

Delaware Direct Watershed Partnership Meeting and Tour
Tuesday, April 26, 2011, 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Delaware River Waterfront Corporation and Race Street Pier

Attendees: See below at end of notes

Meeting Notes

Introduction for Delaware Direct Watershed Partnership, *Paul Racette, Pennsylvania Environmental Council*. Paul provided an overview of Partnership purpose and goals, and activities to date including prioritizing green streets and reviewing ecological restoration opportunities along the waterfront. (See overview slides at http://www.phillywatersheds.org/del_working).

Report on the City of Philadelphia's Existing and Possible Tree Canopy 2011, *Sarah Low, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation, Director of Spatial Analysis and Conservation Planning*. Sarah described the Tree Canopy assessment. This is an analysis of Philadelphia's tree canopy based on land cover data derived from high-resolution aerial imagery and LiDAR data. It found that 16,884 acres of the city were covered by tree canopy representing 20% of all land in the city. An additional 49% (42,451 acres) of the city could theoretically be modified. A summary of the Tree Canopy report is posted at http://www.phillywatersheds.org/del_working.

Finalization of Delaware Direct River Conservation Plan report, *Tiffany Ledesma Groll, CDM*. Tiffany provided an overview of the Delaware Direct River Conservation Plan, addressing goals, existing plans, public participation, a profile of the resources, and a summary of issues, concerns, constraints, and opportunities. She provided a copy of the reports Executive Summary. The full report is posted at http://phillywatersheds.org/your_watershed/delaware/delaware_RCP.

Tour: Following the meeting, Sarah Thorp of the Delaware River City Corporation provided the group with a tour of the adjacent Race Street Pier construction site. The Pier is a new park constructed on the pier just downstream of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge. Additional park development is planned and ongoing along the riverfront.

Attendees:

Amanda Benner, Philadelphia Horticultural Society (PHS)
Carolyn Wallis, Natural Resource Program Supervisor, DCNR
Bryan Collins, PennFuture
James A Donaghy, Department of Commerce
Sarah Low, Philadelphia Parks and Recreation
Amy Miller, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
Sarah Thorp, Delaware River City Corporation (DRCC)
Jeanne Waldowski, PWD
Tiffany Ledesma Groll, PWD
Joanne Dahme, PWD
Glen Abrams, PWD
Katie Shafer, PWD
Paul Racette, Pennsylvania Environmental Council