PA# 17-034
Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Upgrade & Expansion
Pre-Application Neighborhood Meeting Summary

Meeting Date & Time: June 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Meeting held at LEAD School, 949 Ocean View Avenue, San Mateo

Clean Water Program (CWP) team in Attendance: Cathi Zammit, Program Manager; Deryk Daquigan, Deputy Program Manager; Daniela Brandao, Contract Project Manager; Craig Olsen, HDR (design consultant); and Eileen Goodwin, Apex Strategies (outreach and meeting facilitation consultant).

City Planning staff in Attendance: David Hogan, Contract Senior Planner/Project Planner; and Julia Klein, Principal Planner.

Number of Public Attendees: 4

Presentations and Introductions

Eileen Goodwin, Apex Strategies, meeting facilitator, began the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda. She polled attendees by asking how they learned about the neighborhood meeting. Attendees indicated the postcard notice sent by the Planning Staff was the way they heard about the meeting.

David Hogan, Project Planner, provided an overview of the Pre-Application and formal Planning Application processes, sequence of reviews and estimated timelines, and identified opportunities for public input.

Deryk Daquigan, Deputy CWP Program Manager, provided a powerpoint presentation overview of the multi-year CWP; the reasons, goals, drivers, and needs for the CWP; a brief summary of the program's collection system and WWTP projects (which includes the WWTP upgrade & expansion project); and the estimated program cost and funding sources.

Daniella Brandao, Project Manager, provided a powerpoint presentation on the WWTP upgrade & expansion which covered the project objectives; site location and layout; technology approach & treatment processes being implemented to meet regulatory requirements; architectural & landscape design; administration building; sustainability; odor control; project design and construction delivery; and the historic and future project timeline.

Public Comments

During the Q and A period, two of the four attendees spoke. Below are the comments and questions captured in the order they were given along with responses.

Comment/Question	Response
Has the Planning department been coordinated with? Do we know this is the correct size for the plant to accommodate the growth? We do not want to have to come back later and make it bigger.	Yes, the Planning Department has been coordinated with and we have representatives from the Department with us tonight. This Neighborhood Meeting is part of the planning application process. The WWTP is being designed to accommodate the population growth estimated in the City's General Plan which projects population to the year 2035.
Why can't the Plant be sized to accommodate all of the flow so we do not need underground storage?	We have designed the Plant to treat the projected maximum month flows and better handle the wet weather flows. Some storage will be provided at the Plant, but we do not have the land to accommodate all storage needs at the Plant site. The underground in-system storage will only be used when our sanitary sewer overflow problems occur, or are anticipated, along the Delaware Street corridor, upstream of the WWTP.
Will this protect us from FEMA?	Yes, sea level rise is being addressed in the design of the plant.
Do you need a 5 million gallon tank?	Yes. The underground in-system storage tank is part of the overall CWP solution in meeting regulatory requirements to provide capacity assurance. The storage tank, pipe, and pump station improvements, plus the WWTP Upgrade and Expansion project are all part of this comprehensive approach.
Will the City stop building when we reach maximum flows? Do they know when that is?	The main reasons for doing this WWTP upgrade and expansion project is to replace aging infrastructure and meet regulatory requirements, not provide for city growth and development. There will be sufficient capacity to accommodate the normal dry-weather flows from the current population and future General Plan 2035 population projections.
Why can't we do that storage on site?	The WWTP project will include some storage on site, but the in-system storage facility will also be needed. During the environmental process the Team looked at

Comment/Question	Response
	other Program approaches, including having all storage on site; this was part of the full conveyance program approach. This Full Conveyance approach looked at making pipes bigger to be able to store more flow in the pipe system, plus have all storage on the WWTP site. But that takes longer to construct and all components need to be built out before receiving the benefits of mitigating the sewer overflows. The underground in-system storage approach is more effective in having an immediate impact in reducing overflows in the system once it is constructed. The Plant site is also constrained so fitting everything in is like a giant puzzle. The Programmatic EIR plus the Full Conveyance and In-System Storage program approaches were presented to the City Council on June 6, 2016, and the Council certified the PEIR and selected the In-System Storage Program Approach.
When will the outflow get close to maximum?	The outfall capacity is 60 mgd. The projected maximum month flows are about 21 mgd, so under normal operating conditions the outfall capacity will not be maximized . However, during wet-weather conditions the plant will be utilizing the full capacity of the outfall..
What happened this past winter? How much sewer overflows were discharged?	There was over 500,000 gallons of sanitary sewer overflows this past winter. This project will help to prevent overflows from occurring and improve effluent discharge quality to meet regulatory requirements.
What amount of sewer overflows was the discharged in the past?	It depends on the winter. There were three million gallons spilled in Hillsborough in 2008 which lead to the Cease and Desist Order and regulatory issues we have today. There was also 600,000 gallons discharged in the past at Delaware and 25th.
What have I seen overflowing at El Camino Real and 41st?	That is water, not sewage, flowing out of an communications utility vault manhole.

Comment/Question	Response
This is the first meeting for the Plant's expansion project, correct? When will the next ones be?	Yes, tonight is the first meeting. We are in the pre-application phase. The next meetings will be in front of the Planning Commission and then ultimately in front of the City Council. Those meetings incorporate public comment and are part of the planning process. You are all welcome and encouraged to attend.
So, there is no other neighborhood meeting?	There is one required neighborhood meeting and a Planning Commission study session as part of the Pre-Application process. Both are open to the public to attend and provide comments. The Planning postcard notice was sent to approximately 1,600 property owners, and residents about tonight's meeting. Additionally, an email blast to all the neighborhood associations and community members who have signed up to be on the "900 List" was sent out. There will be other opportunities for community input at future public meetings.
This project is so big everyone in the City should be notified.	Comment noted. The WWTP upgrade and expansion project has been mentioned at all of the other CWP outreach meetings related to the Programmatic EIR, rate increases, underground storage facility, and other improvements. Information about the WWTP is also on the CWP website, where interested community members can learn more and leave comments or get a phone number to call with questions. Since this is a Public Works project, staff will also be presenting to the PW Commission in the future, which is another opportunity for public input.

The meeting included a three station Open House with graphics and information on: 1) General Clean Water Program, 2) Collection System Improvements, and 3) Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements; but due to size of attendees there was no use of the stations and no formal report out.

The meeting concluded at 8:15pm.