

**ODOR CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD**

Bahai Center  
5750 Rodeo Road  
March 14, 2005

**MEETING #25 MINUTES**

**Attendees:**

ADVISORY BOARD MEMEBERS	CITY OF LOS ANGELES REPRESENTATIVES
Ms. Carol Tucker	Mrs. Debbie Pham, WESD, BOS
Mr. Sam Hart	Mr. Vlad Lorenzo, WCSD, BOS
Mr. Ted Lumpkin	Mr. Ahmad Ghanem, WESD, BOS
Mr. Milton Bassett	
Mr. John Saito	

Meeting Minutes Recorded by: Ahmad Ghanem, City of Los Angeles

Chairperson: Ms. Carol Tucker

**Handouts:**

- 1- Revised Odor Report Schedule for Odor Advisory Board Role in SA
- 2- Revised ATF location map
- 3- 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. FY 04/05 Odor Complaint Summary
- 4- Map of Odor Complaints- Cause
- 5- Map of Odor Complaints- Months
- 6- Draft Implementation Plan for the Recommendations from Independent Review of the Sewer Odor Control Program
- 7- Draft Sewer Odor Hotline Publicity Outreach Plan
- 8- Venice/Westchester Area Pressure Test Result, Odor Master Plan
- 9- Harbor Area Pressure Test Result, Odor Master Plan

**Introductory Issues:**

The meeting agenda was approved.  
The previous meeting minutes were approved.  
Debbie Pham provided handout # 1 & 2 as follow-up actions for last meeting.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr FY40/05 Odor Complaint Report and Summary**

Vlad Lorenzo went over handouts No. 3 through 5 detailing the number and types of complaints recorded for that period. The maps submitted show the distribution of these complaints throughout the City. He concluded that the sewer odor related complaints were down significantly due to completion of ECIS and the weather this winter. This report is part of the Settlement Agreement paragraph no. 40.

**Implementation Plan for the Recommendations from Independent Review of the Sewer Odor Control Program.**

This document is prepared in compliance with the Settlement Agreement paragraph no.56. Debbie Pham went over each of the 16 recommendations included in the Independent Review Report. These recommendations were discussed at length and the Odor Board’s comments/suggestions will be incorporated into the Final Report.

**Sewer Odor Hotline Publicity Outreach Plan and Community Feedback**

This document is developed in compliance with the Settlement Agreement paragraph nos. 34 and 35. Debbie Pham went over each element of the Outreach Plan and stated that the Odor Board input/comments stated in the meeting minutes over the last two years were reviewed and incorporated into this Outreach Plan. Debbie also requested input/comments from the Odor Board member on the development for Community Feedback Plan.

**Questions, Answers and Action Items:**

	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Questions/Comments</b>	<b>Responses/Action Items</b>
1	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr FY 04/05 Odor complaints report and summary	<p>Sam Hart: What is meant by non-city related issues?</p> <p>Sam suggested adding an asterisk to differentiate.</p> <p>Ted Lumpkin: What type of complaints you receive and do you respond to every complaint?</p> <p>John Saito: Do you think 11% Hotline complaints is effective and what % is sewer or non-sewer related?</p>	<p>Non-city related issues are referred to complaints that had been investigated and turned out not sewer related. The City crew cleans the sewer as a normal practice.</p> <p>Comment is noted.</p> <p>The complaints are categorized as Hotline and Non-Hotline related. Hotline complaints are received via E-mail, dialing 3-1-1, and toll free number 1-866-44SEWER. Non-Hotline is anything outside of that such as council office, or a call to the maintenance yard. Regardless of the sources, the City responds to all complaints.</p> <p>Prior to ECIS construction, the number of Hotline complaints were higher, however after ECIS that number significantly dropped. Stakeholders call odor Hotline when they detect any kind of odors, whether it is sewer odor or not.</p>

	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Questions/Comments</b>	<b>Responses/Action Items</b>
		<p>Carol Tucker: Is this a small budget item? Is it a recording?</p> <p>Sam: When calls require action, do you then follow-up?</p> <p>Ted: Are the complaints dropping?</p> <p>Ted: Is this report an on-going activity?</p> <p>Ted: Is it safe to say that ECIS helped?</p>	<p>Hotline is handled on a 24-hour basis by city staff.</p> <p>If it is a hotline issue, we follow-up with the customer.</p> <p>The submitted report is typical, however because of ECIS completion; the number of complaints is dropping especially in districts 8, 9, and 10. The weather condition is also a factor.</p> <p>Yes, and it is a part of the Settlement Agreement. It is also up to the Advisory Board discretion. The next report is due in April 2005 covering the Jan/Feb/March reporting period. The annual report is due in October 2005.</p> <p>Yes.</p>
2	Responses to Recomm.	<p>Sam: It seems to me that this is not an implementation plan, rather a report of a plan that either being completed or being implemented.</p> <p>It was suggested by the Sam and several board members that the title be changed to "Responses to the Independent .. Recommendations"</p> <p>Ted: In response to recommendation # 11, why doesn't the City contact the LA County Sanitation District and Orange County Sanitation District?</p>	<p>Yes. Before the Settlement Agreement went into effect, the City already implemented many recommendations.</p> <p>The City will change the title.</p> <p>Previously, there was formal meeting between the City, LA County San District and Orange County San District to discuss and share the information on odor control effort. Though the formal meeting was discontinued, the City staff is still in contact with the LA and Orange County Sanitation Districts on a regular basis.</p>

Issues	Questions/Comments	Responses/Action Items
	<p>Ted suggested the City revise the report by moving the last sentence to the first paragraph to clearly state the City response.</p> <p>Item #12: Since the recommendation is using “flow 75 percent full”, the response should refer to the standard as “flow 50 percent full” instead of “d/D = 0.50”</p> <p>Item # 13: Milton expressed his concern about the undersized air jumpers for the NORS section under the 405 freeway. Milton stated that it was obvious that several 18” air jumpers won’t be enough to convey air for the 150-inch siphon.</p> <p>Milton also expressed his concern regarding the delay in the ATF construction. Milton quoted a schedule prepared in 2002 by the City showed the NORS ATF completion in 2005 and compared to the revised ATF schedule showed the completion in 2008.</p> <p>Milton would like to know in detail what were the causes of the “3-year delay” in the NORS ATF construction. The Board suggested the City set up a side meeting with Milton to address this issue.</p> <p>The Board expresses their concern on making sure of the design adequacy. The Board requested a paragraph add to the report to note their concern.</p>	<p>The City will revise the report.</p> <p>The City will revise the report.</p> <p>Debbie stated that based on the City’s design criteria, the air jumper was undersized for the 150-inch siphon. To address this issue, the City is in process of constructing 7 ATFs, one of them will be at the NORS junction to extract and treat the foul air.</p> <p>Debbie explained that the delay in ECIS construction completion due to unforeseen condition would lead to the delay of the ECIS ATF construction. To address the odor, the City did install the interim scrubbers in place during the time the permanent ATFs are under construction.</p> <p>The City will contact Mr. Bassett to discuss this issue in detail.</p> <p>The following paragraph was added to the Report under Item #13:  “After reviewing and discussing the siphon airline issue, the Odor Advisory Board requested to add a note to this report that the adequacy of airline jumper design is a very important issue to the Board. The Board would like the City to make sure that the siphon airline jumper design should be reviewed carefully to ensure the capacity adequacy.”</p>

	Issues	Questions/Comments	Responses/Action Items
		Item # 15: The Board asked if a full-time position was assigned to be responsible for the odor control effort and who that person is.	Debbie Pham was assigned to work full-time and to lead the Odor Control Section in Bureau of Sanitation in the preparation of the Odor Master Plan. Bureau of Engineering also has an ATF Odor Design/Construction group which is responsible for the design and construction of the ATFs/scrubbers.
3	Sewer Odor Hotline Outreach Plan and Community Feedback	<p>Carol Tucker: Is there a designated staff that does the outreach on a full time basis?</p> <p>Carol also stated that in her opinion, having one full-time staff dedicated to the development and improvement for each project is not an effective approach.</p> <p>The Board confirmed that the summary in the outreach plan captured and reflected the board's discussion during the last two years.</p> <p>Carol expressed her concern on the level of effort the City has to make in the Community Feedback Plan especially in attending many Neighborhood Council meetings.</p> <p>Ted responded that the effort would be manageable since we only focus on the hotspot area, not citywide.</p>	No, the City has the Public Affairs Office that is responsible to provide overall support for public outreach effort. However, the main work will be handled by City staff who is working daily on the project since that person would know more and it would be more effective.
4	General	The results of the pressure and H2S tests for the Harbor and Venice/Westchester areas were distributed.	

**Future Agenda:**

H2S Removal

Odor Hotline Report

Written procedures for Odor Control Measures Chemical Addition

Odor Master Plan

The next meeting will be on May 9, 2005 chaired by Mrs. Carol Tucker.