

COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE WOODWARD WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE

MEETING #33

January 12, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

MINUTES

Attendees:

Mark Bainbridge (MB2)	Tim Crowley (TC)	Julie Vanden Byllaardt (JVB)
Bert Posedowski (BP)	David Kebick (DK)	Lugene Donelson (LD)
Jeremy Ying (JY)		

Regrets

Pat Thiessen (PT)	Nick Winters (NW)	Councillor Sam Merulla (SM)
John Helka (JH)	Ashlee Fougere (AF)	Ivan Luksic (IL)
Judie Choppick (JC)	Marilyn Bell (MB)	Wendy Ariens-Tomes (WAT)

Distribution: All

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
1.	<p>INTRODUCTIONS</p> <p>MB2 welcomed everyone to the Woodward Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrade Project Community Liaison Committee (CLC) Meeting # 33 including new member Jeremy Ying.</p>	
2.	<p>REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES</p> <p>MB2 reported that there were no open action items from the September 15, 2021 meeting minutes.</p> <p>ODOUR COMPLAINTS</p> <p>MB2 stated that since the last CLC meeting (September 15, 2021) there have been four odour complaints at the Woodward WWTP and also detailed the follow up meeting with Plant Operations that discussed the next steps to address the increase in odour complaints. The City and Synagro have developed an odour control workplan that was initiated in late November. Additional background details can be found at: https://globalnews.ca/news/8370311/hamilton-plan-fix-sewage-drying-plant/</p> <p>Sept 15th (<u>Dunn Ave.</u>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No cause of the odour could be identified. • Increased the de-odourizer concentration on the fog misters. <p>Sept 17th (<u>Knox Ave.</u>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bio-solids Facility door was closed but slight odour sensed • Re-located third mister to just north of the new pump house to mitigate any odours. 	

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	<p>Oct 6th (<u>Woodward Ave by Glow Ave</u>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The loading bay door to the Bio-solids Facility was open and was identified as the source of the odour. • A truck was being loaded at the time and shortly after the door was closed. • The de-odourizer concentration was increased and the misters pointed more westerly to abate the odour. <p>Oct 8th (<u>Woodward Ave</u>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bio-solids Facility door was closed but slight odour sensed. • Facility's barrel fog mister was not functioning correctly. • Mister function restored. <p>MB2 concluded by indicating that no odour or nuisance complaints were received as part of the Woodward Upgrades Project construction.</p>	
3.	<p>WOODWARD UPGRADE PROJECT (WUP) UPDATE</p> <p>MB2 and TC provided an update on the status of the construction projects and displayed a PowerPoint presentation with photos of the on-going site activities.</p> <p>Main Pumping Station (MPS) - 92% complete:</p> <p><u>Recent works include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final commissioning activities are being wrapped up. • The new MPS is now fully operational as of the end of October 2021. • Decommissioning of the old pumping station has begun. <p>Electrical System Upgrades (ELU) - 97% complete:</p> <p><u>Recent works include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of the new Electrical Power Centre is complete. • Landscaping and final grading is anticipated in the Spring of 2022. • Decommissioning of the remaining two sub-stations completed by Feb 2022. • All electrical power loads have been transferred to the new facility, with the exception of the Co-Gen, which is in the transfer process. <p>Tertiary Treatment (TTU) - 88% complete:</p> <p><u>Recent works include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The construction of the new Tertiary Treatment Facility is moving forward with a focus on architectural works along with mechanical and electrical installations. • Secondary Treatment Stage 2 construction is well underway. Civil and structural elements are nearly complete and the focus is now on mechanical and electrical work. Commissioning to take place in March/April of 2022. • Structural elements of the new Chlorine Contact Tank are complete with the installation of mechanical components advancing. <p>JVB followed up by asking if any of the construction projects will decrease the use of the CSO tanks in the City. MB2 responded that there may be a small benefit to the east end of the City since the new MPS has a larger holding capacity and will lower the Hydraulic Grade Line (HGL) in the collection system. The HGL represents the height of water/sewage flowing in the pipes underground.</p>	

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	<p>DK then inquired into the costs of the project and if there had been any overruns. MB2 replied that there have been no cost overruns and that the project team has only had to use budgeted contingency as a result of the unforeseen amount of contaminated soils found onsite.</p> <p><u>Post Meeting Follow-up</u> <i>After additional discussions with the project team, it was identified that the TTU contract did experience cost overruns due to the unforeseen amount of contaminated soils found onsite. As a result, additional funds were required to replenish the contingency budget used to remediate the contaminated soils.</i></p> <p>JY also asked if the homeowners in the area will noticed any changes while each of the contracts is placed online. MB2 responded that the only visible change will be the discharge water quality from the plant and LD followed up by explaining that one of the project goals is seamlessly performing the work so that the residents to do not notice any impacts to services.</p> <p>Lastly, DK questioned the number of bypasses and if the new MPS would decrease the number of occurrences. MB2 indicated that the new MPS does have more pumping capacity than the old station, which will help to reduce the number of incidents, but that the plant still has a capacity limit and in conjunction with Climate Change (higher intensity rainfall) the true benefit is unknown.</p> <p><u>Post Meeting Follow-up</u> <i>After additional discussions with the project team, we have concluded that the new MPS has no expected benefit with regards to reducing the number of plant bypasses that occur each year. There are capacity limits within other process areas throughout the plant that dictate when bypasses are needed.</i></p>	
4.	<p>COMMUNICATIONS</p> <p>WUP Internal Newsletter:</p> <p>LD presented the Dec 2021 WUP internal newsletter to the attendees that included a focus on a commissioning and hand over of the new Main Pumping Station to Plant Operations. This is the same newsletter TC sent to the CLC members last week prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Fats, Oils and Greases (FOGs) Outreach Campaign:</p> <p>LD highlighted the public education campaign centered around the correct disposal of fats, oil and grease in the home. Titled ‘Beware the Berg’, this campaign builds on the success of the City’s award winning ‘Own Your Throne’ flushables campaign.</p> <p>Beware the Berg identifies the integral role played by Hamilton residents in preventing fatbergs (large masses of solid waste that form blockages in the wastewater system, made of congealed fats, oils, and non-flushable waste such as disposable wipes and hygienic products).</p> <p>The first two episodes titled “Cool, Wipe and Toss!” & “Beware the Berg!” were played for the attendees and the Outreach & Education Team is excited for residents to be introduced and engaged with the new cast of characters. For more information please visit: https://www.hamilton.ca/BewareTheBerg</p>	

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	<p>DK then asked if the campaign was only on the City of Hamilton website and also stated that he was willing to share it on the local Facebook page. LD explained that print and online advertisements, transit ads, posters, infographics, social media posts, animated videos and more are being used. The campaign launched in October 2021 and will run until Spring 2022, at which point a follow up survey will be launched to identify the impact of the campaign and provide a summary report. LD was also supportive of DK sharing the campaign on the local Facebook page.</p>	
5.	<p>OTHER</p> <p>DK commented on the old MPS and asked when it was scheduled to be demolished. MB2 confirmed that the decommissioning will be completed by April/May of this year. DK then inquired if anything was going in its place. MB2 responded that nothing will be established on that spot and only backfilling and landscaping is planned.</p> <p>To conclude, DK asked if there was no odour control at the plant, how bad would the odours be. MB2 stated that it would be hard to tell as the system is not used year around and is mainly used seasonally in the summer due to the increase in ambient temperature.</p>	
6.	<p>NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next CLC meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday May 11, 2022 at 7pm. The City will issue a meeting invitation shortly and include an agenda closer to the date.</p> <p><i>Any questions/comments related to these minutes are to be forwarded to Tim Crowley via Cheryl Heaslip (Cheryl.Heaslip@hamilton.ca) 905-546-2424 x 2383).</i></p>	ACTION