

Summary Meeting Notes

Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant
Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting No. 2

June 13, 2012

Lake Oswego Pointe Condominiums



Prepared by Linda Macpherson
New Water ReSources

CAC members present: Tom Badrick, Harvey Lockett, Bruce Brown, Kara Warner, Al Iverson, Mary Beth Coffey, and Ruth Spetter

Regrets: Dave Gooley, Rich Martin, and Dan Vizzini

Team members present:

- City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services: Steve Behrndt, David Allred, Jim Brown, Tuong Nguyen, and Mike Ciolli
- City of Lake Oswego: Guy Graham and Brant Williams
- CH2M HILL Facility Planning Team: Dave Green, Michelle Burkhart, and Linda Macpherson/New Water ReSources (meeting facilitator)

Others in attendance: Two Lake Oswego community members

Meeting Opening

The meeting began promptly at 4 p.m. to allow time to walk from the Lake Oswego Pointe Condominium Clubhouse to the Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. Linda asked committee member to quickly introduce themselves and state who had appointed them: Lake Oswego or Portland BES. Linda also asked if there were questions about process or previously distributed materials. There were no questions, so she reviewed the meeting's agenda and purpose. She stressed that a strong driver for the visit to the Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant was to determine whether there is additional information needed to enable the CAC to be comfortable adopting a vision and guiding principles document for the Tryon Creek Plant. She noted that a copy of the vision and guiding principles adopted from the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant had been provided for reference.

Presentation by Dave Green

Dave Green/CH2M HILL provided an overview titled “Wastewater Treatment: A Critical Community Asset” and provided the following answers to attendees’ questions:

- Q: How many solids handling trucks leave the site?
A: Typically, four trucks hauling biosolids leave the site each day.
- Q: How does the process handle pollutants such as gasoline, pharmaceutical products, etc.?
A: Facilities have to take whatever comes down the pipe. Treatment units are not designed to remove those pollutants. There is some amount of removal with the sludge, but not significant.
- Q: What is the capacity of the plant? Initial construction in 1964. 8.3 mgd capacity after upgrades were constructed in 1976. Continual upgrades since that time.
- Q: How has property ownership changed in the vicinity of the plant?
A: Portland-owned property was sold to Lake Oswego for development of Foothills Park so long as commercial development was prohibited in that space. Portland maintains ownership of property fronting Willamette River east of the plant. In addition, Portland participated in the purchase of the Jarvis Property/Tryon Cove Park with the City of Lake Oswego. This purchase provided benefit in terms of buffer (which is very important to facility operation) as well as natural restoration at the confluence of Tryon Creek and the Willamette River.
- Q: What about staffing?
A: Staffing at Tryon is 6AM to 4:15PM 7 days a week (3 Operators on weekdays, 1 Operator on Sat-Sun), the rest of time it is remotely monitored from Columbia Blvd WTP
- Q: Is energy generated on the site?
A: Digester gas is not fully utilized at TCWTP – some is flared (maybe up to 50 percent of total volume) beyond what is used to heat the digesters. At Portland’s other plant, CBWTP produces energy with cogeneration units utilizing partially digested solids from TCWTP. Energy generation at TCWTP has not played out to date (i.e., it has not been cost effective) but will continue to be considered. There is no instrumentation to measure volume of digester gas that is flared.
- Q: What is the digester detention time at TCWTP?
A: Digester detention times varied between 20 to 30 days [NOTE: THIS IS A CORRECTION FROM WHAT WAS PRESENTED DURING THE TOUR]
- Q: What is plant’s potable use?
A: The only potable water used is for the needs of employees. Most plant water use is non-potable (i.e., treated effluent).
- Q: Does the plant receive odor complaints?
A: The plant has not received odor complaints, but Mary Beth Coffey (who lives at Oswego Pointe) indicates she can smell the plant in the summer.
- Q: What about the processes that are uncovered?
A: Covering process units is becoming more typical as the plant’s neighbors become closer. There are operational considerations, but these can be addressed.
- Q: Has microhydro (to recover energy) been considered?
A: It has by some agencies and can make sense with energy subsidies.

Presentation by Brant Williams

Brant Williams/City of Lake Oswego then gave a presentation on the Foothills District Framework Plan. Key points are as follows:

- The framework plan is dependent on what comes out of TCWTP planning process.
- After the Lake Oswego City Council has approved the draft framework plan, the area north of Oswego Pointe (which currently is zoned for industrial use) will need to be rezoned. Mary Ann Coffey noted that Oswego Pointe Condominiums is a separate legal entity.
- Oswego Pointe apartments were taken out of the current plan partially because of the topographical configuration.
- Funding improvements is a challenge for Foothills development.
- From a planning perspective, a land swap would be beneficial.
- Odor and visual aesthetics are the largest concerns of potential developers.
- Coordination of the timing of TCWTP projects as compared to Foothills development is important (specifically odor control improvement).
- Foothills development standards would apply to TCWTP improvements as they are implemented.
- The plant is currently zoned under a conditional use permit. It was a permitted use until 2004 when the zoning changed to make it a conditional use.
- Q: Is the Foothills timeline fixed?
At present it is flexible.

Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Tour

The CAC then had an opportunity to tour the plant, essentially following the flow from the headworks to effluent discharge. Final discussion outside of the Administration Building ensured. Tuong invited participants back to the plant anytime, noting that the plant belong to them.

Other

At the conclusion of the tour a few CAC members asked whether they could submit their notes via email. It was agreed that this would be possible but the urgency of completing the notes was emphasized.

The CAC members expressed their appreciation to Mary Beth Coffey for the hospitality of the Lake Oswego Pointe Condominiums Clubhouse.

Next Meeting: July 11

The next meeting will be from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on July 11 at the Portland Building (10th floor).