

Clarksburg Ten-Mile Creek Sewer Study – Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date: September 24, 2015

Place: Room A, Upcounty Regional Services Center, 12900 Middlebrook Road, Suite 100,
Germantown MD 20874

Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Actual Start Time: 7:25 PM

Attendees: See Sign In Sheet on WSSC Web Page*

Agenda: See WSSC Web Page*

Other Attachments: See WSSC PowerPoint Presentation on WSSC Web Page*

Meeting Summary:

- Ken Dixon of WSSC welcomed everyone for coming and went over the agenda for the evening.
- The “Ground Rules” for these CAC meetings were reviewed and clarified and are included in the attached PowerPoint presentation.
- Mr. Dixon asked if there were any additional comments on the August 20 meeting Summary. There were no comments.
- Mr. Dixon provided a summary of the questions and comments from the CAC members (Email Sep 14, 2015).
- The primary agenda of this CAC presentation was to address these comments and questions.
- Comments regarding Observation Drive
 - Ms. Cathy Wiss noted that the observation drive’s current alignment is not final and that it might not get built because of issues like environmental impact availability of state funding.
 - Mr. Timothy Hoffman stated that if Observation drive is built as a part of the Miles/Coppola development, it will not depend on state funding. So, the funding of the road is not a constraint.
 - Ms. Wiss noted that a timeframe for the Miles Coppola property is not confirmed and that some of the alternatives rely on the deep gravity sewer along Observation drive. Given that this stretch of sewer is critical in serving other portions of the Stage 4 Area, she asked if WSSC can provide an alternative to provide sewer service if Observation Drive is not built.
 - In response to the comments, Mr. Dixon provided a sketch from the Approved and Adopted TMC Area Limited Amendment depicting the proposed alignment of the Observation Drive. He concluded that WSSC will develop an Alternative 10 (which does not rely on Observation Drive) in response to this request. He also stated that sewer service to Miles/Coppola property can follow any access road built to connect the property to Frederick Rd or Clarksburg Rd.

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- Comments regarding “Orphaned Properties”
 - Mr. Dixon provided an overview of how WSSC envisions these properties will be served. He stated that while there are multiple ways these properties can be served, the solutions will depend on the what alternative is chosen/built and also on specific development plans for the properties (which are not available now).
 - Mr. Dave Lake noted that calling these properties “Orphaned Properties” may not be an accurate characterization since there are ways these properties can be served.
- Comments regarding the use of Dutrow Drive
 - Mr. Dixon provided WSSC’s response to the CAC regarding the use of Dutrow drive sewers or a parallel sewer main along Dutrow Drive to serve Egan/Mattlyn property. Specifically, he stated that there are capacity and clearance issues that preclude this option.
- Comments regarding Shallow Depth Bedrock/Blasting
 - Mr. Dixon noted that controlled blasting and tunneling through rock may be necessary to construct the deep sewer along portions of Frederick Rd and Observation Drive (in some alternatives)
 - He mentioned that both options are technically feasible and can be done in a safe manner. He also stated that WSSC has successfully used controlled blasting in the past.
 - Multiple CAC members voiced concerns with controlled blasting in the vicinity of old historical structures in the study area.
 - Mr. Dixon stated that if controlled blasting were to be used to construct a deep sewer in the area, a carefully planned pre and post structural and geotechnical monitoring program will be put into place.
 - Mr. Jay Cinque asked if WSSC uses in-house staff or consultants to perform the geo technical/structural monitoring program. He suggested that WSSC use both in this scenario.
 - Mr. Dixon responded that WSSC has used both in the past will take Mr. Cinque recommendation into consideration.
- Comments regarding Forcemain Design Requirements
 - Mr. Dixon responded to questions regarding specific design requirements for forcemains in the study area. He stated that while many new measures are being evaluated at WSSC (as described in this and previous CAC presentations) they haven’t been adopted into the design guidelines yet.
 - Mr. Lake reiterated that the forcemains in this study are smaller in diameter and much shorter than the Olney forcemain (which experienced a break in the recent past). He stated that each forcemain’s potential for Hydrogen Sulfide generation will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and if needed, measures such as looking alternative materials and possible redundancies will be taken. Mr. Lake would like to have the slide comparing the length of Olney Forcemain and the new pump station forcemains added to the Working Draft.
- Mr. Dixon provided an overview of possible relief needed along Gateway Center Drive.

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- Mr. Dixon stated that WSSC will try to submit the Final Draft of the alternatives and evaluations to the CAC members by the end of October. WSSC's objective is to present a recommendation to the County Council by Dec 2015/Jan 2016.
- Mr. Jay Cinque asked if the next report can be called a "Working Draft" instead of "Final". Mr. Dixon agreed.
- Mr. Bob Egan asked how the timing of this process will effect on the availability of funding from the County Council.
- Mr. Lake noted that the Dec 2015/Jan 2016 timeframe is not a deadline and that the process might take a little longer. He also stated that this CAC process has be extremely good and that WSSC has been open to questions and recommendations throughout the process.
- Ms. Tenley Wurglitz asked if MC DEP recommends a parallel forcemain for this area.
- Mr. Lake responded that it will depend on the Hydrogen Sulfide analysis.
- Ms. Wurglitz asked if there were any site specific emergency plans.
- Mr. Dixon responded that WSSC has general emergency response plans but not site specific.
- Mr. Lake noted that the comments regarding site specific emergency response plans can apply to any alternative recommended by WSSC.
- Mr. Dan Poudrier (Owner of Bennigan's) from the Historic District commended WSSC on its handling of the process and emphasized the urgency for providing sewer service to the area.
- Mr. Pat Darby also from the Historic District stated that he wanted to build a store on his property in the district and wanted WSSC to avoid any unnecessary delays in providing a recommendation. In addition, he also had concerns with controlled blasting in the area and its effect on old stone buildings.
- Mr. Lake stated that he was aware of the urgency to provide sewer service to the Historic District and mentioned that both the County Council and County Executive are on the record supporting the infrastructure development for the Historic District. He stated that if the implementation schedule is too far out, an interim pump station could be built to serve the district but the funding mechanisms for such an effort need to be analyzed.
- Mr. Wurglitz stated that the County Council's mandate was for maximum protection of the watershed. He encouraged WSSC to think outside the box and to "get it right" even if the option is more expensive.
- Multiple CAC Members wanted to know if there would be a formal vote
- Mr. Lake responded that there will be no formal vote, only comments will be submitted. He recommends that each group meet separately and then submit their comments.
- This is the last CAC Meeting and WSSC will incorporate these comments into the Working Draft Report

*Clarksburg Ten Mile Creek Sewer Study CAC Web Page - <https://www.wsscwater.com/business--construction/major-projects/ten-mile-creek--clarksburg-sewer.html>