

One Water Los Angeles
Decentralized / Onsite Treatment Special Topic Group – Meeting #3
Tuesday, June 14th, 2016 1:30PM-3:30PM
2714 Media Center Drive, Los Angeles, 90065 (Training Room)

"This summary reflects the opinions of stakeholders and may not necessarily be those of the City of Los Angeles."

Meeting Summary

The purpose of this summary is to provide an overview of the discussion topics, including ideas, solutions and issues. It is not intended as a transcript or as minutes.

Meeting Attendees

Participants

Craig Kessler	Southern California Golf Association
Ruth Doxsee	Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
Nurit Katz	UCLA
Dr. Tom Williams	Citizen Coalition for Safe Communities
Margot Jacobs	Mia Lehrer + Associates

Meeting Team

Facilitator	Hampik Dekermenjian	CDM Smith
Technical Lead	Robin Nezhad	CDM Smith
One Water LA Team	Lenise Marrero	LASAN
One Water LA Team	Denise Chow	LASAN
One Water LA Team	Flor Burrola	LASAN
One Water LA Team	Mario Acevedo	LADWP
Note Taker	Leneyde Chavez	Carollo

Introductions and Agenda Overview

Introduction of LASAN and LADWP staff, consultant staff, and lead team took place. Participants also introduced themselves to the group. The last two meeting were summarized.

On-Site Treatment Guiding Principles Summary

- Guiding principles are preferable to an overly prescriptive policy
 - The City should be aware of new systems that are available online. A draft application process has been developed to review applications on a case-by-case basis:
 - Existing customers should not bear the cost or subsidize On-Site Treatment Facilities (OSTF)
 - Wastewater should not be removed from existing sewers if it impairs the operation of LASAN's system, impairs the recycled water program, or was not generated by the entity who wished to remove said wastewater.

- The City should not be responsible for operations and maintenance of privately owned OSTFs.
- Owners/Operators will be required to indemnify the City.
- Applicants will be subject to a fee to pay for the back-up system provided by LASAN.
- Draft Guiding Principles:
 - Where purple pipe will never reach should be considered and captured as one guiding principle.
 - Protection of public health shall be first and foremost. OSTFs will be required to develop a failure plan that demonstrates that 100 percent of the flows can be disposed in the event of a system failure.
 - OSTFs that are implemented should be solutions that are for the greater good of all City customers.
 - Education and outreach are needed for OSTFs. New OSTFs should communicate with neighbors and provide information regarding potential uses of water treated onsite; which may include irrigation, groundwater recharge, and industrial applications.
 - An entity should have an operations and maintenance plan. The design, operation, and maintenance are performed by qualified individuals, and monitored by the City.
 - City will evaluate impacts of proposed OSTFs and will specify requirements. LASAN may limit materials that can be returned to the existing sewer, or may assess additional fees.
- Potential additions and modifications to the Draft Guiding Principles
 - The city may consider strategic locations for on-site treatment where recycled water is not available.
 - Remove the term “Groundwater recharge” from the guiding principles since the aquifer water belongs to the City (in San Fernando basin) and private parties that would own an OSTF would not likely intend to do groundwater recharge. Since water coming from decentralized use is privately owned, when the water becomes part of the aquifer, issues related to water quality become potential liabilities for the City. Special cases may occur where an OSTF owner may intend to recharge the groundwater but, those special cases would be considered a groundwater recharge project and would have to comply with permitting and regulation requirements at the local or state level.
 - Need a guiding principle that addresses groundwater basin impact. Address the question of liabilities for onsite facility that perform groundwater recharge and impacts of groundwater recharge. Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) projects are unique and need to be considered. Legal issues regarding water disposal, water quality, and the purchase of water touch upon onsite treatment and off-site disposal.
 - A revision of this guiding principle needs to be made and circulated to the special topic group through email.
 - Draft Guiding Principles are tailored to private entities.
 - Uses of onsite treatment water is an important point to include.

Graywater Status Update

- The City does not plan to incentivize the use of graywater systems at this current time.
- Data gap exist to quantify the amount of water conserved by implementation of graywater systems.
- Graywater will be considered as part of the City's water supply and recycled water strategy. The goal is to look at solutions that are for the greater good.
 - Should better define the term "greater good" and intent of the 3rd bullet. As more data is collected, a revised policy should become available. New greywater systems will be considered as part of the overall City's water supply without prohibition or incentives, and as long as there is no conflict with what is the greater good of the City's water supply portfolio. The greater good is a moving target dependent on the development of new data. It should be mentioned that the open language incentivizes the City to look for solutions.
- The current policies do not prohibit graywater and/or the use of graywater systems.
- Suggest Sanitation and Building & Safety brand "pink pipe" for graywater.

Next Steps

- Stakeholder workshop assignment:
 - The Decentralized/Onsite Treatment STG will be reporting at the stakeholder workshop on June 29, 2016. Tasks include selecting a representative to present to the larger stakeholder group on the outcome of the special topic group.
 - Dr. Williams volunteered to cover one topic and Mr. Kessler volunteered to cover the second topic upon confirming his availability.
 - The guiding principles will be modified and circulated by email for a final review by next week.
 - Reminders:
 - There will a fill station at the LA Zoo. The limit is 300 gallons, and class attendance is required.
 - There is a Public Meeting for the Groundwater Replenishment Project at the Sepulveda Garden Center on 6/14.