

City of Olympia
Utility Advisory Committee Summary Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 5, 2009
5:30 p.m. to 8:34 p.m.

A. Meeting began at 5:44 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Michael Young, Kip Summers, Mary Groebner, Rob Lowe, Karen Rogers, Lana Hamilton, Tim Rogers, Carol Law, and Dave Gordon

Members Absent: Emily Lardner

Staff Present: Jay Burney, Rich Hoey, Andy Haub, Diane Utter, Joe Roush, Laura Keehan, Dan Daniels, Ursula Euler, Spencer Orman, and Andrea Sanchez-Turner

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Approved the February 5, 2009, summary meeting minutes.

3. Acceptance of Agenda

- Approved the March 5, 2009, agenda.

B. Comments from the Public in Attendance

No members of the public were in attendance this evening.

C. Information Sharing

1. Announcements from Members and Staff

- Rob announced this meeting is the end of his service on the Committee. He thanked everyone for the experiences he had while serving on the UAC. Committee members thanked Rob for his dedication and wished him luck on his future endeavors. Everyone will miss Rob's knowledge and guidance.
- Mary announced today is Dine Out for Olympia Salvage Day. Several restaurants in the Olympia area are donating a portion of their profits from tonight to Olympia Salvage.
- Joe announced there is a tree and shrub planting project at Black Meadows on March 28, 2009. There are a number of factors on the Westside that contribute to the stormwater draining through Black Lake Ditch and ending up in Percival Creek, after taking a complex route, including the Automall and the amount of traffic. The tree and shrub planting is an attempt to bring awareness and education on this issue.
- Dan provided a brief update on the Waste ReSources Line of Business:
 - Starting next Monday Waste ReSources will reduce residential routes from 5 to 4. This is a result of better efficiencies due in part to the automated system.
 - Al Carver retired as of Monday, March 2, 2009. One of Waste ReSources' Lead Workers is filling the Operations Supervisor position temporarily. Staff is hoping to fill the position through attrition.
 - Waste Connections purchased Silver Springs Organics. Staff and customers should not notice anything different in their services.

2. *Planning Commission Update*

- The Planning Commission had a briefing from Greg Wright, Assistant Fire Chief, Olympia Fire Department, about the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. There is a requirement to update the plan every five years.
- Brett Bures, CP&D, briefed the Planning Commission on Green Corridors. This concerns the spaces between freeways. The most affected freeways are I-5 and 101. The question is who is responsible for maintaining this area (the trees and landscaping). Staff will come back to the Planning Commission with a proposal at a later date.

D. **Business of the Evening**

1. *Onsite Sewage System (OSS) Conversion/Sewer Extension*

- Diane referred to the memo provided to UAC before the meeting requesting the UAC approve the Wastewater Utility staff's recommendation that the Hill View Addition neighborhood be the utility's first Septic to Sewer neighborhood project.
- Hill View residents expressed interest in connecting to sewer as far back as 1983. The neighborhood does fall into the mid-range of the criteria for conversion set up by City staff, however, interest and buy-in are huge factors in the success of a conversion project.
- Staff sent out subsequent mailings to 10 neighborhoods to gauge interest (140 went out). To date, staff received 5 back from Hill View residents saying they would commit to conversion.
- UAC members voted to support staff's recommendation to move forward on the Hill View neighborhood for Septic to Sewer conversion.

2. *NPDES Annual Reports*

- Joe provided a brief background on the Stormwater Utility Program.
- Federal Regulations require state agencies (in our case, the Department of Ecology) to provide permits to entities releasing stormwater into Waters of the State. This permit is the NPDES Permit. The permit ensures that stormwater and pollutants are only released under certain conditions. The permits are for 5 years, and add requirements as each year passes, so when the City reaches year 5, we will be in compliance with all the requirements. There is a program in place to ensure we are in compliance with our permit, issued in 2007.
- There are two things the NPDES requires:
 - An annual report
 - The Storm Water Management Program Plan (SWMP)
- The SWMP covers 5 main areas:
 - Public Education and Outreach – Staff will continue to provide what we are already providing in public education, raising awareness and hopefully changing behaviors. The Performance Measure of this area will consist of customer surveys and a consultant who will meet with households and determine their living habits to get in depth data on our citizens.
 - Public Involvement and Participation – UAC is a good portion of this.

- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) – Staff goes out and evaluates the system making sure it is working properly and there are no cross-connections. Staff also investigates illegal dumping and is going out and inspecting every one of the private systems in our jurisdiction ensuring Maintenance Agreements are in place. A large component of this area is the City knowing where all our facilities are located and to this end we are mapping those facilities.
- Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites – This area is covered by the Drainage Manual presented by Craig Tosomeen at the February UAC meeting.
- Prevention and Operation and Maintenance for Municipal Operations – The City will regulate and maintain our facilities to be in compliance and will educate and ensure others maintain their facilities.

3. *Recycling Materials and Prices/Update on Commercial Organics*

Recycling:

- Recycling prices are fluctuating.
- We pay \$65/ton of processing fee minus 70% of the value. We are currently paying \$34/ton. As long as recycled material has value, we pay less than \$65.
- Recent costs were \$15,000/month. We have an annual budget of \$50,000.

Commercial Organics:

- Currently Waste ReSources is conducting a pilot concerning Commercial Organics. Staff would like to get UAC's support to extend the pilot and possibly make Commercial Organics a permanent program at the end of the year.
- About ¾ of garbage generated is when people are away from home. Packaging is a big part of this issue.
- Staff goal is to have 3,300/tons of waste diverted yearly.
- There was discussion on LeMay's role in this issue. LeMay already provides some Commercial Organic service to some businesses in Olympia (e.g. hospitals, etc.). Can they provide the service rather than the City?
- UAC approved extending the pilot and asked that staff contact LeMay to gauge their intentions on this issue. Staff will return to UAC when they propose making this a permanent program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.