# Watershed Master Planning – What, Why and How

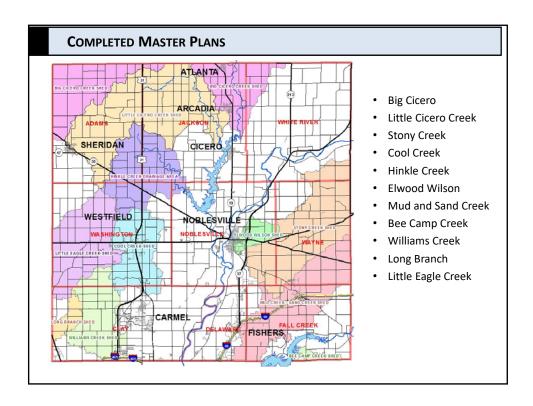
Kenton Ward, CFM
Hamilton County Surveyor

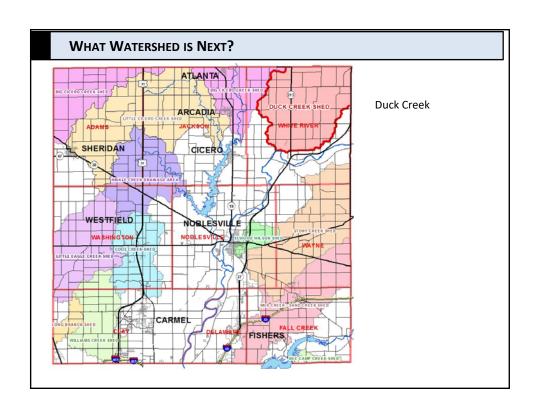
Lenny Noens, PE, CFM
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Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LLC

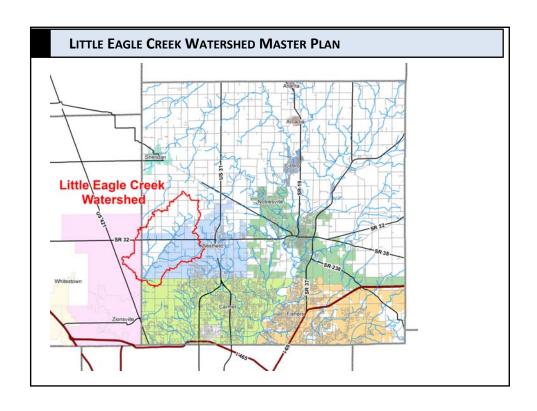
INAFSM Annual Conference September 2016

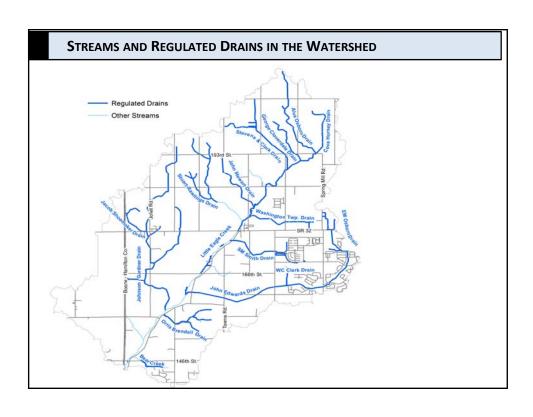


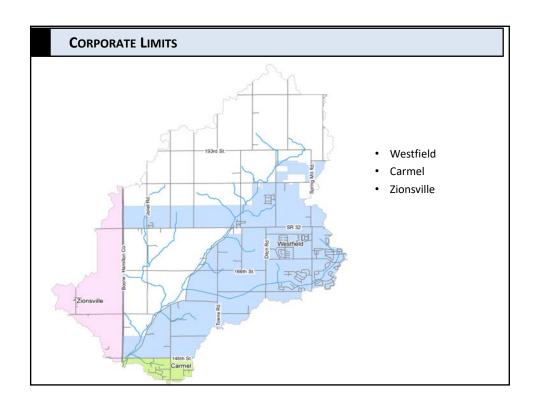


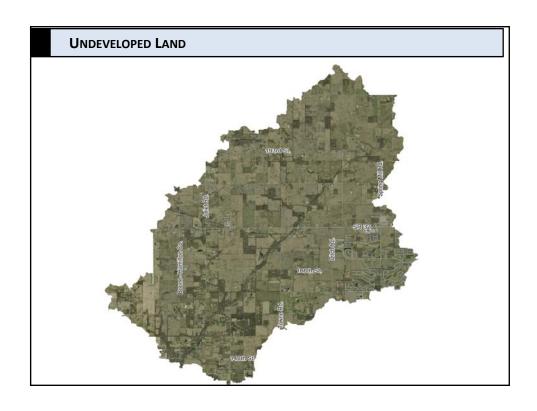








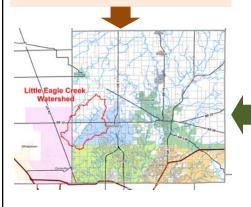




#### WATERSHED PLANNING IN HAMILTON COUNTY

# **CONCERN:**

As Carmel and Westfield continue to grow and expand, watersheds in Western Hamilton County face increased urbanization which could lead to environmental and flooding concerns.



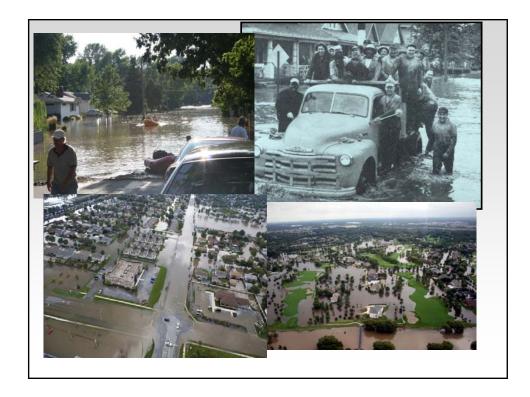
## **RESPONSE:**

Holistic-based watershed planning provides a proven framework to identify stormwater management concerns and provide a recommended plan so that new stormwater problems are not created and existing problems can be addressed.

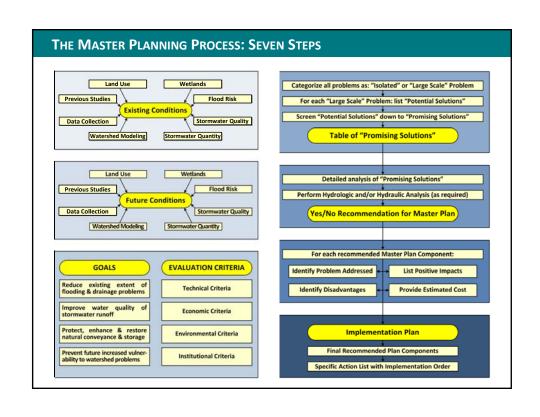


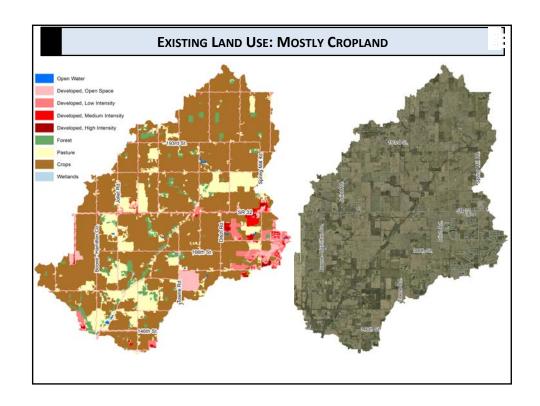
## **WATERSHED MASTER PLAN**

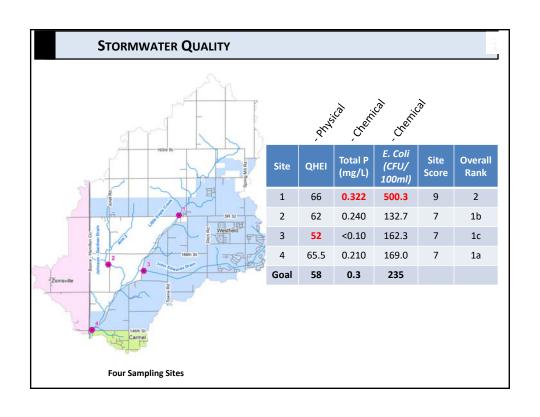
- ➤ Guide proper stormwater management as development occurs to:
  - Preserve natural & beneficial functions of the natural drainage systems
  - Preserve & enhance stormwater quality
- ➤ Provide long term guidance to local officials for:
  - Stormwater regulatory decisions
  - Zoning decisions
  - Other development-related decisions

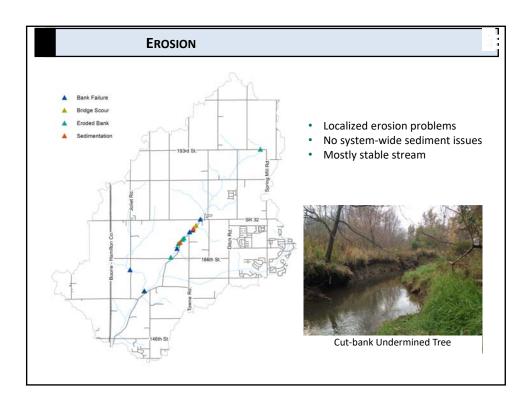


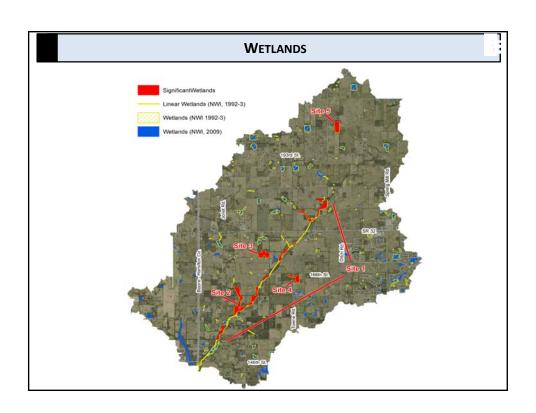


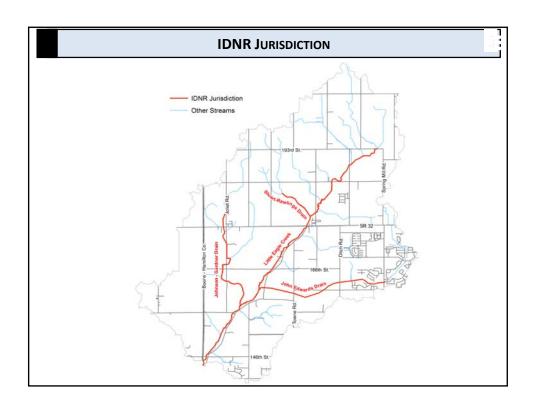


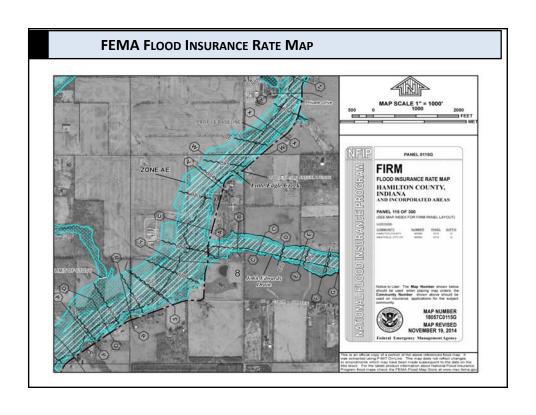


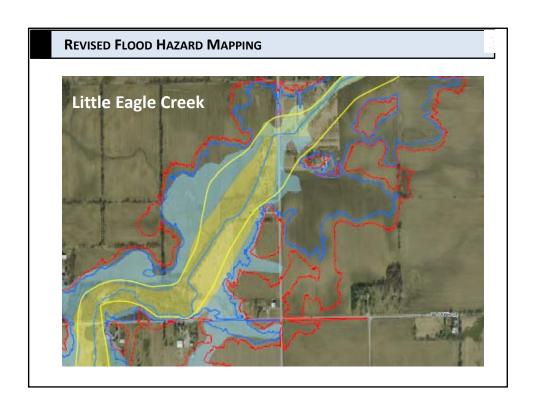


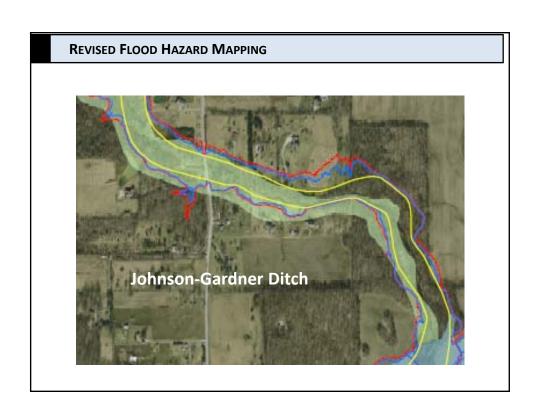


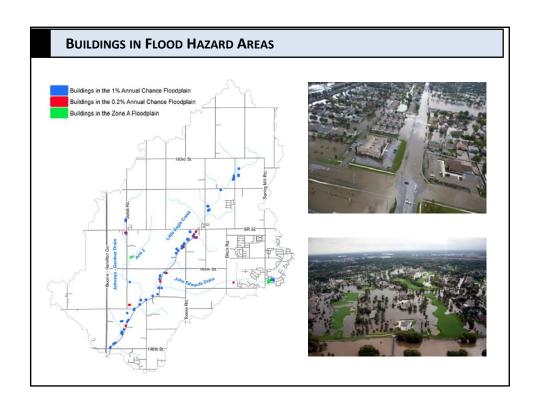


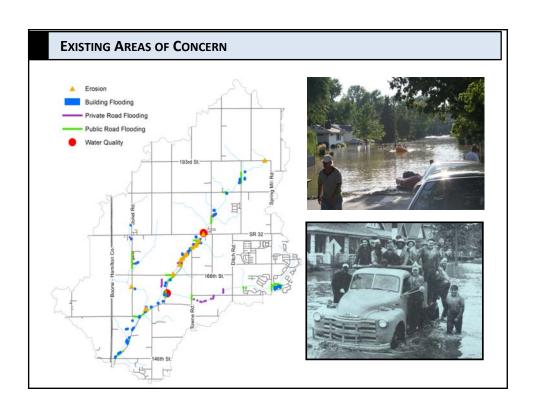
















# HOW DO WE MASTER PLAN?

- Gather Existing Condition Data
- Analyze...
  - Hydrology
  - Hydraulics
  - Erosion
  - Water Quality
- List Problems
- List Possible Solutions
- Recommend Promising Solutions

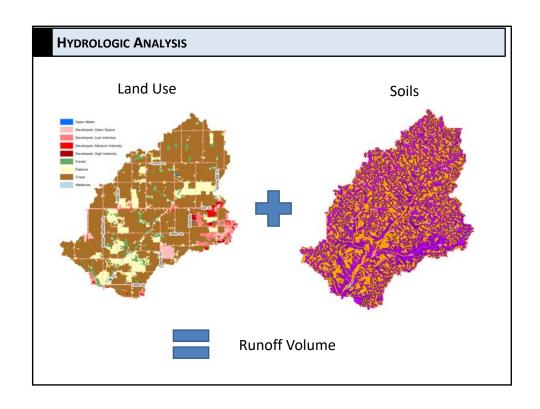


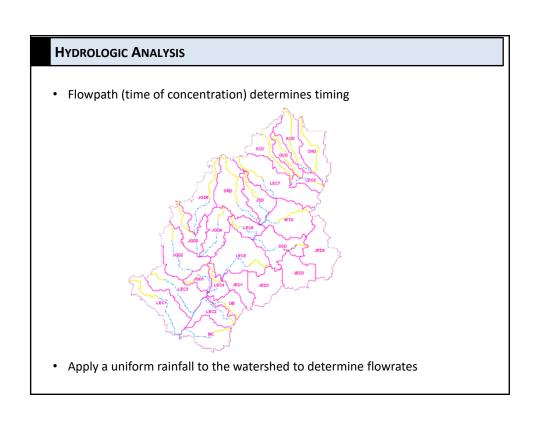
## **HYDROLOGIC ANALYSIS**

• Delineate subwatersheds on existing terrain



• Develop parameters to describe the subwatersheds





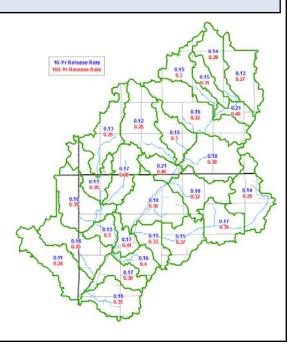
#### **HYDROLOGIC ANALYSIS**

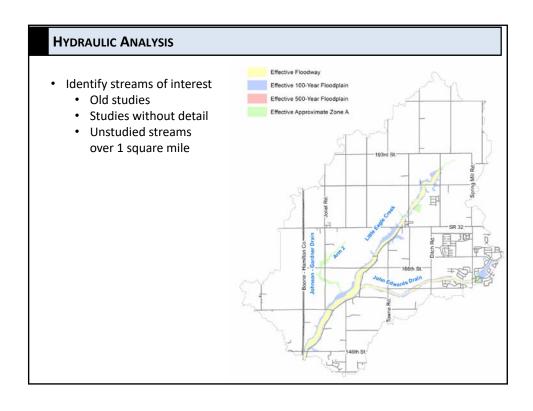
## Why Do We Want Flowrates?

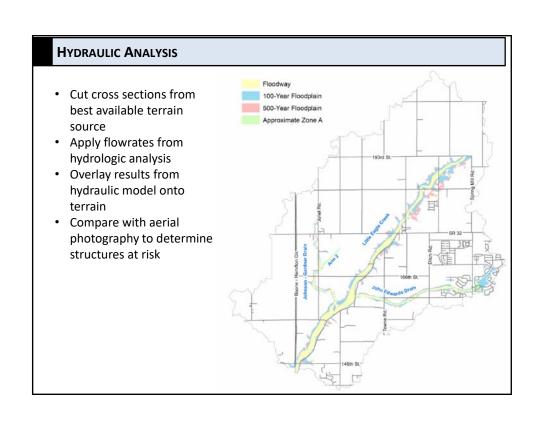
- Use flowrates along main streams for hydraulic analysis
- Evaluate countywide allowable release rates
  - Many communities have a generalized allowable release rate
  - Hamilton County specifies 0.1 cfs/ac (10-year) and 0.3 cfs/ac (100-year)
  - Is that appropriate for *this* watershed?

#### **HYDROLOGIC ANALYSIS**

- Each subwatershed has a flowrate computed in the hydrologic model
- Determine existing release rates by dividing the flowrate by subwatershed area
- Existing release rates ranged from 0.11 - 0.21 cfs/ac (10year) and 0.24 - 0.48 cfs/ac (100-year)
- Matches very well with countywide allowable release rates







# **EROSION**

- Walk the stream looking for:
  - Unvegetated sand bars
  - Heavy sediment deposits
  - · Streambank failure
  - · Poor agricultural field maintenance







Unvegetated drainage swale

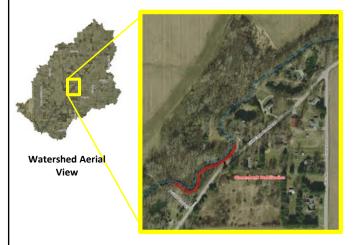
# SAMPLE MASTER PLAN SOLUTION

# **Update Ordinance & Technical Standards**

- Add Channel Protection Volume Requirements and Allowance for LID/Green Practices
  - Reduce future increase in channel bank erosion
  - Reduce nuisance flooding
  - · Lessens the impact of development on water quality
- Update Pollutant Removal Requirements
  - · Lessens the impact of development on water quality

# SAMPLE MASTER PLAN SOLUTION

# **Stabilize Streambank Along Little Eagle Creek**

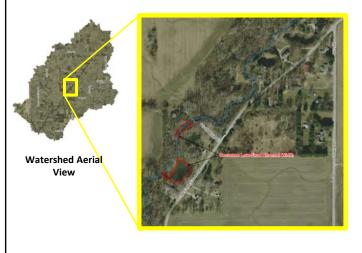


**Streambank Stablization Location** 

- Stabilization isn't necessary unless infrastructure is threatened
- Stabilize in this location due to proximity of erosion to Little Eagle Creek Ave.
- Minor amount of grading work to restore streambank
- Stream velocities are slow enough for vegetated erosion control

## **SAMPLE MASTER PLAN SOLUTION**

## **Decrease Low-Flow Channel Width**



**Decrease Low-Flow Channel Width Location** 

- Overly wide channel sections can cause sediment imbalance and instability
- Will reduce likelihood of downstream erosion
- Modify stream in these areas to similar cross sectional area upstream and downstream

#### **SAMPLE MASTER PLAN SOLUTION**

# **Modify Agricultural Practices**

- · Increase use of cover crops
  - Can reduce runoff and soil loss by 50%
  - Some cover crops varieties with long roots can pull nutrients up through soil for primary crop



- Increase use of no-till
  - Can reduce runoff and soil loss by 90% when combined with cover crops



Increase use of grassed waterways

- Useful where gullies have/will form
- Cost-share programs available through NRCS
- Waterway must be in place for a minimum of 10-years with cost-share



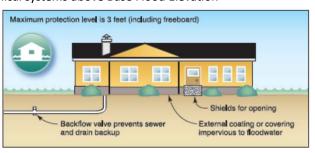
**SAMPLE MASTER PLAN SOLUTION** 

# Floodproof Structures in the Floodplain

- Limited grant/cost-share funding available to individual homeowners
- Small retrofits can reduce flood insurance premiums

See "Homeowner's Guide to Retrofitting" http://www.fema.gov/medialibrary/assets/documents/48

- Examples:
  - Raise electrical outlets above Base Flood Elevation
  - Raise mechanical systems above Base Flood Elevation
  - Create or increase size of crawl space openings to allow flood waters to pass through



# **SAMPLE MASTER PLAN SOLUTION**

But wait...

Where's the fancy multi-million dollar, saves everyone project?

