A RESOLUTION OF THE TOLEDO METROPOLITAN AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ENDORSING THE LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT MANUAL FOR THE LOWER MAUMEE AND OTTAWA RIVER WATERSHEDS

WHEREAS, the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) is a voluntary association of local governments and non-governmental partners in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan; and

WHEREAS, Ohio EPA has required sixteen jurisdictions of Lucas County, four jurisdictions of Monroe County, three jurisdictions of Ottawa County, and eleven jurisdictions of Wood County to comply with Phase I or Phase II Stormwater National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits; and

WHEREAS, EPA Stormwater NPDES permits require six minimum controls, including Construction Site Runoff Control and Post-Construction Runoff Control, for which the *Low Impact Development Manual for the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River Watersheds* provides technical design information on structural and non-structural Best Management Practices; and

WHEREAS, American Rivers, in its *Low Impact Development Manual for the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River Watersheds*, considers the local geology, hydrology, climate, and governmental structure in their recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the *Low Impact Development Manual for the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River Watersheds* helps jurisdictions meet EPA stormwater regulations and protect and restore the environmental health of Lake Erie and its tributaries; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Maumee and Ottawa Rivers are vital for the region's economy; and

WHEREAS, the *Low Impact Development Manual for the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River Watersheds* is a tool for stormwater managers, local planners, developers, engineers, policy makers, and scientists; and

WHEREAS, the complete *Low Impact Development Manual for the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River Watersheds* is available on the American Rivers website at http://www.americanrivers.org/assets/pdfs/reports-and-publications/low-impact-development-manual.pdf; and

WHEREAS, Stormwater Coalition voted to recommend approval on June 17, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Environmental Council voted to recommend approval on July 22, 2010;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY TMACOG:

THAT the American Rivers *Low Impact Development Manual for the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River Watersheds* be adopted as a policy document, superseding all previous versions; and

THAT the President be and he is hereby authorized to provide this resolution to state and federal legislators, state and federal agencies, and local jurisdictions and agencies as a statement of TMACOG policy.

Adopted by Board of Trustees on October 20, 2010.

Yea 16, Nay -0-, Abstain -0-

Theodore J. Rutherford

Theodore J. Rutherford, Chair
Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments

Anthony L. Reams

Anthony L. Reams, President
Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments

STAFF REPORT
TOLEDO METROPOLITAN AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Subject: Low Impact Development Manual for the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River Watersheds

This manual is written to provide stormwater managers and site designers with a common understanding of Low Impact Development (LID) goals and objectives, site assessment considerations, and a toolbox of stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP) applicable to the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River watersheds. BMP information includes design guidelines, specifications, details, and maintenance concerns as well as assistance in selecting the BMPs based on the unique characteristics of a particular site. This is a technical manual and the information provided is targeted toward engineers, planners, landscape architects, and technical staff, as well as policy makers and developers.

In addition, this manual will help to foster a watershed approach to improving water quality within the region. With this understanding, the manual focuses on stormwater BMPs that apply across the two watersheds, ranging from using vegetated buffers in agricultural areas to vegetated roofs in urban areas. The aspiration is to create a user-friendly watershed-wide LID Manual to help protect the rivers and streams within the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River watersheds.

Organization of the Manual

This manual is designed to provide the guidance necessary to promote the use of LID throughout the Lower Maumee and Ottawa River watersheds. It is organized into eight chapters.

Chapter 1.0: Introduction provides information on LID, identifies affected stakeholders, and provides guidance on how to use the manual.

Chapter 2.0: Regulations summarizes the federal, state, and local requirements for managing stormwater. It also encourages a more stringent goal for stormwater management based on anticipated federal rulings.

Chapter 3.0: Watershed Characteristics includes information describing the physical characteristics of the watershed including soils, topography, geology, land use, hydrology, water body impairments, and natural resources.

Chapter 4.0: Site Assessment and Planning introduces the critical elements to consider when reviewing a site for development. This chapter also discusses the principals of Better Site Design and strategies for retrofitting BMPs into existing development.

Chapter 5.0: Stormwater BMP Selection provides guidance for selecting stormwater BMPs based on site characteristics and the effectiveness of the BMP in removing target pollutants.

Chapter 6.0: Nonstructural Stormwater BMPs presents detailed information in

a fact sheet format. Each fact sheet includes a BMP description, example applications, benefits and limitations, and managerial considerations.

Chapter 7.0: Structural Stormwater BMPs presents detailed information in a fact sheet format. Each fact sheet includes a BMP description, example applications, benefits and limitations, required design data, design guidelines, construction considerations, operation and maintenance issues, and design details and specifications.

Chapter 8.0: Plants for Stormwater Design recommends native plant species for the various BMPs presented in this manual. Characteristics of the plants are also identified such as sun requirements, salt tolerance, height, showiness, and soil water level requirements.