

## **ODOR CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD**

Foundation for the Junior Blind

5300 Angeles Vista Blvd.

January 13, 2003

### **MEETING #6 MINUTES**

Attendees: See attached attendance list

Meeting Minutes Recorded by: Brent Lorscheider, City of Los Angeles,  
Bureau of Sanitation, Wastewater Engineering  
Services Division

Handouts: various speakers explained the following handouts:

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Minutes of December 16, 2002 meeting.
3. Summary of Progress: Independent Review of Odor Control Program for December 2002 review period.

#### **Introductory Issues**

Ted Lumpkin chaired the meeting.

#### **Agenda Approval**

Agenda Approved

#### **Review and Approve Minutes from Dec 16, 2002 mtg**

Minutes of December 16, 2002 meeting were adopted with corrections from Sam regarding complaint follow-up, i.e., request for City to provide information on follow-up activities on all complaints received to date.

#### **Review of Goals from prior meeting, No. 5**

Lin Min reviewed the CMO language and after various discussion following goals adopted:

1. Review effectiveness of Hotline Outreach Methods
2. Propose additional Hotline Outreach/promotion efforts, i.e. community mtgs, PSAs, billboards –see next item.
3. Review City's draft response to odor complaints

#### **How to Accomplish Goals**

Goal No 2: The following ideas were discussed to promote awareness of odor hotline:

Conduct Public Mtgs in CD 8, 9, 10

Billboards

Press releases

Public Service Announcements (PSAs)

Council hosted mtgs

Survey Outreach Methods  
 Brief council staff after elections  
 Email DONE members  
 Provide briefings at future community and homeowner associations meetings  
 Chamber of Commerce

These ideas were then prioritized as follows:

1. Brief council staff after elections

CD 9	April 2003
CD 8	June 2003
CD 10	Sep 2003

2. Survey Outreach Methods when customers call the Hotline/Website
3. Provide briefings at future community and homeowner associations meetings
4. PSA
5. Email to DONE members
6. Chamber of Commerce
7. Billboards

Brent indicated he would be able to start work on the top couple of suggestions and will report progress at the next meeting

**Independent Review of Odor Program by Robert Bowker:** Robert summarized the documents reviewed to date (see attachment) and the declarations he has reviewed to date. Many declarations reference to odors in the area of LaCienga and Rodeo although other areas do exist and might need investigation. He has reviewed the sewer maps, monthly reports from Sanitation, and odor complaint maps. Brent will provide updated maps. He has met with the individuals listed on his attached report and plans to meet with Orange County San District on Jan. 14. He has inspected maintenance holes along the NOS but hasn't inspected other adjacent lines and interceptors. A complete summary of his activities is attached.

**Discussion of Milton's handout at Mtg No. 5**

Milton stated he has made numerous complaints about sewer odors at West Los Angeles College where the NORS line crosses the 405. Brent replied that one of the planned sites for the Air Treatment Facilities (ATFs) is on the NORS upstream of this location and was selected to address odors from the NORS in this area.

Milton asked why there are odors in the downstream portion of the NOS and not in the Valley and why the NOS was not rehabbed before now in segments. Brent stated that the NOS is difficult to work on because it often runs near capacity; ECIS is intended to relieve the flow in the NOS which will allow the City to work on NOS and that there are long term plans to rehab the line. Robert pointed out that the main problem with the NOS is not the condition but the flow level, which eliminates the headspace to convey sewage gases. Milton stated that since ECIS is such a deep sewer that sewage from the various interceptors that will connect to ECIS will drop great lengths creating sewage gas. Brent said that ECIS needed to be located deep enough to miss other underground utilities,

among other reasons, which is why the ATF's are part of the design to place the system on a vacuum and treat the sewer gas before it is vented to the atmosphere. Fan test are planned in the next couple of months to simulate the zone of influence that the ATFs will have. Concern was expressed that the fan test may not necessarily accurately simulate the ECIS conditions. Brent disagreed, stating that the City will proceed with the test because it will provide valuable information on the influence of ATF's on adjacent interceptors connecting to ECIS.

**Open Discussion**

The main topic of discussion aside from the other topics already covered in other sections of these minutes was the issue of odor complaint follow-up and Robert's role in follow-up of odor complaints. Several members, including Milton Bassett, Deborah Harris, and Patrick McCullough said they had not heard back from City officials after making complaints. Other questions were asked as to what protocol was followed and what response efforts are made when complaints are received. The Board requested a report on these activities at the next meeting. Brent said Wastewater Collection System Division is responsible for receiving and responding to complaints and would arrange for a representative to make a report at the next meeting.

Brent passed out a draft report of the complaints in CD 8, 9 and 10 with follow-up activities/comments. It was noted that many entries are still blank and Brent indicated that the draft report was a work in progress. A question was asked about the codes used in the odor complaint summary to describe system and Brent said he would provide a key to the codes as part of the minutes.

Robert indicated he would like to talk to some of the residents that have made complaints to learn first hand of their experience. The group discussed various ways to select individuals to interview and suggested identifying those that have made more frequent complaints as a starting point. Carol made an alternative suggestion to conduct meetings for each CD and invite individuals that have made complaints to attend a focus group session. The three suggested locations are:

- Baldwin Hills
- Washington Irving Center at Washing and Bronson
- John Muir at 62<sup>nd</sup> and Vermont.

**Questions, Answers and Action Items:** The following are some of the questions or issues, and the answers or comments, as well as action items that I was able to capture.

	QUESTIONS/ISSUES	RESPONSES/COMMENTS	ACTION ITEMS
1.	Survey method of outreach for Hotline	Agreed	City will revise Hotline response procedures accordingly
2.	Provide briefings at future Community/Homeowner mtgs	Agree	City will arrange for briefings
3.	Public Service Announcements	Agree.	The City will look into the

	should be included in the public outreach effort		ability and appropriateness of Public Service Announcements
4.	Update mapping of all odor complaints	Agree	Will be done by next meeting
5.	Provide Key to Odor Complaint Summary	Agree	Will include in minutes
6.	Arrange for report on Odor Complaint Response and Follow-up efforts	Agree	Will have a representative from WCSD provide a report at the next meeting and will provide revised report of the complaints.
7.	Odor Expert interviews with residents having odor complaints	Need to decide on approach.	Will request direction from Robert on how to proceed.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Odor Control Advisory Board will be held at the Village Green, 5300 Rodeo Road, on February 10, 2003. The City will send out minutes and other meeting materials prior to the next meeting date and will confirm the next meeting location. (The City was informed after the meeting that Foundation for the Junior Blind will not be available on February 10. The City had reserved Village Green for meeting location). It was decided by members that Patrick McCulloch will chair the next meeting

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at about 9:00 pm.

## DESCRIPTION OF SEWER SYSTEM CODES

<b>Sewer System</b>	<b>Description</b>
BASS	Baldwin Hills Area Sewer System
BHASS	Boyle Heights Area Sewer System
CBD	Central Business District
COS	Central Outfall Sewer
ELAIS	East Los Angeles Interceptor Sewer
HAS	Hollywood Area Sewer
HMS	Hollywood Main Sewer
HPES	Highland Park/Eaglerock Sewer
LCIS	La Cienega Interceptor Sewer
LRIS	Lake & Rampart Interceptor Sewer
MAZE	Area of Many Sewers Junctions and Interconnections
NCOSNOS	North Central Outfall Sewer/North Outfall Sewer - upstream
NHASS	North Hollywood Area Sewer System
NOS	North Outfall Sewer
OLDNOS	Old North Outfall Sewer
SCAIS	South Central Area Interceptor Sewer
SPAPS	San Pedro Area Primary Sewer
WASS	Wilshire Area Sewer System
WLAAIS	West Los Angeles Area Interceptor Sewer
WLAIS	West Los Angeles Interceptor Sewer