

Newport Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Stakeholder Workgroup: Meeting #4

ATTENDEES: See Attachment 1

DATE & PLACE: September 8, 2011 @ 3:00 PM; City Hall Council Chamber, 43
Broadway Newport, RI

Welcome & Introductions

Julia Forgue introduced City staff as well as the CH2M HILL consultant team members. As there were a number of new workgroup members in attendance, each workgroup member introduced themselves.

Overview of Agenda

Becky Weig of CH2M HILL provided an overview of the agenda and asked if there were any questions before moving forward. A summary of the agenda follows:

1. Overview of the CSO Program schedule
2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes
3. Follow-up on Parking Lot items
4. Key Meeting Topic(s)
 - a. Harbor Water Quality
 - b. CSO Volumes & Frequencies
5. Next meeting information

Overview of CSO Program Schedule

Becky Weig provided an overview of the CSO Program schedule and also reminded workgroup members that it is important that they share the information from the Stakeholder Workgroup back with their respective organizations.

Previous Meeting's Minutes

The minutes of the third meeting were amended to include more specific information about wet weather capacity at the Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) and approved as amended.

Update on Parking Lot from Previous Meeting

Updates and answers to the four parking lot items from the previous meeting were presented.

The four parking lot questions were:

1. What percentage of interconnections between storm/sanitary systems are identified in GIS?

Approximately 33% of the catch basins have been verified as either connected to the storm or sanitary system. The remaining 67% of the catch basins are unverified. Of the 33% of catch basins that are verified, 5% are connected to the sanitary sewer system and 95% are connected to the storm drainage system.

2. Are there storage options at the WPCP?

There are no easy storage options with the current WPCP footprint, but this will be evaluated as part of the System Master Plan (SMP). A question was asked to put storage volumes into some type of scale perspective for the workgroup members. An example was provided of the storage at the Washington Street CSO Treatment Facility that was part of the Stakeholder Workgroup tour in March 2011. The tank at the Washington Street CSO Treatment Facility provides 1,000,000 gallons of storage.

3. Are there options for reducing the amount of problem items entering the headworks?

A public education campaign could help reduce the amount of problem items entering the headworks, but because this is such a critical step in the treatment process, it will be important to implement improvements.

4. What are the performance benchmarks/metrics for a CSO control program?

Example performance metrics are described by the EPA in its *Combined Sewer Overflows-Guidance for Long-Term Control Plan*. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water, Washington, DC. EPA 832-B-95-002. September 1995. Key language from EPA's guidance:

- *The evaluation of CSO control alternatives can be a complex process:*
 - *No one methodology is appropriate for all CSO control programs.*
 - *Certain general considerations apply to most evaluation approaches.*
- *Evaluations focus on cost, performance, and non-monetary factors*
- *The challenge:*
 - *Assessing the relative importance of cost, performance, and non-monetary factors in selecting a preferred alternative.*

Key benchmarks/metrics are:

1. Regulatory compliance
 - a. Permits
 - b. Federal CSO Control Policy
 - c. Consent agreements
2. Other benchmarks/metrics that have been used in other programs:
 - a. Reduction in water quality exceedances
 - b. Percent compliance with water quality standards
 - c. Number of overflows per year
 - d. \$/gallon CSO removed

Harbor Water Quality & CSO Volumes and Frequencies

Bill McMillin of CH2M HILL presented an overview of the City's harbor water quality monitoring program and the results from almost three years of monitoring. Key topics presented included:

- Newport Harbor water quality goals including water quality standards, water use designations, waterbody classifications, water quality criteria, State 305(b) assessments, and State 303(d) Report of Impaired Waters
- Newport CSO Treatment Facilities, effluent monitoring, and the annual frequency and volumes of discharges
- Newport Harbor water quality conditions compared to water quality standards.
 - The primary water quality indicator for assessing Newport Harbor water quality conditions in relation to CSOs is bacteria, measured by either fecal coliform or enterococci.
 - The City's enterococci data was presented compared to standards
- How Water Quality Factors in to Long-Term CSO Control Planning

Questions & Answers:

Q: Is the area near Goat Island designated as "sensitive" with the proximity to the Washington Street CSO Treatment Facility outfall?

A: No, that area of the Harbor is designated as Class SB (Primary and secondary contact recreation) like the rest of Newport Harbor. Angelo Liberti of RIDEM clarified that an SB1 ("SB but may be impacted due to pathogens from approved wastewater discharges" in State code) designation is established at WPCP outfalls as a warning to people not to swim right at the outfall as a matter of safety. The SB1 designation applies around the City's WPCP outfall.

Q: Is Clean Ocean Access data included in RIDEM's evaluation of water quality?

A: Angelo Liberti of RIDEM stated that the state's shellfish harvesting data was used in recent assessments. The City provides all of its harbor water quality monitoring data to RIDEM.

Q: Do volumes of overflows vary?

A: Yes, depending upon the characteristics of the storm (intensity, duration) and the antecedent conditions (dry, wet, snow pack, etc.)

Q: Are the CSO Treatment Facilities limited to 2 overflow events per month?

A: No, but the City is only required to sample 2 events per month if they happen. There are not always 2 events per month.

Q: How does the City's rainfall data compare to the data at Newport Airport?

A: Some results are similar and some vary. This data is still being analyzed. It is important to note that the rainfall data posted on the City's website with CSO volumes is recorded at the City's WPCP and may cover multiple days if the event lasted multiple days.

Q: It appears that a comparison of the water quality results from the Wellington Ave. CSO Treatment Facility discharge and the Washington St. CSO Treatment Facility discharge that a longer outfall pipe correlates to better performance; is this true?

A: Yes, a longer outfall pipe allows for more mixing and contact time with the chlorine, thereby resulting in a greater bacterial kill. However, it should be noted that the effluent monitoring locations are not at the end of either outfall pipes, and water quality conditions are most likely even better than shown.

Q: Can the City reduce the amount of chlorine used at Wellington Ave. CSO Treatment Facility now that a more representative sampling location is in use and the results show that the bacteria kill is good?

A: This City is working on optimizing this process.

Q: On the table on slide #51, it would be helpful to include the number of days in which samples were collected within 2 days of a CSO event. Could that be added?

A: This was added to the Parking Lot to be addressed at a future meeting.

Q: Could the enterococci exceedances be residual from CSO events more than 24-48 hours previous?

A: The Harbor is well flushed by the tide, so it is not likely to be residual. There are other sources such as untreated stormwater, boats, and wildlife.

Q: What does "no untreated CSOs mean"? What level of treatment is provided at each facility?

A: The Washington St. CSO Treatment Facility has screening, settling and disinfection. The Wellington Ave. CSO Treatment Facility has screening and disinfection.

Parking Lot:

The following questions were placed in the Parking Lot to be addressed at a subsequent meeting:

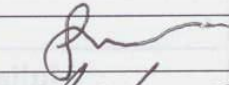
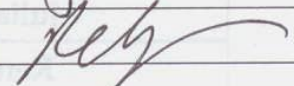
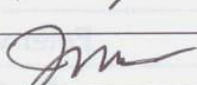
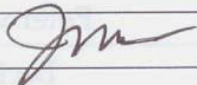
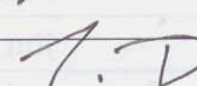
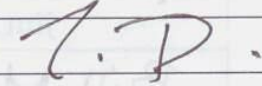

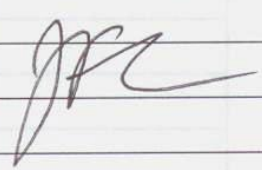


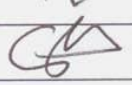
- Can the City provide examples of size and footprint for CSO storage?
- Can the number of days sampled within 2 days of a CSO event be added to the table on slide #51?
- Can the City provide an update to the finance/debt table presented in March 2010?

Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for November 10th at 3pm in the Council Chambers.

CSO Stakeholder Workgroup Meeting #4

Attendees

MEETING DATE:	Thursday September 8, 2011 @ 3:00 PM	
LOCATION:	City Hall Council Chambers - Newport, RI	
Name	Affiliation	In Attendance
Workgroup Members		
Justin McLaughlin	City Council	
Ray Smedberg	Ad Hoc Committee	
David McLaughlin (Alternate)	Ad Hoc Committee	
John McCain	ALN	
Roger Wells (Alternate)	ALN	
Tina Dolen	Aquidneck Island Planning Commission	
Chris Witt (Alternate)	Aquidneck Island Planning Commission	
Charles Wright	Beach Commission	
Kathleen Shinnars (Alternate)	Beach Commission	
Bill Riccio	Dept. Public Services	
Eric Earls (Alternate)	Dept. Public Services	
Paige Bronk	Dept. Planning	
Bill Hanley (Alternate)	Dept. Planning	
Tim Mills	Harbor Master	
Mary E. Dever-Putnam	EPA	
James Carlson	NSN	
William Monaco (Alternate)	NSN	
Jody Sullivan	Newport County Chamber	
Ed Lopes (Alternate)	Newport County Chamber	
Evan Smith	NCCVB	
Cathy Morrison (Alternate)	NCCVB	
Shawn Brown	Middletown	
Tom O'Loughlin (Alternate)	Middletown	
Eric Beck	RIDEM	
Angelo Liberti (Alternate)	RIDEM	
Jim Brunnhoeffler	RWU	
B. Gokhan Celik (Alternate)	RWU	

