



UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

MEETING MINUTES

Pinellas County Stormwater/Wastewater Task Force
Working Group Meeting #1
October 20, 2016

Location: Pinellas County Extension, Magnolia Room; 12520 Ulmerton Rd, Largo, FL 33774

1. Attendees:

Rahim Harji, Pinellas County
Marty Reich, City of Pinellas Park
Will Herbert, City of Pinellas Park
Nan Bennett, City of Oldsmar
Irvin Kety, City of Largo
David Porter, City of Clearwater
Shawn Shimko, City of South Pasadena
Don Sopak, City of Gulfport
Stacy Boyles, City of Treasure Island
Bill Breckinridge, Pinellas County
Randi Kim, Pinellas County
Jorge Quintas, City of Dunedin
Paul Smith, City of Tarpon Springs
Nancy Ianotti, Pinellas County

2. Introductions

- a. Member introductions
- b. Reviewed goals of the Task Force
- c. Reviewed introductory comments by members of the Task Force at the October 17, 2016 kickoff meeting
- d. Discussion of how each utility was impacted by TS Hermine. Rainfalls varied across the County from 11 inches to 22 inches over two days. Areas with lower rainfalls did not experience overflows.
- e. Discussion of ongoing programs to avoid and/or mitigate sanitary sewer overflows, reduce inflow and infiltration, and maintain infrastructure including:
 - i. Inflow and infiltration studies
 - ii. TV inspection of gravity sewer lines
 - iii. Smoke testing to identify stormwater connections to sanitary sewer

- iv. Lining gravity sewer lines
 - v. Rehabilitating lift stations
 - vi. Inspecting laterals and cleanouts and notifying private property owners
 - vii. Utilizing pumper and tanker trucks to respond to spills
 - f. Discussed challenges including:
 - i. Balancing need to reduce inflow and infiltration versus expanding capacity of wastewater treatment plants
 - ii. Defining level of service
3. Organizational Items
- a. Future meetings
 - i. Weekly on Fridays from 11:00 am – 1:30 pm.
 - ii. Due to its central location, it was proposed to meet at the Pinellas County Utilities' South Maintenance Building at 6730 142nd Avenue N. in Largo. The group may decide to alternate locations for subsequent meetings.
 - iii. Focus each subsequent meeting on a specific topic(s)
 - iv. Topics for next meeting (each member to come prepared to share information):
 - 1. Existing Wastewater Treatment Capacities (Permitted, Average, Peak Storm)
 - 2. Current Status of CIP Funding
 - 3. Existing Inflow & Infiltration Studies and Rehabilitation Programs
 - v. Invite stormwater management staff to subsequent meetings
 - b. Communications
 - i. Task Force Steering Committee meetings will be open to the public, Technical Working Group meetings are not considered public meetings under the Sunshine Law.
 - ii. Pinellas County offered to establish a website to share information
 - iii. The working group would like to establish an electronic method of sharing information but all members do not have access to Sharepoint.
 - iv. It would be helpful to have Public Information Officers attend the meetings to assist with communications with Steering Committee, elected officials, general public.
 - v. Will need report and presentation format for Initial Action Plan
 - c. Tools
 - i. GIS will be a good tool
4. Initial Action Plan Timeline
- a. Define Issues – NLT Thurs, 17 Nov
 - b. Develop Solutions/Improvement Opportunities – NLT Thurs, 15 Dec
 - i. Immediate & Short-Term Steps
 - ii. Long-Term (>90 days to complete)
 - c. Review/Finalize Plan – NLT Thurs, 12 Jan
 - d. Present Plan to Steering Committee – NLT Thurs, 26 Jan
5. Initial Action Plan
- a. Should include a list of proposed initiatives, both short-term and long-term
 - b. List of initial discussion topics was reviewed and amended (Attachment A).
 - c. Regarding consolidation (Topic #9), the group agreed to discuss but recognized that it may not be technically practical or feasible and that Cities are not interested in pursuing.

- d. Needs to be consensus-based report
- e. BP funding approved by Pinellas County Commission for initiatives

Attachment A
Initial Discussion Topics (Revised 10/20/16)

1. Inflow and Infiltration Studies
 - o What studies have been completed by each Utility to date?
 - o What additional studies are being planned by each Utility?
 - o How could we approach a countywide I&I study to provide useful information that can be shared amongst Task Force members to make better decisions?
2. Wastewater treatment capacities
 - o What are current capacities of each wastewater treatment plants (permitted, average, peak)?
 - o What capacity upgrades are planned?
3. Sanitary sewer system issues
 - o Lining and replacement programs
 - o Addressing any “bottlenecks”
 - o Forcemain condition assessments
4. Stormwater issues impacting sanitary sewer system
 - o Illicit connections
 - o Flooding and drainage area “hot spots”
 - o Stormwater master plans
5. Private property issues
 - o Programs to address private laterals, cleanouts
 - o Private sewer systems
6. Cooperative Procurement Agreements – would members benefit from cooperative agreements for services?
 - o Pipe lining
 - o Emergency pumper trucks
 - o Warehouse inventory management system
7. Policies, ordinances or enabling legislation needed
8. Funding issues
 - o Are current rate structures adequate?
 - o State funding?
 - o Grants?
9. Consolidated wastewater/stormwater utility analogous to Tampa Bay Water
 - o Interconnectivity
10. Level of Service (LOS) Expectations

11. Sharing Resources

- Equipment
- Spare Parts
- Staff

12. Communications / Education

13. GIS Tools and data sharing

14. Sea Level Rise

- Groundwater/Stormwater models

15. Current Status

- CIP Budgets
- Existing Networks

16. Emergency Response

- FL Warn