

Advisory Technical Panel – Updating Infiltration and Inflow Control Program

November 20, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: See attached Sign-In Sheet

I. Reducing Excessive Infiltration/Inflow in Local Sanitary Sewer Systems

Mr. Bill Sheriff, Assistant Director of Engineering, summarized the activities of the subcommittee.

II. ATP Subcommittee

Mr. Abbas Bhikapurawala, Senior Civil Engineer, Mr. Sheriff and Mr. Al Hollenbeck, RJN Group, delivered a presentation (attached) regarding the System Analysis and Enforcement Actions, Overall Program Outline and Follow-up Tasks of the I/I program, respectively.

Ms. Pamela Saindon (MWRD) suggested reading Articles 12 and 13 of the Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO) for enforcement actions and appeal processes.

Mr. Ross Dring (Kimberly Heights Sanitary District) expressed concerns regarding limited enforcement actions a local sanitary district can take for private sector non-compliance. Mr. Sheriff indicated that the program allows for the local agency to determine enforcement actions to be taken. Mr. Dring stated that his agency does not provide water service so a water disconnect threat is not at his disposal. Mr. Dave Weakley (City of Palos Hills) stated that his City has a sewer disconnect ordinance; however, he has never had to enforce it because the threat itself was adequate for enforcement.

Mr. Weakley asked if there is still the possibility of the MWRD obtaining contracts for the communities to do sewer work and benefit from the economy of scale. Mr. Sheriff responded that contracts for flow monitoring and sewer rehabilitation work may be available; however, for a community to be eligible, one requirement will be to be in compliance with the program.

Mr. Fred Vogt (City of Rolling Meadows) and Ms. Saindon discussed the procedures of enforcement starting with the notice of non-compliance, show cause hearing and the appeal process.

Ms. Catherine O'Connor, Director of Engineering, Mr. Sheriff and Mr. Hollenbeck discussed having the program on the January 23, 2014 Board Agenda, and the possibility of a study session prior to that date. Mr. Steven Saunders (Village of Winnetka) asked if an effective date for the program has been established. Mr. Sheriff responded that an effective date has not been set.

Mr. Vogt suggested that the details of the funding program be a priority. Mr. Sheriff responded that details are currently being worked on; however, some of the funding items discussed may require policy and/or legislative changes.

Mr. Weakley and Mr. Vogt stated that minimums of the program must be established so communities know when enforcement actions will be taken. Mr. Chris King (Robinson Engineering) responded that each community will establish their own program and enforcement action will occur if the program is not being implemented. Ms. Saindon stated that in her experience, the MWRD takes a collaborative effort to resolve issues prior to enforcement actions. Mr. Weakley concurred with Ms. Saindon, citing his own experience with the MWRD.

Mr. Hollenbeck asked Mr. John Wiemhoff (USEPA) his impressions regarding the program. Mr. Wiemhoff responded that his initial impressions of the program are regarding how to measure progress with respect to the reduction of SSOs and BBs, having an adequate enforcement plan in place and cited his concern with only the development of a private sector program over the first 5-years. He stated that, from his perspective, the general direction of the program is appropriate. Mr. Sheriff stated that the program does not preclude communities from addressing the private sector within the first 5 years of the program and over that time a baseline trend will be established for SSOs and BBs.

Mr. Dale Schepers (Village of Tinley Park) and the ATP Committee discussed the logistics of the upcoming December 3, 2013 meeting with the Councils of Government (COGs).

III. Next Meeting

A presentation will be made to the COGs regarding the new MWRD I/I Reduction Program (developed by the ATP) at the Tinley Park Convention Center on January 8, 2013 at 1:00pm.

The next ATP meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2013 at the MWRD LASMA Visitor Center at 1:00 pm.