



# CITY OF PORTLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant

5001 N Columbia Boulevard, Portland, Oregon 97203 ■ Nick Fish, Commissioner ■ Michael Jordan, Director

**Bureau of Environmental Services (BES)  
Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant (CBWTP)  
Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)  
Meeting Minutes – January 27, 2016**

**Attendance:**

Citizen Members: Gordon Bussey, Matthew Denton, Mark Kennedy  
Staff Members: Steve Behrnt, Debbie Caselton, Mike Ciolli, Christa Overby, Lynn Sandretzky  
Guests/Presenters: Two University of Portland Students, Muriel Gueissaz-Teufel, BES Senior Engineer; Kristen Kibler, JLA Public Involvement; Kyle Stephens, BES Operations Specialist; Elena Estrada, BES WG Administration, Clark Worth, Barney and Worth.

**Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements**

Steve Behrnt welcomed the CAC members and thanked them for taking time to attend the meeting. The agenda was reviewed and the meeting then began.

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Recognition**

Steve Behrnt shared that CAC was recognized at a city council meeting in November 2015 for 20 years of service. He emphasized that this committee has been and continues to be very valuable to the City and BES. The committee was the first of its kind within the City of Portland and now there are numerous other citizen involvement committees throughout bureaus. Steve presented recognition plaques to each of the citizen members who were present. For members not present, plaques are held at the Columbia Building lobby for pickup.

**2016 CBWTP Newsletter**

Debbie Caselton asked the group for topic suggestions for the CBWTP 2016 summer newsletter. The following topics were suggested: a recap of the wet weather season by Mike Ciolli, a message from Mark Kennedy on his thoughts of his involvement with the CAC, an updated announcement on trails and bridge closures, an update on the CBWTP tour scheduling system that will likely go-live on the internet in the next couple of months, an update on the repair of the Inverness Force Main that is located under the Columbia Slough bridge, information on the CBWTP facilities plan update, and some highlights on continued efforts associated with energy conservation and sustainability. Additional newsletter topic ideas were requested and should be sent to Debbie ([Debbie.Caselton@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Debbie.Caselton@portlandoregon.gov)) or Elena Estrada ([Elena.Estrada@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Elena.Estrada@portlandoregon.gov)). A draft of the newsletter will be reviewed at the April 2016 meeting.

## **CBWTP Performance in December**

Mike Ciolli reported on the December 2015 storm and how well the system, including the CBWTP functioned. The weather events in December has been the largest (17.31" of rain for the month) since the flood event in 1996. There were two major storms in December: 5-13 and 16-19. A total of 638.7MG overflowed into the river from the first storm, and 145.8MG from the second. The plant treated 5.5 billion gallons for the month. The CSO system and treatment plant operated exactly how designed. All of the equipment continuously ran for days on end taxing the system more than it has ever been before.

## **CBWTP Facilities Plan Update**

Muriel Gueissaz-Teufel provided information on the CBWTP Facilities Plan update. According to the City's Mutual Agreement and Order with DEQ, the updated plan is due to DEQ by the end of December 2016. HDR has been hired as the consultant and the facilities plan is considered a mid-cycle plan with a focused scope on liquid stream treatment and alternatives to provide peak wet weather flow in the current and future regulatory context. The current interpretation from EPA is that the use of enhanced primary treatment for peak wet weather flows (as opposed to activated sludge treatment for all flows) is considered a treatment "bypass" and that secondary treatment expansion is mandated unless a waiver is granted through a Justification for CSO-related bypass with a No Feasible Alternative Analysis (NFAA). In accordance with the MAO, a Monitoring and Analysis Program (MAP) report was submitted to DEQ last December, along with a new NPDES permit application. The purpose of the MAP report is to provide an evaluation of the performance of the newly built Secondary Improvements project and the Chemically Enhanced Primary Treatment project in the treatment of captured CSO at CBWTP. Results of the MAP will inform the facilities plan and be expanded on as part of the effort, especially since it was completed prior to the December rain events. Findings of the MAP show that approximately 90 percent of all flows conveyed to the CBWPT are treated through the activated sludge process, with approximately 10 percent receiving enhanced primary treatment. A pathogen analysis was conducted as well and the results showed similar performance of activated sludge and enhanced primary treatment. The facilities plan will examine various regulatory strategies to treatment and discharge and develop accompanying options for capital improvement projects, including constructing across Portland Road, expanding existing unit processes, and relocating existing onsite facilities.

The Committee was asked about possible concerns from the public and how to reach out to those who would be interested. The group mentioned Columbia Slough Watershed Council, Friends of Smith and Bybee, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, trail advocates, New Columbia and other nearby neighbors, as well as the neighborhood associations. Muriel said the update will look at the site and ways to maximize efficient use of the space. In the April meeting, short listed alternatives and costs will be presented to the CAC for input. A public meeting to share proposed changes will likely be scheduled this summer as the new biogas facilities and any improvements called for in this Facilities Plan process are incorporated into an updated Master Plan. In response to the Facilities plan and a new NFAA in December 2016, DEQ will provide a response by March 2017 on whether or not secondary expansion is needed.

## **CBWTP Project Update**

Muriel Gueissaz-Teufel provided an update on the following projects and also gave an overview of the projects in closeout and those in the planning phase.

- The Lagoon Reconstruction project is entering in its 3-4 phase and the project is expected to be completed by summer 2019.
- The Inverness 30" Force Main Repair at Columbia project should start January 2016 and will be completed summer 2016. There is an expected 3 month bridge closure starting in mid-May.

- The biogas utilization project is currently in 60% design phase. There may be an opportunity to add organic waste (commercial food waste) to the process, which would capitalize on the facilities and increase revenue for the bureau.

**Next Meeting**

April 27, 2016

**Attachments**

CBWTP 20 Years of Service presentation

CBWTP Facilities Plan Update

CBWTP Project Update

December 2015 Storm Report