

7:30am to 9:00am at EHRA's offices

Attendees on March 12, 2019

Auggie Campbell	Natalie Weiershausen	Scott Saenger
Jim Russ	Maurice Mullaly	Peter Huinker
Mark Gehringer	Carmen Kumpula	Edwin Friedrichs

1. **Welcome/Introductions** .....Jim Russ
2. **2019 Technical Forum** .....Jim Russ
  - a. **Take-Aways from Event**
    - i. *The group thought the time and venue worked out well for the breakfast event.*
    - ii. *The committee reported that it was good to hear the scale of the projects. The concept is much better executed with an entire city not just one development. The group discussed incentivizing these sustainable ideas using developer participation contracts.*
    - iii. *Maintenance has been an issue because many entities build new projects under the assumption that residents will maintain them eventually. This causes long-term maintenance not to be considered in the cost. Another factor in maintenance is visibility. The storm sewer pipes can be forgotten since they are underground. New leadership can also lead to maintenance falling through the cracks.*
    - iv. *The committee discussed the idea of having the new City of Houston Resiliency Officer, Marissa Aho, at the April committee meetings. The sustainability & maintenance ideas will need to have a champion.*
3. **Committee Business** .....Jim Russ
  - a. **Education and Advocacy: Advancing Sustainable Infrastructure**
    - i. **The Envision Rating System for Sustainable Infrastructure**
      1. *Russ reported that he met with John Blount to discuss a project to focus on for Envision or the Sustainability Stars Award.*
      2. *Weiershausen reported that ACEC is having an info session with Harris County to give an introduction to the Envision program. The event will take place within the first two weeks in April.*
    - ii. **Future Sustainable Infrastructure/Sustainability Technical Forums**

QUALITY GROWTH PARTNERS 2018



1. *The committee discussed what they can do to increase attendance and avoid event fatigue. Ideas included inviting other organizations to our technical forums, inviting friends in the industry, and increasing the runway time. The committee also suggested marketing the event as a continuing education credit.*
  2. *The committee discussed having the people who create the manuals and maintain the projects as speakers at the next technical forum.*
- iii. Elevator Speech for the WHA Sustainable Infrastructure Committee
1. *The committee discussed having an elevator speech ready to go and include a short video. The goal will be to spread awareness of the committee and spawn questions.*
  2. *The group discussed the main goals of the committee is to promote, educate and advocate. These concepts should be included in the elevator speech.*
- iv. Educate the Law Makers on a culture of Sustainability
1. *The committee discussed that legislators will be out of session at the end of May. This group discussed encouraging changes in rule making as well as better maintenance plans. The idea of giving more points for including natural processes in projects.*
- b. Sustainability Starts Applications
- i. *The committee discussed viewing transportation as sustainable and considering City Center as a possible applicant. The group also discussed reaching out to Lonestar and the Conrad Center.*

#### 4. Open Discussion/Adjourn

##### **Mission Statement**

Sustainable infrastructure enhances the long term economic, social, and environmental outcomes of development and infrastructure within the greater West Houston Association region. The committee's mission is to advocate for the use of sustainable infrastructure concepts through the education of members and stakeholders and recognition of projects and practices.

##### **2019 WHA SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE** All Meetings at EHRA Offices, 7:30 am

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<del>Tuesday, January 8</del>	Tuesday, July 9
<del>Tuesday, February 12</del>	Tuesday, August 13
<del>Tuesday, March 12</del>	Tuesday, September 10
Tuesday, April 9	Tuesday, October 8
Tuesday, May 14	Tuesday, November 12
Tuesday, June 11	Tuesday, December 10