

NOTICE OF MEETING

SEWRPC ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE

DATE: March 18, 2008

TIME: 4:00 p.m.

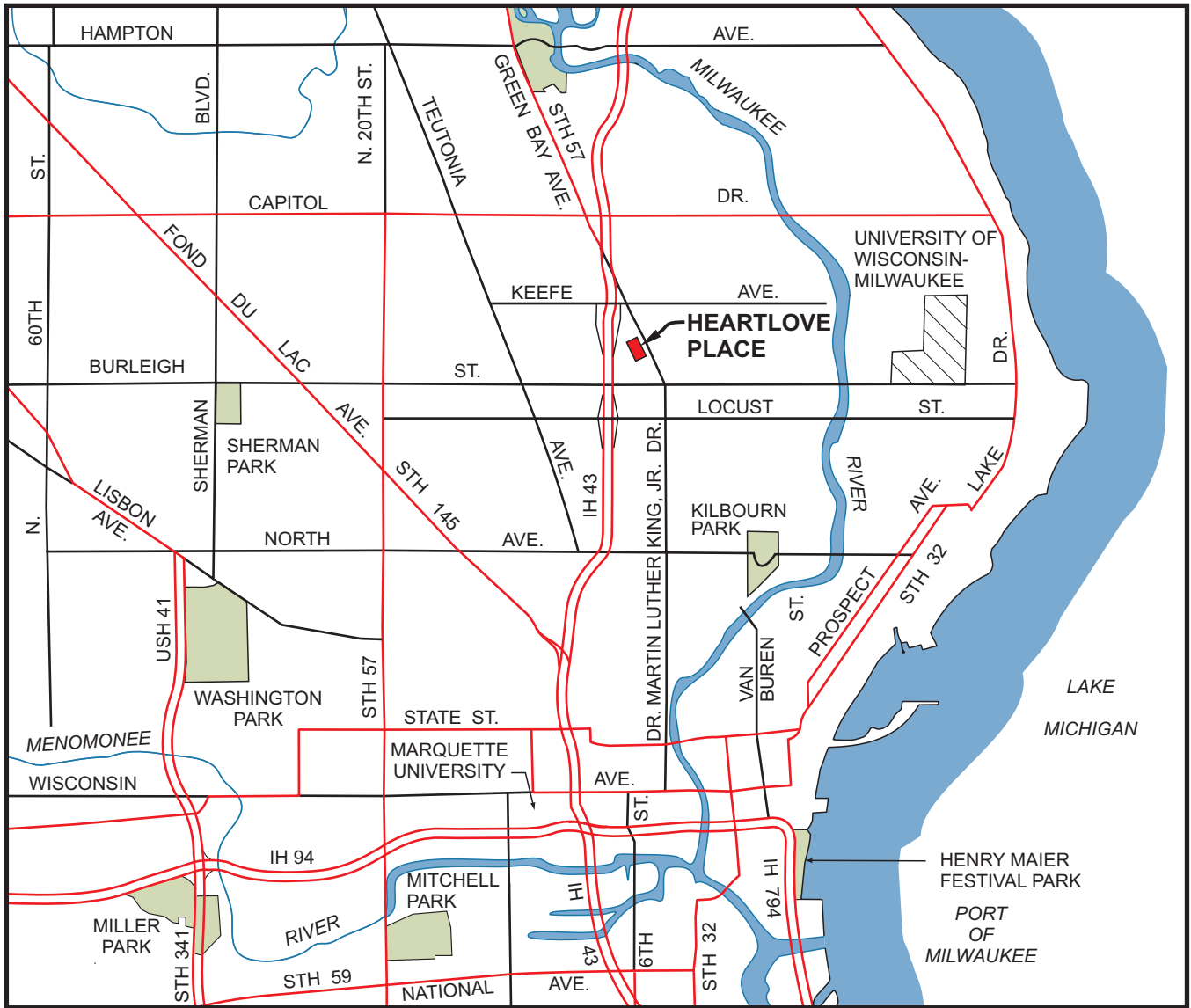
PLACE: HeartLove Place, Inc.
3229 North Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Drive
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
(414) 372-1550
(see map attached)

AGENDA:

1. Roll call
2. Approval of meeting minutes of November 27, 2007 (copy enclosed)
3. Continued Task Force consideration of items raised in previous meetings
 - a. SEWRPC public involvement and outreach efforts (summary document enclosed)
 - b. SEWRPC advisory committee selection and appointment process (summary document enclosed)
 - c. SEWRPC regional water supply planning effort (summary document enclosed)
4. Public comments
5. Consideration by Task Force of additional topics at forthcoming meetings
6. Reminder of next meeting date, time, and place
7. Adjournment

Adelene Greene
Chair

LOCATION MAP



HEARTLOVE PLACE
3229 N. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DRIVE
MILWAUKEE



SEWRPC Environmental Justice Task Force

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH

Activities Routinely Conducted by the Commission and Reported to Task Force On November 27, 2007

- Public meetings and associated activities at multiple junctures, which in recent studies have included: study inception, completion of inventory findings, review of plan alternatives, and preliminary recommended plan stage.
- Open house meeting formats allowing flexibility for attendees, and holding at least one meeting per county at each juncture, all in accessible locations; central city locations for Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, and Waukesha County meetings; minority neighborhood centers used for two of three meetings held each time in Milwaukee; and public transit availability where possible for meeting sites.
- Limited English proficiency steps, including arrangements for requested translators, and typically providing one in Hispanic/Latino neighborhood locations.
- Paid meeting ads in minority newspapers, as well as larger media outlets, and published in Spanish as appropriate.
- Newsletters prepared and sent at each study juncture, typically providing study updates, announcing public meetings, and describing planning content.
- Summary brochures shortening newsletter content to four pages, which have been translated into Spanish, used as public meeting handouts, and provided to groups as appropriate.
- Maintaining a list of minority and low-income groups and organizations.
- Personal letters sent to lead contacts of minority and low-income organizations, at each major juncture corresponding to study newsletters and public meetings, requesting meetings with Commission staff at the organizations' convenience, whether one-on-one, with committees/boards, stakeholders, or full memberships (four times during recent long-range land use/transportation planning).
- Telephone calls over the course of studies to arrange meetings, encourage participation, answer any questions, and possibly take comments, for each of the minority and low-income group contacts.
- Website containing all study materials, including committee meeting materials, plan materials, and public meeting handouts, with an open opportunity for comment.
- The establishment of the Environmental Justice Task Force to generate additional ideas and further broaden input, to the benefit of minority and low-income populations.

Additional Suggested Activities by Task Force Members on November 27, 2007

- Seek appearances on radio stations serving large minority and/or low income population audiences.
- Consider Latino/Hispanic media beyond El Conquistador.
- Prepare and provide a short summary of the issues, and opportunities to comment, for possible use in minority and low income group newsletters or websites.
- Use of focus groups, other small group techniques, visioning, brainstorming, and non-traditional meeting places and events, such as fairs and festivals.
- Expansion of list of minority and low-income organizations to be more inclusive.
- Work with job centers in the Region to inform members of minority and low-income population groups about regional planning activities.
- Be sure to treat all comments received with respect.

GKK/lgh/lw
01/17/08
#133996 v1 - Public Involvement

SEWRPC Environmental Justice Task Force

ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Activities Routinely Conducted by the Commission and Reported to Task Force On November 27, 2007

- Contacts (telephone or meetings) with elected officials from communities with substantial minority populations suggesting that their appointments include individuals from minority groups.
- Suggesting to elected officials in letters requesting committee appointments specific individuals from minority groups for such appointments.

Additional Suggested Actions by Task Force Members on November 27, 2007

- Bring proposed new SEWRPC advisory committees to EJTF for their suggestions prior to action by the Commission.
- Maintain a list of minority professional organizations to be consulted as to potential minority candidates for appointment to advisory committees.
- Specifically request elected officials, in the letters which ask them to make multiple committee appointments, to strive to achieve the racial proportionality of their communities in making such appointments. Note in the letters the percentage of minorities in their communities. Also, suggest in these letters potential minority representatives for their consideration.
- When community officials are asked to make multiple appointments, consider dividing the requested appointments between the County Executive and County Board Chair or between the Mayor and Common Council President.

KRY/GKK/mlh/lw/lgh

01/17/08

#133947 v1 - advisory committee appointments

SEWRPC Environmental Justice Task Force

REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

Summary of Report Provided to the Task Force on November 27, 2007

- The forthcoming regional water supply plan is to identify the “best” way in which to meet water use demands in 2035 as those demands are derived from the scale and location of urban development identified in the previously adopted year 2035 regional land use plan.
- The regional water supply plan will promote appropriate water conservation activities to help reduce future demand. In so doing, care must be taken to ensure that ratepayers -- particularly in Milwaukee, Racine, and Kenosha -- who are served by Lake Michigan plants with significant underutilized capacities are not hurt by imposing water conservation efforts that are accompanied by higher water rates.
- The regional water supply plan will identify groundwater recharge areas that need to be protected from inappropriate development.
- The regional water supply plan will address the potential to enhance the recharge of the shallow groundwater aquifer west of the subcontinental divide by promoting the infiltration of rainwater, stormwater runoff, and sewage treatment plant effluent.
- Four basic alternative regional water supply plans have been identified for full evaluation:
 - A plan that would rely upon greater use of the shallow groundwater to meet growing water demands west of the subcontinental divide
 - A plan that would extend Lake Michigan water supply to selected areas east of the subcontinental divide and to two additional areas west of the subcontinental divide, all of which already have existing return flow through the MMSD sewerage system
 - A plan that would enhance groundwater recharge of rainfall and runoff infiltration, combined with selected infiltration of wastewater treatment effluent at strategic locations
 - A plan that would extend Lake Michigan water supply to additional areas west of the subcontinental divide in Ozaukee, Waukesha, and Racine Counties, in all cases combined with an environmentally sound return of flow to Lake Michigan
- Neither existing Federal and State law nor the pending Great Lakes Compact would rule out any of the alternatives being considered in the water supply study. The study is being carried-out with all of the ramifications of the existing law and pending Compact in mind.
- As may be found necessary and desirable at the conclusion of the study, the regional water supply plan could propose modifications to the previously adopted regional land use plan.

Next Steps Concerning the Water Supply Study

- As the SEWRPC Technical Advisory Committee completes its work over the next several months, SEWRPC staff will prepare focused materials and brief the Environmental Justice Task Force on the findings of the evaluations of the four alternative plans. This will begin at the Task Force meeting scheduled for March 18, 2008. It is SEWRPC's hope that the Task Force members will carefully consider these findings in the context of the concept of environmental justice. Should the Task Force agree that there are one or more concerns relative to any of the plans with respect to environmental justice, it is intended that these concerns be articulated and appropriately addressed in follow up evaluation work.
- As this process moves along, the Task Force needs to communicate to the SEWRPC staff any concerns that it may have relative to the water supply study procedures being followed and to the substance of the unfolding planning work.

PCE/lgh
01/17/08
#134067 v1 - SJTF/RWS