

Community Program Advisory Committee
Monday, December 15, 2003, 12:00 p.m.
Creekside

Committee Members Present: Sister Barbara Stallman, Matt Horvat, Jacquelyn Greer (for Steven Thomas), Charles Taylor, Margy Poorman, Jean Overton, Willie Williams, Rev. Al Baumann, Gary Anderson, Ken Dobson and Mike Cassidy.

Other Attendees: Dave Kielmeyer (Funk Luetke Skunda Marketing Inc.), Amber Edds (Funk Luetke Skunda Marketing Inc.), Carol Hufnagel (Tetra Tech), Robert R. Williams (Director, Toledo Waterways Initiative) and Tyrone Riley (City of Toledo Affirmative Action).

Power Point Presentation by Carol Hufnagel.

Questions/Answers/Comments

Program Update / Bob Williams

- Update on November 19, 2003, meeting with EPA in Chicago.
- Discussed final clarifier 13. We think we can meet flow design with existing clarifiers. Doesn't think the EPA understood the question. They suggested to build the clarifier and downsize the ballasted flocculation. We might rephrase the question and ask again.
- Discussed ballasted flocculation. Under the Consent Decree, it has to be done in 18 months. We want an extension to 30 months. The EPA said they would consider an extension to 27 months if we can prove 18 months is impossible.
- Discussed building small EQ basin. EPA said we could build 25 mg at the plant and 35 in the system, but it has to be done on the original timeframe. That is not possible.
- We hope to have a reply to the EPA by mid-January. In the meantime, we're proceeding as we should in order to meet the existing Consent Decree requirements.
- Explanation of Responsible Bidders Legislation proposed by Mayor Jack Ford and Affirmative Action Department. Will give the City a little more flexibility when making awards.
- Upcoming bids for the Toledo Waterways Initiative include:
 - EQ basin - \$50-60 million
 - Ballasted Flocculation - \$23-24 million
 - Clarifier 13 - \$6-8 million
 - Effluent Pump Station - \$9-10 million
- Currently if the low bidder has done the type of work it is bidding for before, they will receive the award. The new proposal uses the phrase, "lowest and best" for awarding bids. Bidders will be judged on their price, their knowledge and understanding of the project, their experience, how they treat their employees and recommendations.
- Also under consideration, is changing informal and formal bid requirements. Currently, if a project is less than \$10,000, the project director can call three people and get the best price. If the project is more than \$10,000, it must be published and anyone can respond. Under the proposal, the amount that can be informally bid is increased to \$40,000.
- A third part of the proposal relates to local preference breaks on bids. Currently, bidders in the City get a 4 percent break, bidders in Lucas County get a 3 percent break and bidders in a 10-county area get a 2 percent break. The proposal increases each of those breaks by 1

percent. However, these breaks cannot be used for projects using money borrowed from the EPA Water Pollution Control Fund.

- And finally, department directors currently award bids for projects for their departments. Under the proposal, a panel of five people – a representative for the Mayor, Affirmative Action, the Finance Department and the Law Department and the department director will make a recommendation to the Mayor, who then makes a selection.
- The Responsible Bidders Legislation could be voted on by Toledo City Council December 23, 2003.
- The next bid under the Toledo Waterways Initiative to go out is the force main and pump station at Edgewater School as part of phase 2B in Point Place. That is a \$4-5 million contract to be bid in January 2004.

Charles Taylor

- Will the five-member panel be advised?
- Bob Williams - The division that puts the bid out will put together a report for the panel.

Presentation / Carol Hufnagel

- Tools to understand CSO impacts – required by the Consent Decree. The Consent Decree included specific items each study must include. Study work plans approved April 7, 2003.
- Flow Characterization – Study due April 2004. How big the pipes are. Where they are.
- Flow Metering – Snapshot of flow at specific place and time.
- Hydraulic Sewer Model – Projection of flow conditions – how much, how deep. Let's us see what happens if a pipe was changed or if rainfall changed.
- Water Quality Study – Study due April 2004. Samples collected from river at specific places and times to understand how the river is reacting to the conditions.
- Water Quality Model – Fills in the gaps of Water Quality Study. What would happen if we changed flow or if rainfall changed.
- Long Term Control Plan – Report due October 2005. All of these things work together as part of the Long Term Control Plan evaluation to determine how can we control the amount of pollution in the river.
- Monitoring sewer and receiving water shows us what is going on at the time it was measured. Helps us spot things we might not understand if we were trying to make a model without data.
- Models help us predict conditions and fill in gaps.
- 36 meters were installed in 2003. We selected strategic location to help us understand how flows are generated.

Mike Cassidy

- How is the data collected from the meters?
- Carol Hufnagel - It was downloaded from each meter every week.
- City did metering work in 1999 for six months. Installed 48 meters. Additional monitoring in 1998.

Matt Horvat

- The monitors are put in for a season?

- Carol Hufnagel - Yes, in this case May through September.
- City has 47 permanent metering locations.
- More than 130 points in the system were used in this study.
- There were six rain events over 1 inch in this testing period.

Al Baumann

- Based on the Sanitary Area Flow Contribution maps there, is more water being captured than before?
- Carol Hufnagel - Larger areas were monitored in 2003 than in 1999. It is not clear what the response is from the different areas. We are still sorting through the data.

Mike Cassidy

- Was any work done in the system between 1999 and 2003?
- Carol Hufnagel - Some in River Road, not much.

Willie Williams

- How does the rainwater get into the sanitary system?
- Carol Hufnagel - Through foundation drains, manhole covers.
- What about the outlets in the streets?
- Carol Hufnagel – Those are catch basins that go to the storm sewer.
- Bob Williams – We are also doing SSES studies to smoke the sewers to see where it comes out of the system. We will disconnect lines that run into the sanitary sewer.
- Dave Kielmeyer – Downspouts also contribute to rainwater entering the sanitary sewer system. The City started a pilot program in the River Road area to disconnect these downspouts.
- Bob Williams – We also televised lines in the River Road area. Another way the water gets into the system is through leaky joints. We started a sewer-lining project to line pipes with leaky joints. We also did that in Point Place.
- The City did a study in 1999 to see which areas were the worst.

Matt Horvat

- Is it always a case of inflow? Does it ever come out?
- Carol Hufnagel – It does that too.
- We need to understand how flows are generated in all area. Estimated capture rates in 2003 show that at the Lockwood CSO only 10 percent of rain gets to the Treatment Plant.

Charles Taylor

- Where is the Lockwood CSO located?
- Bob Williams - By the Toledo Hospital.

Mike Cassidy

- Why was the 10-mile Creek interceptor built?
- Bob Williams – It feeds Windemere.

- Why didn't that help Lockwood?
- The system is like a bathtub. The Wastewater Treatment Plant is the drain. The flow is the faucet. During wet weather events, the faucet works faster than the drain in our system.

Willie Williams

- This is under the current system?
- Carol Hufnagel – After the improvements, the plant will be able to take more flow. We will double the amount of water that we can put through the plant.
- Bob Williams – The restriction now is at the plant.

Charles Taylor

- Will the (Windemere) pump station ever be able to handle 100 percent of the flow?
- Carol Hufnagel – There is always going to be a rain event that you won't be 100 percent prepared to handle.

Mike Cassidy

- Rates won't be reduced after the improvements? Why not get rid of the combined sewers?
- Bob Williams – We have to look at what is the best way to spend the money in the system. Additional storage systems? Mini treatment plants in the system?

Charles Taylor

- So, we are doing what we can do with the amount of money that has been allocated?
- Bob Williams - Yes. Mother Nature will always win. There will always be a rainfall that is bigger than what we can design for.

Mike Cassidy

- Were there any events in 2003 that would have maximized the new plant?
- Carol Hufnagel – No.

Ken Dobson

- Does the study take into consideration the condition of the pipes in the system?
- Carol Hufnagel – Yes. And the studies have resulted in some improvements to interceptors.

Matt Horvat

- Rain wouldn't matter in a perfect sanitary system?
- Carol Hufnagel – Theoretically.
- Why is the emphasis not on separating the system?
- Carol Hufnagel – Separating is a good way to get flow out of the system, but the Consent Decree says there must be a larger amount of treatment capacity at the plant.
- Dave Kielmeyer – Separation is one possible solution in the Long Term Control Plan to get flow to plant to use capacity.
- Bob Williams – It is a multi-pronged approach. We're doing the lining. We're doing the separating. Separating tends to be pretty expensive. We have to look at each basin individually, starting with the worst, and chose which of the four or five options to implement at that location.

Ken Dobson

- The primary purpose of the study is to determine flow and capacity, not content and treatment?
- Bob Williams – That is 80 percent correct. We're also doing chemistry on the rivers and streams to determine the effects of overflows.
- The system backs up during wet weather events.
- Because of the backups, flow reverses direction in the sewers and more overflow to the waterways occurs.
- When the Wastewater Treatment Plant can process more flow, there will be less CSO discharge to the waterways and less risk of basement backup.

Mike Cassidy

- I read on November 7 that the US EPA is reducing its standards on letting municipalities put untreated water into the waterways during rain events.
- Bob Williams – It is a draft of the blending policy. If blended flows – meaning fully treated and partially treated water – meet the points of the City's permit, the flows can go into the waterways. The Consent Decrees allow blending in Toledo. After the improvements at the plant, 200 mg will be 100 percent treated, another 200 mg will be 90 to 95 percent treatment at the wet weather facilities. That water will be mixed and put into the waterways.

Next meeting: 12 p.m. Monday, January 12 with lunch.