

## **ODOR CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD**

Foundation for the Junior Blind

5300 Angeles Vista Blvd

March 10, 2003

### **MEETING #8 MINUTES**

Attendees: See attached attendance list

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

Handouts:

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Minutes of February 10, 2003 meeting
3. Monthly Report No. 5 - Independent Review of Odor Control Program at the City of Los Angeles, Bowker & Associates, Inc.
4. Material Safety Data Sheet Ferrous Chloride Solution
5. Maze Area Odor Complaints 1997 – 2002
6. City of Los Angeles Chemical Addition for Odor Control
7. Map of Odor Hotline Outreach Area

#### **Introductory Issues**

Sam Hart chaired the meeting.

#### **Agenda Approval**

Agenda Approved

#### **Review and Approve Minutes from February 10 Meeting**

Before the minutes were approved, Milton Basset asked with regard to item #10 whether sewer gases upstream of a trap maintenance hole could escape through a house vent. In response, Brent indicated that gasses that accumulate upstream of a trap maintenance hole should be released through a house vent as that is the general purpose of the house vent. Sam Hart indicated that item #16 should be changed to include “the area of La Cienega and Rodeo” specifically. Following this brief discussion, the Board members approved the minutes.

#### **PSAs Announcement Status**

Brent reported that the PAO is reviewing the PSAs and that, by the next meeting, the review should be completed and the PSAs distributed to the news media/press organizations.

### **Odor Control Fan Testing Schedule**

The Odor Control Fan testing schedule is not yet finalized but is in the works. The Odor Control Fan will be tested at the site of one of the planned odor control facilities. The testing will be monitored at certain locations to evaluate the extent of impact during actual operation. The Fan testing will continue for several days and may include a tour to be facilitated by the Bureau of Engineering Project Managers for the East Central Interceptor Sewer (ECIS) project. According to Brent, pressure gauges will be installed to measure the zone of influence. Brent indicated that this will not be a test of the biotrickling filter, but a test of the force with which the Odor Control Fan will extract air from the sewer system.

### **Resident Interviews**

Sam Hart stated that his understanding of the purpose of the resident interviews is outreach to the community, assessment of the extent of the odor condition in the community and to solicit resident/community support for what is being done to solve the odor problem. Carol Tucker, on the other hand, understood that the purpose of the interviews is so that Mr. Bowker would gain insight into the Community members' concerns. John Saito suggested that the Board members attend the interviews in order to evaluate the content of the interview and ensure the interview is focused on understanding the problem. John felt that the interview group and the interview process should not be used as a means of outreaching to the community at this time. Other members agreed that the interview group role should not include being used for community outreach at this time.

### **Other Issues**

Ted Lumpkin inquired about caustic addition. Brent discussed a caustic addition handout prepared by the City and distributed at a prior meeting. Ted inquired about the Maze. Brent explained that the Maze is a segment of major sewers where the sewers are divided into two separate alignments and are later joined to form one segment again.

Carol Tucker stated that she is at the point of submitting her resignation from the Board because she does not fully understand the reports and materials provided. Carol also said that she feels she is not contributing enough to the Board and with the visit of Calvin Hall of last week warning them to be aware, Carol feels it is time to quit. Board members encouraged Carol to stay on because she is contributing many excellent ideas.

In response to other questions, Brent gave a general overview of the City's chemical (Ferric Chloride) injection program. The Board also discussed the fact that Mr. Bowker's interim report should be available by the next meeting. Ted requested a write up of what the Board is doing for his organization's newsletter. Milton noted his reservations about the biotrickling filter without proof that it has worked elsewhere in a wastewater collection system. Ted replied that it seems the chances of it working in the City's wastewater collection system is good because it seems to have worked at Hyperion. Lin Min asked why the City chose the biotrickling filter instead of the activated carbon. Brent explained that the biological process is just as good and is much less expensive.

**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

	<b>QUESTIONS/ISSUES</b>	<b>RESPONSES/ COMMENTS</b>	<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>
1	Sam – The Board should be given the opportunity to witness the actual biotrickling facility once designed and built.	Brent – There will be many opportunities for the Board to visit the odor facilities in the future.	None
2	Milton – Where has this type of fan technology worked?	Brent – The system is widely and effectively used at the treatment plants and is beginning to be used in collection systems.	None
3	Milton – The fan technology may work at the plant, but may not work in the collection system.	Brent – The gas is the same at the treatment plant and the collection system. Accordingly, the odor control facility is expected to work in the collection system as it has worked at the treatment plant.	None
4	Anabella – What happens if the Odor Control Facilities do not work?	Brent – The City is confident that the Odor Control Facilities will be successful.	
5	Sam – We had expected the Odor consultant to be here at this meeting.	Brent – Mr. Bowker had expected to complete the interim report by March 1, but is two weeks behind.	Mr. Bowker issued interim report on March 14.
6	Lin Min – Mr. Bowker is expecting the Board members to help him identify people, in groups of 4 or 5, to interview on May 8 or 9. The interview would be held in the morning and the evening of May 8 or 9. Lin Min encouraged Board members to contact her with names of possible residents for the interviews.	The Board members suggested that Opal Young and Calvin Hall be among those interviewed.	The City to confirm resident interview date(s).  Brent suggested that the City would identify 14 – 20 hotline callers to supplement the list of residents that will be identified by the Board members as potential

			<p>interviewees. Brent and Lin Min agreed to have all the names identified and agreed to in a week or two.</p> <p>Board members to suggest names of possible interviewees and communicate those names to Lin Min and/or Brent.</p>
7	Venue for Resident interview	The Board decided to conduct the interviews at the Village Green facility and at the DWP facility at Crenshaw and MLK. The new 8 <sup>th</sup> Council District office in the area was identified as a back-up location. The third possible location identified by the Board is the First AME Fame building in the West Adams Area.	The City to confirm resident interview location.
8	Ted - Orange County monitors odor in their system at 12 locations; does the City of Los Angeles have similar program?	Brent – I believe the City monitors its system but I am not sure how many locations.	Will discuss at next meeting.
9	Lin Min – Why aren't there more chemical injection points?	Brent – Will present this question to Vlad Lorenzo.	Will discuss at next meeting.
10	Sam recommended that the Board, after reviewing Mr. Bowker's report, prepare and submit a report of their recommendations to the Bureau of Sanitation.	John - The court order does not require a report from the Board but it seems to be a good idea.	
11	Ted – Who will put together the report?	Sam – Maybe the City can help the Board put together the Board's recommendations.	

**Next Meeting:**

Continue the discussion of developing plan/schedule for Advisory Board Report at the next meeting. Also, Milton would like his list of issues to be part of the next meeting's agenda. Carol was nominated to chair the next meeting and John will be her alternate.

**Meeting Adjournment:** The meeting ended at about 9:00 pm.