities spoke to LISWIC about the operation of county sewage treatment plants, problems caused by I & I of stormwater into the sanitary sewer system, overflows and the surcharging of pump stations, compliance with the Total Maximum Daily Load for nitrogen in LIS and plans to upgrade the treatment plants.

APPENDIX-I

LISWIC BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES - October 2005- September 2006

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>TERM*</u>
Harrison			
Hugh Greechan		Town Engineer	10/05-08/06
Robert Wasp		Commissioner Public Works & Acting Town Engineer	
	Stephen Malfitano	Supervisor/Mayor	
Larchmont			
Liz Feld		Trustee	10/05-04/06
Michael Wiener		Trustee	
Anne McAndrews		Trustee	04/06-09/06
	Kenneth Bialo	Mayor	10/05-04/06
	Liz Feld	Mayor	04/06-09/06
Mamaroneck, Town			
Stephen V. Altieri		Town Administrator	
Phyllis Wittner		Councilwoman	
Mamaroneck Village			
Leonard Verrastro		Village Manager	
William Paonessa		Deputy Mayor	
	Christie Derrico		
	Robert Yamuder	Asst. Village Manager	
	Thomas Murphy	Trustee	
Mount Vernon			
Curtis J. Woods		Deputy Comm. Public Wks.	
Leslie Alpert			10/05-01/06
New Rochelle			
Charles Strome		City Manager	
Omar Small		Asst. to City Manager	
Pelham			
Richard Slingerland		Village Manager	
Terri Rouke		Village Clerk	01/06-09/06
Dennis Delborgo		Asst. to Village Manager	10/05-12/31/05
	Thomas Hanusik	Public Works	
	Harry Pallett	General Foreman	01/06-09/06

*Term indicated if less than one year.

APPENDIX-I – cont.

LISWIC BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES - October 2005- September 2006

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>ALTERNATE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>TERM*</u>
Pelham Manor			
John Pierpont		Village Manager	
Maryalice Barnett		Personnel Manager	01/06-09/06
Port Chester			
Keith Rang		Asst. to Village Manager	01/06-09/06
Jason Molino		Asst. to Village Manager	10/05-01/06
Gary Raconiello		General Foreman	
	William Williams	Village Manager	01/06-09/06
Rye Brook			
Christopher Bradbury		Administrator	
Victor Carosi		Village Engineer	
Rye City			
Steven Otis		Mayor	
Scott Pickup		Asst. Manager	
	O. Paul Shew	City Manager	
	George Mottarella	Engineer	
Scarsdale			
Stephen Pappalardo		Deputy Village Manager	
Daniel Sarnoff		Asst. to Village Manager	
	Alfred Gatta	Village Manager	
	Elizabeth Marrinan	Village Planner	

Coordinator: Elizabeth Paul

*Term indicated if less than one year.