

Item Title: Falls Lake Nutrient Management Strategy Interim Alternative Implementation Approach (IAIA)

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners receives an information update on the NC Environmental Management Commission approval of the IAIA

Item Summary:

On Thursday September 8, 2022, the NC Environmental Management Commission (EMC) approved the Upper Neuse River Basin Association (UNRBA) IAIA program. The EMC action represented the final step in the approval process for the IAIA joint compliance approach for the existing development provision of the Falls Lake Nutrient Management Rules.

The IAIA represents a new approach to water management and serves as a model for other watersheds across North Carolina and the country. The IAIA focuses on collaboration across jurisdictional boundaries and increases the diversity of strategies available to address water quality in Falls Lake. Wake County is a member of the UNRBA, which is a collaboration of local governments promoting innovative approaches to water quality planning and management. UNRBA members participated in a multi-year, multi-million dollar monitoring program that supported the IAIA approval process. EMC approval of the IAIA is the result of more than a decade of collaboration with the NC Dept. of Environmental Quality, local jurisdictions, and non-governmental organizations and will serve as an important framework to inform the Falls Lake rules readoption process anticipated to begin in December 2024. This presentation will provide an information update on IAIA approval, Wake County water quality improvement projects implemented as part of the IAIA, and how this approach will inform water resource management moving forward.

Attachments:

1. Presentation