



Morrisville Environment and Stormwater Committee

Environment and Stormwater Committee Meeting
September 2, 2026, 6:00 PM

1. Call to Order

2. Adoption of Agenda

3. Approval of Minutes

- 3.a [June 3 Minutes](#)
[June 2026 MESC Minutes REV 20260811.pdf](#)
- 3.b [August 5 Minutes](#)
[Aug 5 2026 Minutes Final.pdf](#)

4. Presentations

5. Public Comment

6. Old Business

Student Art Poster Contest –

- Playing cards and coloring books available to view.
- Sign-up sheet for SAP admin duties will accompany 9/2 MESC minutes.

7. New Business

8. Staff Comments

Sustainability Plan Next Gen – Update on status

9. Committee Comments

MESC Topic Ownership Discussion - James Simmons, MESC Chair
Theme for 2027 - James Simmons, Chair

10. **Upcoming Events** [Triangle Environmental Symposium](#) August 27-17th Benefits Trees for the Triangle with several weekly speakers (\$5 tickets)

Green Day – Saturday, November 14th 8a-12n (sign-up sheet forthcoming)

11. **Adjournment**



Morrisville Environment and Stormwater Committee

Historic Christian Church

June 3, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

NOTE: Minutes are summaries only, reflecting committee action and main points of discussion. For the meeting agenda, presentations and other related agenda materials, visit the Town website.

1. Call to order

Chair Simmons called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. A committee roll call was conducted.

Members Present

Chair Jim Simmons

Vice Chair Fiona Susie

Member Bharath Somasundaram

Member Donna Willard

Member Ikong Fu

Member Marilyn Weisz

Member Nirajan Aryal

Member Sandra Christian

Member Susan Juncosa

Member The'Shaun Jones

Members Absent

Member Srividya Venkataraghavan

Staff present

John Letteney, *Assistant Town Manager*

Matthew Wetherell, *Public Works Director*

Kimberly Conley, *Sustainability Coordinator*

Cindi King, *Parks and Recreation Director*

Brad Gagnon, *Stormwater Engineer*

Public Present

N/A

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Member Christian

Second: Member Jones

Vote: Passes via unanimous vote.

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion: Vice Chair Susie

Second: Member Weisz

Vote: Passes via unanimous vote.

4. Presentations

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Master Plan, Overview/status and MESC participation – *Cindi King, PRCR Director*

Staff Member Cindi King started the meeting by giving a brief overview of the PRCR master planning process for the future of the department. She mentioned that the Town had been engaging in conversation with the residents to capture input for the plan. She invited the committee to participate in the process by placing stickers on 2 boards representing different parks/recreation items. More information can be found at the parks master plan site on the Town's website.

FY25 Sustainability Update – Kimberly Conley, Sustainability Coordinator

Staff Member Kimberly Conley gave the committee an update on where the Town stands on their FY25 sustainability goals. This Master Sustainability Plan goes through 2028, but some of the goals are sunsetting at the end of FY26. Staff Member Conley stated it was mostly an internal plan, but the community had provided input on priorities surrounding sustainability. Goals include reducing electricity consumption, solar energy generation, waste/recycling efficiency, increasing the community recycling rate, food waste program accessibility, incorporating green standards in Town projects, building a sense of community, maintaining and nurturing the Town's tree canopy, native plant inclusion for Town projects, and reducing overall carbon emissions. The committee discussed the Town's progress on the goals, ideas to help improve goal adherence, as well as how the goals could be expanded. Staff Member Conley ended the discussion by stating that FY27 will be a planning and strategy year.

5. Public Comment

N/A

6. Old Business

Pollinator Festival – MESC Participation

Staff Member Conley shared that she, Member Weisz, Vice Chair Susie, and she would be participating by tabling at the event. Their main conversation point will be the '*Clean Streets= Clean Streams*' theme as well as sharing stormwater information gathered from the Town's Stormwater Department. They will give away pollinator seed bombs and demonstrate how to safely provide water for pollinators.

Native Planting Event – Recap of May 16 event at Church Street Park

Member Weisz enthusiastically gave a recap of how beautifully designed the garden was and how fulfilled she felt from her participation. Staff Member Conley added that there would be another event later in the year at Shiloh Glenn. These efforts are part of the Duke Energy Foundation grant.

Work Plan Update

Staff Member Conley went through the work plan with each of the members responsible. Staff Member Gagnon was asked to acquire water quality numbers for Staff Member Conley, Member Willard will be doing her best to keep track of seed packets distributed, and Member Fu shared an update on committee collaboration with the Cary Environmental Advisory Board.

7. New Business

N/A

8. Staff Comments

Sustainability Plan Next Gen – Staff Member Conley gave a brief overview on engagement opportunities for MESC in the upcoming fiscal year, including work sessions as part of the regularly scheduled meetings.

All-America City – John Letteney, Assistant Town Manager

Staff Member Letteney announced that the Town of Morrisville had been selected as a finalist as an All-America City and MESC's Chair Jim Simmons will be attending the event representing the Town as an advisory committee member.

9. Committee Comments

Member Willard – Donna shared that an inspired resident from Cary reached out to discuss native planting programs and how they could be replicated. She's awaiting their response and will coordinate with Staff Member Conley as needed.

Member Weisz – Marilyn mentioned a littered area she frequents and was curious about who to contact about getting the area addressed. The area in question is near Davis Drive and Kitt Creek Road, which after staff discussion is technically under RTP jurisdiction. Marilyn will move forward by contacting them to see if the committee might be able to help reduce the litter.

10. Upcoming Events

Pollinator Festival – Lake Crabtree County Park, June 6 10:00am to 2:00pm

11. Adjournment

Motion: Vice Chair Susie

Second: Member Jones

Vote: Passes via unanimous vote.

Chair Simmons adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Chair

Support Staff Liaison

Date

Date



Morrisville Environment and Stormwater Committee

Historic Christian Church

August 5, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

NOTE: Minutes are summaries only, reflecting committee action and main points of discussion. For the meeting agenda, presentations and other related agenda materials, visit the Town website.

1. Call to order

Chair Simmons called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. A committee roll call was conducted.

Members Present

Chair Jim Simmons

Vice Chair Fiona Susie

Member Bharath Somasundaram

Member Donna Willard

Member Ikong Fu

Member Bhavana Veeravalli

Member Marilyn Weisz

Member Nirajan Aryal

Member Sandra Christian

Member Susan Juncosa

Member The'Shaun Jones

Council Present

Harrison Kesling, *Town Council Member*

Staff present

John Letteney, *Assistant Town Manager*

Matt Wetherell, *Public Works Director*

Kimberly Conley, *Sustainability Coordinator*

Ben Mills, *Stormwater Engineer*

Narayan Nyaupane, *Stormwater Engineer*

Public Present

Angelica Ortiz

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Member Christian

Second: Member Jones

Vote: Passes via unanimous vote.

3. Approval of Minutes

A correction to the June 3 minutes was requested to add *Vice Chair Susie* as a volunteer for the Pollinator Festival.

Motion: Member Willard

Second: Member Jones

Vote: Passes via unanimous vote.

4. **Presentations**

Sustainability Program Update - Kimberly Conley, Sustainability Coordinator
Staff member Conley presented a detailed update on the Master Sustainability Plan (MSP). She explained work underway within the transportation subgroup, which is investigating why the town has not met its 20% reduction target in fuel consumption. Increased town events since the baseline year have resulted in more driving, especially by departments whose vehicles serve as mobile offices. The team is considering MPG focused goals with internal departmental challenges to help reduce fuel use, as a pilot.

She proceeded to outline progress on the solar energy project, noting that rooftop solar will be installed on the Aquatics and Fitness Center as well as the recently acquired Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources facility. Parking lot solar canopies will provide additional generation capacity and shade. Project work will primarily occur in March and April, but no closures of the fitness center are expected aside from parking impacts.

Staff member Conley next described initiatives within other sustainability subgroups. The built environment team is developing a housing rehabilitation program for low- and moderate-income residents, exceeding initial MSP actions by creating a full program versus merely communicating existing programs. The waste and recycling subgroup has been reviewing internal sustainable purchasing guidelines to ensure responsible use of town funds and minimize waste. The natural environment subgroup is providing guidance on the Canopy Implementation Plan as part of the NC Forest Service grant. She also shared encouraging results from the town's food waste program, where drop-off carts at Morrisville Community Park, Northwest Park, and Church Street Park continue to grow in use, now requiring two pickups per week.

Member Juncosa asked about commercial organizations use of food waste collections and how the town could provide access. Staff member Conley explained that the Town only provides waste and recycling services to residents and the commercial/industrial entities must procure their own. Member Juncosa asked for clarity on rules surrounding ordinances like creating a plastic bag moratorium. Council Member Kesling explained that the General Assembly limits some local government authority which negates the opportunity to ban things like plastic bags.

Several members raised questions about energy efficiency at MAFC, including heat loss at entrance doors and potential improvements to the building envelope. Staff member Conley confirmed that an energy audit had been completed and that while small improvements were made, some costlier items remain. She also addressed questions regarding shading and tree impacts from the upcoming solar canopies, noting that only small understory trees may be affected.

5. Public Comment

Angelica Ortiz, Cary resident

A public comment was offered by Ms. Ortiz, who introduced herself and shared her background in conservation work in Mexico City. She expressed concerns about pesticide use, biodiversity loss, and pollinator habitat, and offered to share her design concepts for sustainable gardening initiatives at a future meeting. The committee welcomed her participation and encouraged her to return in September.

6. Old Business

Student Art Poster - 21st Annual (Clean Streets = Clean Streams) Overall timeline (August - December)

Under old business, Staff member Conley reviewed preparations for the 21st Annual Student Art Poster Contest. Students from kindergarten through fifth grade will submit posters reflecting the theme “Clean Streets = Clean Streams.” The committee will select grand prize, first, second, and third place winners for each grade, with the grand prize poster displayed as a banner on Town Hall Drive. Grand prize and first place winners will be recognized by the Town Council on December 8th. Staff member Conley described the timeline, requested volunteer assistance in scanning and organizing poster submissions, and discussed potential gift ideas for winners. Suggestions included MAFC family memberships, MAFC pool party, Lake Crabtree paddleboard or canoe rental passes, restaurant gift cards, and other local business gifts. Member Fu suggested creating tote bags featuring student artwork for grand prize and first place winners, as well as pollinator garden starter kits. Staff member Conley added that she ordered water-themed coloring books and playing cards that will be included in gift bags for winners.

7. New Business

Chair Simmons discussed developing future poster contest themes earlier to better integrate them with annual outreach planning. One member suggested exploring artificial intelligence tools to help residents determine proper recycling or disposal of various household items. Another member suggested creating a long-term youth technology and sustainability challenge to foster innovation and align with future climate goals.

8. Staff Comments

9. Committee Comments

All America City - Debrief, James Simmons, MESC Chair

Chair Simmons spoke at length about Morrisville’s recognition as a 2026 All America City. He described the experience as both humbling and energizing, explaining that being surrounded by communities from across the country made a strong impression on him. He said the event in Denver was filled with pride, creativity, and civic energy, and that each city brought its own story of resilience and community engagement. Chair Simmons noted how moving it was when Morrisville was

announced as a winner and how other delegations applauded and supported the Town. He emphasized that the award reflects Morrisville's commitment to strong public involvement and innovative community programs. Chair Simmons closed by thanking staff, leadership, and especially committee members, saying their dedication played a real part in earning the award.

Assistant Town Manager John Letteney provided more detail about what led to the All-America City designation. He explained that the process began months earlier with a detailed application centered on civic engagement. When Morrisville became a finalist, staff and community representatives created a ten-minute scripted presentation that highlighted the Town's accomplishments and values. Assistant Town Manager Letteney pointed out that the delegation included representatives from every advisory committee because the Town wanted to show the judges how engaged residents were. He also shared that the judges pay close attention to how finalists participate throughout the conference, and Morrisville's delegation made a point of attending every presentation, asking thoughtful questions, and engaging with other communities. Mr. Letteney said this level of involvement helped set Morrisville apart. He reminded the committee that the All-America City title is permanent and will be formally celebrated at a S'Morrisville on Monday, August 10th. He thanked the committee members again and noted that the award reflects their continuing commitment to civic engagement.

Council Member Harrison Kesling thanked the committee for its work and shared several updates from recent council discussions. He noted that bus rapid transit planning is moving forward, especially after commuter rail plans were discontinued, and that members could provide input via a survey. He also mentioned the Town's ongoing services assessment, which reviews the cost of services compared to revenue as the Town approaches buildout. CM Kesling briefly referenced recent resident interest in the plant-based treaty, appreciated the addition of composting at council meals, and highlighted an opportunity to revise ordinance and land use / zoning policies as opportunities to work with in the Council's authority to lead to impact.

10. Upcoming Events

11. Adjournment

Motion: Member Christian

Second: Member Willard

Vote: Passes via unanimous vote.

Chair Simmons adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Chair

Support Staff Liaison

Date

Date