



Staff Report

For City Council Meeting - 12/2/2020

Subject - Old Business - Necanicum Watershed Council (NWSC) Project Ideas

Synopsis - After reviewing projects proposed by the NWSC over multiple meetings, the Council opted to reprioritize the project list. The list is attached. If the Council agrees, staff will contact NWSC and begin tackling the items. A reminder that the NWSC has opted to partner with the City after receiving a \$1,000 grant during the 20-2021 budget process. In other words, they are putting the money they received back into the Gearhart community.

Recommendation: Council confirm staff is cleared to proceed with the attached list as noted.

Legal Analysis: N/A

Financial Analysis: N/A

Respectfully Submitted,



Chad

List of potential project ideas in Gearhart

This list is not all inclusive and I welcome any additional suggestions for projects. In general, the goal is for the NWC to write grants to obtain funding to complete projects in Gearhart in the following categories:

Prairie/Dune restoration projects

City Already
Doing These



- Invasive species/noxious weed removal – we can work with landowners to remove invasive species and replace with native plant species
- Native plantings
- Riparian vegetation restoration we can remove invasive species in riparian areas and replant with native plants

Pollinator habitat projects

PRIORITY #1
– Pollinators

- Bee friendly projects – work with landowners to plant pollinator friendly plantings, do educational workshops on how to build bee homes and bee gardens
- Broader pollinator focus – work with landowners to increase the usage of bat boxes (including outreach workshops on how to build, where to install and how to maintain), design projects that increase bird habitat and forage, etc.
- Work with landowners to design and install year round blooming hedgerows with native plants to benefit pollinators.

Storm drain medallions “where your water goes”

- We are currently designing a project with the City of Seaside to educate the public and discourage dumping into storm drains. We will be ordering metal storm drain medallions that say “Drains to the River” or “Drains to the Ocean” depending on the location of the drain. We can do something similar in Gearhart.

Fish passage barriers

- We will work with landowners and the city public works to identify any undersized or failing culverts that need removal/replacement to improve fish passage.

Projects that reduce contaminants in the water

PRIORITY #2 –
Contaminants

- Outreach and actions focused on the disposal of dog waste
- Outreach and actions focused on proper disposal of household waste
- Outreach and actions focused on proper disposal of Hazardous waste (such as insecticides, herbicides, paint, electronic waste, etc) could include drop off days
- Outreach and actions focused on catch basins and oil water separators (promoting proper monitoring and cleaning)

Projects to reduce fertilizer usage/water usage

- Landowners, golf course, City properties

Water quality testing/monitoring/turbidity

- Coordinate with Surfrider and/or DEQ to test water quality/turbidity or set up monitoring on water bodies within Gearhart
- Fresh water mussel/fish surveys

List of potential project ideas in Gearhart

Improvements along the Neacoxie

- Potentially install filter strips, guard rails, or increase plantings along the areas that border the creek in order to protect water quality

City of Gearhart projects

City still
needs to
finalize
our
Invasive
Mgmt Plan
(IMP) draft

- Work with the City to obtain grant funding to complete any management plans, studies, or master plans they want/need. For example, this could be a drinking water master plan or a vegetation management plan.
- Assist with public outreach/stakeholder engagement to get public support/participation in a specific City goal
- City events that are tied to the watershed health