

**Citizens' Advisory Committee
Wastewater Subcommittee**

MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 9, 2012

Members: Jennifer Clary - Terrence Jones - Alex Lantsberg (**chair**) - David Pilpel - Dairo Romero (excused absence)

1. **Call to order** – Meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.
2. **Roll Call** - See above
3. **SFPUC Staff present** – Jean Walsh, Samuel A. Murray, Marielle Earwood, Greg Mayer and Leamon Abrams,
4. **Members of the public** – 6
5. **Minutes** – The January 2012 Regular Meeting minutes were approved
6. **Public Comment** – A member of the public stated they want to see more people at the meeting from the public
7. **Staff Report – (Jean Walsh)**
 - This is Jennifer Clary's last meeting as a member of the Wastewater Subcommittee.
 - SFPUC Staff will be tabling in Chinatown at the New Year's Festival about where to recycle used grease. Staff will also be showing a new map of where to drop off used grease and be taking a survey of how people are currently disposing of leftover grease.

Question: Is the SFPUC ever going to have a float in the Chinese New Year's parade. Jean Walsh stated that the PUC has been considering creating a SFPUC float.

8. **Presentation and Discussion – Urban Watershed Public Outreach**
(Leamon Abrams and Marielle Earwood, SSIP Communications Support; Dave Wood, SSIP Watershed Assessments)

Introduction of Project and team by Leamon Abrams

Dave Wood's presentation:

Develop comprehensive list of watershed challenges such as odor, grit/sediment deposition, and excessive water during wet weather, nuisance flooding, etc.

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Characterize system wide issues related to individual watershed challenges.

Develop understanding of neighborhood values, concerns, desires, preferred outcomes related to watershed management

Characterize watersheds in terms of physical attributes (topography, geology, soils, and vegetation), demographics, and other community attributes

Develop opportunities to address challenges from a performance and cost feasibility perspective

Evaluate and narrow down viable opportunities incorporating social and environmental (TBL) values

Review highest ranked projects with Public to confirm implement ability and acceptance

Recommend individual or groups of projects by watershed.

Terrence: How many watersheds dump into the ocean?

Answer: Richmond Sunset side drains to the ocean.

Southeast Facility treats about 80% of sewer water and 20% goes to the Ocean side Treatment Facility. Storm water is 50% on the Southside and 50% on the Oceanside.

One of the problems is that when we have heavy rains there is possibility of flooding and overflows. This is why we are doing the study.

One of the ways to manage this is to maybe have green roofs, catch water in rain barrels that can be used for other purposes.

Attempt to contain the storm water before it gets to the sewer then we don't have to worry so much about flooding.

Marielle Earwood's presentation:

Watershed Public Outreach Process

Background on Public Outreach Process Development

Reviewed Past Efforts:

SSMP Public Outreach process, UWF Information Interviews, UWF Public process recommendation, UWMP Charettes

Importance of messaging and highlighting how this public process is both different and yet related to SSMP outreach process (review past efforts summary)

Goals of Urban Watershed Public Outreach Process-

Solicit input for Watershed assessment team

Raise watershed awareness and stewardship

Raise awareness about the Sewer System

Approach

Review phases 1-3- goals and objectives of each and explain correlation with Watershed assessment process

Phase 1 (2/2012-5/2012) - Raise broad awareness about Urban Watersheds, Watershed Assessment Process, solicit input from the public on watershed challenges and opportunities

Phase 2 (6/2012-8/2012) - Present initial Solicit Public Values for TBL process (Quinn can present at following meeting) workshops

Phase 3 (1/2013-6/2013) - Report back to public on findings, find out if anything is missed, project alternatives.

On-going Education and Engagement Activities- Watershed and Treatment plant tours

Jennifer Clary: we are treating this project as an engineering project, when in fact it is soft infrastructure that will be implemented over 30 years. At some point would like to know what the PUC's permanent infrastructure will be.

Alex Lantsberg: would like to see the website more user-friendly

Jennifer: have we updated the watershed website?

Alex: a lot of the land in the City is privately owned and the SFPUC has no control over that.

Jennifer: the PUC needs to frame their message differently and she hopes that we are not creating a storm water program.

SFPUC will always do public outreach and solicit recommendations from the public.

Tactics

Presentations at existing meetings
Workshop series
Surveys

New, creative watershed exhibits, interactive watershed games and website for outreach and soliciting public input

Outreach at neighborhood events using the above tools

Coordinating with Schools- watershed curriculum, poster/video submittals, participation at events, awareness through class announcements and service work days

Coordinating with SF libraries to exhibit watershed related information or art projects

Questions to solicit public input- Watershed Questionnaire

Instructions: Please answer the below questions based on your experience in your area of residence or place of business. If possible, please provide specific addresses or cross streets where relevant.

1. Are there any locations in your neighborhood where you have seen ponding or pooling occur during a heavy storm? (please provide cross streets and/or address)
2. Are there locations in your neighborhood where you've smelled sewer odors? (please provide cross streets).
3. Are there any areas in your neighborhood you consider unique or special and prefer not to be changed? (a park or green space, sports fields, etc.)
4. Are there areas in your neighborhood where you would like to see streetscape improvements (i.e. more trees, vegetation, parks, pothole repair, etc.)?
5. Is there additional information you would like to tell us about your neighborhood to help us better serve you around our sewer work? (i.e. desired parking, green space, problems with the sewer, etc.)
6. Have you experienced construction impacts (traffic delays, closed streets, etc.) in your neighborhood? Do construction impacts make you less likely to support the building of a streetscape or sewer improvement project?

Please circle one: Yes No Maybe

David Pilpel: Question 6 should be reworded, how has that construction impacted you? Need to state estimated cost of project. Create a "Slow the Flow" Campaign. i.e. don't wash your car when you know it is going to rain, using dishwasher, etc. Do more tours at the Northpoint Plant.

Public comment:

One attendee commented that there should be some information from the PUC on how to save water consumption thereby lowering the water bill.

8. Adjourned - 7:03 p.m.