SEMSWA Mission and Vision

Mission:

SEMSWA provides stormwater management services essential to the protection, preservation and enhancement of our neighborhoods, community and natural resources through:

- Flood control
- Water quality
- Construction
- Maintenance
- Education

Vision:

We will be recognized as a model stormwater agency delivering innovative solutions, expertise and clear, consistent guidance to our partners and the public.

Outcome:

SEMSWA's Administration and Board ensure that it is an efficient, effective, transparent, and collaborative business organization.

Indicators:

The SEMSWA Board and Management provide exceptional governance through:

- Adoption of annual appropriated budgets
- An unqualified auditors' opinion on the annual audit report
- Preparation of an annual report to the community
- Enacting effective policies and procedures

SEMSWA provides complete and accurate financial information through:

- Monthly financial reports to the Board
- Monthly disbursement reports to the Board
- Preparation of financial statements to be included in the annual audit report

SEMSWA attracts, develops, engages, and retains a quality creative workforce through:

- Utilization of best hiring practices
- Annual performance reviews
- Competitive pay and benefits

SEMSWA operates in a fashion to minimize risk to the organization, its workforce, and the community through:

- Maintenance of adequate insurance and workers compensation policies
- Having an active Safety Committee
- Utilizing safe work practices

Outcome:

The GIS group ensures SEMSWA operates efficiently and reliably through the use, administration, and maintenance of mission critical software, databases, and technologies.

Indicators:

- Establishment and optimization of backbone Work, Asset, Review, and Permitting software
- Creation and utilization of accurate, complete GIS databases
- Administration and coordination of applicable inter-program business processes and technologies
- Implementation of web and mobile technologies

Maintenance

Outcome:

The Maintenance Division provides effective methods for ensuring the prolonged useful life of the drainage infrastructure.

Indicators:

SEMSWA ensures the prolonged useful life of infrastructure through:

- Removing sediment, debris and trash from grates, inlets, pipes, ponds, and roadside ditches to maintain a clean and unobstructed storm sewer infrastructure and disposal of materials at appropriate disposal and recycling sites
- Repairing and/or rehabilitating substandard or malfunctioning infrastructure
- Conducting a detailed storm system inventory of the drainage system
- Managing a mowing and weed control contract for SEMSWA-owned open space, channels, and detention ponds

SEMSWA follows best practices during the performance of maintenance activities through:

- Utilizing Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) documents prepared for specific maintenance activities
- Adhering to SOPs for general good housekeeping BMPs, including spill prevention, vehicle refueling, small equipment maintenance, and similar
- Conducting periodic inspections to verify good operating practices
- Maintaining equipment used for stormwater facility maintenance in good working order

The Maintenance Division applies preventative maintenance measures through:

- Applying preventative maintenance measures to drainage infrastructure
- Maintaining a clean and unobstructed storm sewer infrastructure
- Repair and rehabilitation of substandard or malfunctioning drainage structures

Environmental Resources

Outcome:

The Environmental Resources Division ensures that SEMSWA complies with and influences Federal, State, local, and SEMSWA requirements for floodplain management and water quality protection, through implementation and enforcement of regulations, promoting good engineering practices, engaging decision makers to foster outreach and education, piloting studies and analysis of new technologies and materials, and advancing the application of best available procedures, as appropriate.

Indicators:

SEMSWA complies with Federal, State and SEMSWA requirements through:

- Enforcing applicable floodplain and water quality regulations and criteria standards
- Permitting all activities within the floodplain and any land disturbance activity that has the potential to impact receiving water quality
- Conducting outreach to change behavior, communicate risk, and educate through interaction

SEMSWA influences Federal, State and SEMSWA requirements through:

- Promoting good engineering practices (GEP) as the basis for application of regulations
- Participating on local, state, and national committees that set policies or address areas of interest
- Conducting special studies and pilot projects to further application of GEP
- Advancing the application of GEP and new technologies through collaboration with other floodplain administrators, MS4s, national floodplain and water quality research groups, and with local agencies committed to floodplain management and water quality, to the extent that the outcomes are applicable to furthering SEMSWA goals

SEMSWA collaborates between Program Areas to promote floodplain management and water quality protection through:

- Problem-solving development, capital construction and maintenance operation concerns in meeting floodplain and water quality regulations
- Providing guidelines to self-ensure and effectively manage floodplain and water quality impacts from SEMSWA projects

Engineering and Construction

Outcome:

The Engineering and Construction Division promotes the health, safety and welfare of the public, while protecting the environment through excellence in stormwater Master Planning, Land Development project review and coordination, and the construction of regional Capital Improvement Projects.

Indicators:

SEMSWA provides watershed-wide Master Plans for regional facilities and infrastructure through:

- Using sound engineering and planning principles in the preparation of master plans for safely conveying and managing stormwater in coordination with the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District and other participating agencies
- Identifying opportunities for water quality facilities in the watershed, including regional water quality facilities where possible

SEMSWA ensures that Land Development projects comply with applicable stormwater criteria and regulations through:

- Proactive communication with applicants before applications are received and throughout the review process to avoid repetitive review cycles
- Coordinating with other SEMSWA divisions and partner agencies including the City, County, Metro Districts, and other public entities to provide effective communication to customers
- Seeking out solutions that will meet criteria and regulations on difficult project specific problems

SEMSWA designs and constructs Capital Improvement Projects that effectively convey storm flows while protecting the public and preserving the natural environment through:

- Planning and coordinating with partner agencies to provide a 5-year plan of prioritized Capital Improvement Projects
- Collaborating with SEMSWA Land Development, Maintenance, Water Quality and Floodplain staff to incorporate multiple objectives into projects
- Promoting effective re-vegetation practices into all projects to provide natural attenuation, water quality, and erosion protection

Asset Management

Outcome:

SEMSWA's Infrastructure Asset Management Program is the combination of management, financial, economic, engineering, and other practices applied to infrastructure assets with the objective of providing the required level of service in the most cost-effective manner. It includes the management of the whole life cycle - design, construction, commissioning, operating, maintaining, repairing, modifying, replacing, and decommissioning/disposal - of infrastructure assets.

Indicators:

SEMSWA extends the life of corrugated metal pipe through:

- Planning, design, and installation of cured-in-place pipe, or other appropriate techniques, where most advantageous, from a financial and engineering perspective

SEMSWA maintains an inventory of all important stormwater structures, including ponds, pipes, culverts, manholes, inlets, and channels through:

- Videoing pipes, assessing condition, and documenting results
- Regularly observing ponds, culverts, manholes, inlets, and channels, assessing condition, and documenting results [1]

SEMSWA maintains infrastructure at or above the required operating condition through:

- Preventative maintenance applied at the time of the life cycle of the asset which is most cost-beneficial [2]
- Restorative maintenance applied when the asset is no longer in operating condition [2]
- Replacement applied when the asset is undersized or has failed [3]

1. Inventory of the various structures is in different stages of completion.
2. This approach is seldom employed at this point in time.
3. This approach is by far the most costly form of infrastructure maintenance.