

Wastewater Large Users Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday APRIL 17, 2024 – 1:30 P.M.
Island City Preserve Park, 823 NE 28 Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Voting Members Present:

Talal Abi-Karam, City of Fort Lauderdale / Assistant Public Works Director
David Archacki, City of Wilton Manors / Public Works Director
Albert Carbon, City of Oakland Park / Public Works Director
Rhonda Montoya Hasan, City of Fort Lauderdale / Assistant City Attorney III
Miguel Arroyo, Water and Wastewater Treatment Manager

Roll Call:

Chris Lips, City of Oakland Park / Assistant Public Works Director
Fernando Martinez, City of Oakland Park / Public Works Manager
Leigh Ann Henderson, City of Wilton Manors / City Manager
Roberta Moore, City of Wilton Manors / Community Development Director
Nancy Mueller, City of Wilton Manors / Finance Director
Bert Fisher, City of Wilton Manors / Assistant Director, Utilities
Paul Rolli, City of Wilton Manors / City Commission
Jeremy Robinson, City of Tamarac / Wastewater Supervisor
Justin Murray, City of Fort Lauderdale / Wastewater Facilities Manager
Chris Woolweaver, City of Fort Lauderdale / Distribution & Collection Systems Supervisor
Daniel Rey, City of Fort Lauderdale / Land Development Manager, DSD
Roberto Betancourt, City of Fort Lauderdale / Program Manager
Martha Romero, City of Fort Lauderdale / Acting Business Manager
Maria Santiago, City of Fort Lauderdale / Financial Administrator
Shannon Barrett, City of Fort Lauderdale / Financial Administrator
John Herbst, City Commission, District I
Rafeela Persaud, City of Fort Lauderdale / Senior Administrative Assistant

Welcome – Talal Abi-Karam

Mr. Abi-Karam called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. and welcomed everyone, and thanked City of Wilton Manors for hosting the meeting.

Mr. Abi-Karam asked everyone to introduce themselves, and verified there was a quorum.

Mr. Abi- Karam stated the business of the Advisory Board is structured in accordance with the City of Ordinance Chapter 28, Sections 28-29. He explained that this meeting is for wastewater discussion only, and the votes are based on volume and contribution to the central large users' wastewater system.

Approval of January 17, 2024 Meeting minutes. Motion made by Miguel Arroyo to approve meeting minutes. David Archacki seconded the motion. Meeting minutes were approved. Vote was unanimous.

Update on the G.T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant – Justin Murray **Construction Project Updates**

- P12171 (Pre-Engineered Metal Building Replacement at the Deepwell Site) – The design/build bid package was advertised and awarded at a cost of \$1.3 million. The project is currently behind schedule while P12530 Deepwell Electrical is partially constructed (70%). Evaluation is ongoing to determine what additional funding will be needed.
- P12530 (Deepwell Electrical Power & Instrumentation) – This project will install new power and instrumentation wiring, applicable conduits, and duct banks at the Deepwell Facility from the control building to each of the five (5) underground injection wells and the three monitoring wells. The small control building where the valve controls are located will also be hardened for hurricanes. The \$2.9 million project began construction January 25, 2022 and completion was scheduled for February 2024. Approximately 90% of the underground work has been completed and work on the control building has continued. The project has been delayed and is expected to be restarted by end of April 2024.
- P12528 (GTL Chlorine Flash Mix Remodel) – The NTP for this \$11.1 million project was issued July 24, 2023. This project will reroute the treated effluent in order to demolish the chlorine flash mix basin and provide space for future generators. Construction has started with an anticipated Substantial Completion in August 2024. The project is on schedule and under budget.
- P12876 (GTL Reactor Rehabilitation) – The repair of concrete and application of protective coatings is needed in 3 of the remaining 4 treatment reactors along with new mechanical mixers on the reactor roofs. A task order for design services is expected to be issued in the second quarter of 2024.
- P12529 (Effluent Pumps Standby Generator & Administrative Building Improvements) – This project is mandated by the FDEP amended consent order (2020) to provide standby power generators and ensure that all effluent pumps can run without FP&L power. A total of \$28 million is funded through the Community Investment Plan. The project is required to be completed by August 2025. The generators have been Owner-purchased via competitive bid and are expected to be delivered by June 2025. A design criteria package (DCP) was advertised May – August 2023; however, only one bid proposal was received which exceeded the project budget. The consultant is completing 100% design of the generator switchgear in April 2024. Bidding is expected to begin in May 2024 and be awarded in September 2024.
- P12169/12702/12252 (GTL Odor Control & Sludge Holding Tank Covers and Roof) – New odor control equipment for the Pretreatment Building and Sludge Holding tanks, upgrade of the electrical unit substations in the Pretreatment Building and other needed infrastructure is currently advertised in a design/build criteria package. The

approved funding of approximately \$9M for multiple projects was combined to accelerate the needed replacements with one contractor. Design/Build proposals are expected in May 2024.

Flows:

- Annual average flows for the last twelve months are currently 46.9 MGD. The rolling 3-month average for March 2024 was 40.4 MGD compared to the permitted value of 61.58 mgd. The contribution of each Large User is shown below:

Table 1. Large User Current Flows

Large User	Present Year Allocation* (MGD)	3-Yr ADF as of:		
		Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024
Fort Lauderdale		35.9	36.2	36.5
Oakland Park	2.93 / 3.93	5.3	5.2	5.2
Wilton Manors	1.98 / 2.46	2.37	2.37	2.37
Tamarac	0.226 / 0.260	0.302	0.297	0.293
Davie	0.10 / 0.22	0.13	0.13	0.12

***AADF / Max Monthly**

Mr. Fisher asked for a separate discussion about the City of Wilton Manors' flows, in which they are tracking also.

Operational Issues/Accomplishments

- The VPSA is not functional but within the warranty period. The manufacturer is investigating and preparing to order replacement parts. The lead time is estimated to be 6 months, requiring the daily delivery of liquid oxygen by vendors. This presents an estimated additional daily operational cost of \$5,300, or \$160,000 per month. *Mr. Carbon asked about the warranty about this item,*
- Multiple additional clarifiers have been preventatively maintained prior to the rainy season to ensure top performance.
- A 35-ton air conditioning system serving the Effluent Pump VFD Room was replaced in April.
- An underground leaking 6-inch chlorine pipe was investigated and repaired in April.
- Surcharges have been assessed per the Large User Agreement since January 2024. Future invoices will include a 2nd page with backup materials to help clarify which surcharge(s) are assessed and the reason.

Mr. Abi-Karam said the VPSA being out of commission for approximately six months will result in additional operational costs and staff is in discussion with the vendor regarding a warranty claim.

Financial Position

Martha Romero said as of March 2024, the budget is aligned within the timeframe. The operational costs for Characters 30 and 60 are a little high due to encumbrances.

Mr. Abi-Karam requested a summary table be included as support document with the surcharge invoice each month.

Mr. Archacki inquired about the Fort Lauderdale invoice for surcharge. Ms. Romero clarified there is an internal procedure in place to record Fort Lauderdale's revenue, but it does not involve an invoice.

Ms. Romero explained that the Revenue line item on Fort Lauderdale's account 343-615 reflects actuals amounting to \$13,592,209 and can provide more details, if needed.

Ms. Henderson commented on concerns that were expressed at the last Large Users meeting, along with City of Oakland Park, relating to surcharges, which should be invested in the systems to reduce I&I, and secondly, City of Fort Lauderdale is a large user of the system, and the Large Users Agreement specified all Large Users will pay the surcharge fees. Ms. Henderson stated there was a meeting held last week with the City of Fort Lauderdale's Administration and City Managers from City of Wilton Manors and City of Oakland Park. A follow up letter was submitted yesterday (April 16th, 2024) based on discussions with Susan Grant indicating that (1) the City to bring in an independent consultant to review the allocation of the Plant's capacity for the Large Users' system and determining a system for charges/fees. Mr. Carbon said the City of Fort Lauderdale, as a Large User, should have an allocation to the Plant. He stated that the outline of the letter was to "freeze" the surcharges for now and the Cities to develop a scope of services for an independent consultant, and to decide how the funds would be used in the future. Mr. Carbon will submit the scope of services to Mr. Abi-Karam, based on the scope outline that was done for the water system.

Mr. Abi-Karam thanked both members for the update and for the framework outlined to move forward. He said that the model in place for the water agreement is a good roadmap to follow. Mr. Abi-Karam mentioned that there are quite a few discussions with various municipalities for consent orders on spills, discharges, I&I, etc. Mr. Abi-Karam asked if there was an update about the City of Wilton Manors request for capacity modification. Ms. Henderson said a letter was submitted last December and is following up. Mr. Carbon said it will be included in the upcoming scope of services for all Large Users.

Old/New Business

Mr. Carbon stated that there are low run times in the bigger basins/pump stations; a decrease from 16 hours to 12 hours on a daily average.

Mr. Archacki said City of Wilton Manors has been completing quite a few lining projects and has seen progress within the City, to include smoke testing. He also mentioned that a contract was signed with FMC to complete the force main project on SE 15th Avenue and should be completed by December, 2024.

Ms. Henderson requested updates on the force mains and repumps projects at the quarterly meetings.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for July 31, at 1:30 p.m., at the Fiveash Water Treatment Plant Conference Room, 949 NW 38 Street, Fort Lauderdale, 33309.

Adjournment

Mr. Abi-Karam moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.