

Wet Weather Team Homework Assignment: Approach for the Fall 2007 Public Meetings

For Discussion at the September 20, 2007 Wet Weather Team Meeting

This document describes a homework assignment to prepare for a discussion about the fall 2007 public meetings at the September 20, 2007 Wet Weather Team meeting. The document includes background information on this set of public meetings, instructions for the homework assignment, a description of five proposed areas in which to hold the public meetings, and a set of questions to answer. Please consider these questions in preparation for the September meeting.

I. Background on Current Plans for the Fall 2007 Public Meetings

MSD is currently planning to hold the next set of public meetings to solicit input on MSD's Wet Weather Program in October and November of 2007. The purpose of these meetings is to get early feedback from residents on specific problems and potential opportunities for projects in different geographic areas within Jefferson County. This opportunity for listening to community interests and getting feedback on potential project concepts is occurring much earlier in the process than originally planned, since WWT Team members pointed out that this kind of input would be highly valuable.

Current plans are to begin each meeting with a short presentation that provides an overview of MSD's Consent Decree, CSO and SSO problems, and control technologies. MSD staff and members of the technical team are then planning to be available for the remainder of the meeting to talk with residents about problems and potential projects in specific geographic areas. During this portion of the meeting, individual tables would be set up for a number of small geographic areas. Each table would have a blown-up map of the area, and MSD and technical team staff would answer questions and get input from interested residents on potential project concepts being considered in the area.

MSD and the technical team have incorporated a number of ideas suggested by WWT members into the initial planning of this set of public meetings. For example, MSD is planning on using short, focused presentations during the meetings, while providing a significant amount of time for members of the public to ask questions and provide input. MSD is also planning on providing visual displays (e.g., large, blown-up maps) at the meetings.

MSD is hoping to maximize participation and the quality of feedback received at these public meetings, but MSD is also operating under a number of constraints. To stay on schedule, this round of public meetings should be completed by the middle of November. In addition, since the staff who will be conducting the meetings are also key leaders of the alternative development and evaluation, five to six meetings are the most that can be accommodated in the available time. Please consider these constraints when thinking about the questions in Section IV, in the interest of having a realistic discussion at the WWT meeting. Please also note, however, that MSD is open to hearing that one or more of these constraints needs to be reconsidered, if WWT members believe the constraint would significantly limit participation and/or the quality of feedback.

II. Instructions for the Homework Assignment

As described above, MSD is planning on holding five to six public meetings this fall. In the attached maps, you will see the county divided into a proposed set of five regional "clusters," which are defined by interactivity among CSO and SSO problems and potential solutions. Each

cluster could potentially be the site of a public meeting. Please take a look at the maps, read the cluster descriptions below, and then consider the discussion questions in Section IV. We do not expect you to answer the questions for all five clusters; rather, we ask that you focus on one to two clusters with which you are most familiar. Also, we don't need you to write your answers down in advance – we just ask that you are prepared to share your ideas at the meeting.

III. Cluster Descriptions

Cluster A – Ohio River Combined Sewer Area

This highly urbanized area includes the downtown central business district, highly industrial areas such as Rubbertown, and the residential areas in the central and west end of the city. Despite the land use diversity, this area is uniformly characterized by large sewers leading to Ohio River CSOs, with localized SSOs in some neighborhoods.

CSO solutions in this area will likely include:

- Large scale regional storage or treatment facilities near the river;
- Regional storage and treatment; and
- System-wide source control measures (which will apply to this entire area).

SSO solutions in this area will likely include:

- Source control and
- Relief sewers, with little opportunity for surface storage due to the lack of suitable sites.

The previous public meeting in this area was held at the Nia Center.

Cluster B - Beargrass Creek Combined Sewer Area

This area encompasses all three branches of Beargrass Creek, including some of the tributary separate sewer area. This area has a large number of relatively small CSOs, and a scattering of localized SSO and other unauthorized discharges. The Middle Fork is the backbone of an extensive system of parks and open space. The other forks and the I-64 corridor provide additional open space opportunities.

In addition to county-wide source control measures, the small CSO basins in this area lend themselves to more focused source control initiatives, including a wide variety of green infrastructure opportunities. As such, CSO solutions in this area will likely include:

- County-wide source control measures and
- The full range of storage, conveyance, treatment, and green infrastructure solutions.

The previous public meeting in this area was held at the Girl Scouts headquarters.

Cluster C – East End

This area is separately sewered, but part of the area drains through the combined sewer area. The rest of the area goes to regional or small treatment plants. This area has a relatively low housing density with significant undeveloped land in the east and south sides. Development pressures in this area are significant and need to be considered as part of planning.

SSOs are scattered across this area, often related to the poor condition of developer-constructed systems that MSD acquired as part of regionalization. SSO solutions in this area will likely include:

- A broad range of storage, conveyance, source control, and treatment solutions;
- Disconnection of illicit connections; and
- Private property rehabilitation.

The previous public meeting in this area was held at the Southeast Government Center in Middletown.

Cluster D – Southeast

In many respects, this region is similar to Cluster C, with the exception of the Jeffersontown (JTown) service area. The JTown service area is currently under a building moratorium dictated by KDOW.

Solutions to the JTown problems may include:

- A broad range of storage options;
- Disconnection of illicit connections;
- Private property rehabilitation;
- Extensive rehabilitation or reconstruction (and relocation) of sewers;
- In-line or surface storage of wet weather flows; and
- Inter-basin transfers of load.

Elimination of the JTown treatment plant has also been discussed, potentially in conjunction with a new discharge location on the Salt River.

The previous public meeting in this area was held at the Central Government Center (7201 Outer Loop).

Cluster E – Southwest

This area is low-lying with shallow groundwater, resulting in high wet weather flows in areas with older sewers. The area drains to the West County Wastewater Treatment Plant through two very large interceptors. SSOs in this area are mainly due to limitations in the local collector sewers, since the plant and interceptors are currently operating well below capacity despite the high wet weather peaks.

Solutions in this area will likely include:

- Receiving inter-basin transfers of flow from other watersheds, requiring the addition of major diversion sewers, storage, and wet weather treatment expansion at the West County plant;
- Localized storage, conveyance, and source control projects;
- Disconnection of illicit connections; and
- Private property rehabilitation.

The previous public meeting in this area was held at the Southwest Government Center on Dixie Highway.

IV. Questions to Consider for the September 20, 2007 Wet Weather Team Meeting

A. Questions for Each of the Five Proposed Clusters

1. Do you think this is a logical way to form a cluster? If not, what suggestions do you have for making it more logical?
2. Where in this cluster should MSD hold the meeting?
 - a. For Cluster A (Ohio River Combined Sewer Area), is a single meeting adequate, or do we need more than one meeting to address the different conditions in the central business district and the rest of the area?
3. What ideas do you have on how to get people to attend this meeting?
4. How would you divide this cluster into approximately five smaller geographic areas on which to collect specific feedback (e.g., are there logical neighborhood groupings)?
5. Do you think the dialog we would get at this level (i.e., of the five or so smaller areas) would be useful?

B. Overarching Questions on the Public Meetings

1. What general ideas do you have for getting people to attend the public meetings?
2. What, if any, changes would you suggest to the proposed format and structure of these public meetings (i.e., an overview presentation, followed by an opportunity for residents to provide feedback at tables organized by geographic area)?
3. Do you have other comments or recommendations for these public meetings?