

Recycled Water Committee Meeting

VOC, 600 S Marion Pkwy

November 22, 2016

Facilitator: Lisa Carlson

Members present: Steve Geist, Scott Gilmore, Laura Morales, Al Polonsky, Doug Woods, Deb Binard, Mark Cassalia, Russell Plakke, Thad Jacobs, Bill, Cindy Johnstone, Sonia John, David Matthews, Katie Knoll, Brenley McKenna, Cyndi Karvaski, Thad Jacobs, Sonrisa Lucero, Damian Higham, Raeann Gagne.

Agenda items are as follows:

- Agenda Review, Introductions and Ground Rules
- Mitigation and Data Collection Results for Summer 2016
- Clarifying questions and implications
- Break
- Data collection efforts moving forward
- Role of the Advisory Group
- Next Steps and Action Items
- Adjourn

Ground rules were covered last time, but I thought they should be repeated. The ground rules for this meeting include one person speaking at a time, be concise and share the air so that everyone can participate, please speak up during the meeting and avoid the 'real' conversations that happen during the breaks, be hard on the issues and not the people. I've never seen it helpful to personalize things because it escalates conflict and doesn't help during deliberations. For decision making rules, though we won't be making any large decisions today, future decisions will be based on consensus. The goal is that everyone will understand the reasons for the decisions. The fall back to this, because this is an advisory committee, is that Denver Water and Parks & Rec are going to have to take what was said here on advisement. If we are on the border on everything we will want to work to see if we can reach consensus but if we can't because of the time elements then we will have to work off of the majority votes that are present. The last rule is that misery is optional, if you need to stand up because your back hurts then please do, please use the restroom if it is needed and feel free to let us know if more breaks are needed or the agenda isn't working for you. Please silence your cell phone before we get into the meeting. Feel free to record the meeting if needed or request it from Raeann but the recordings are for the meeting group only. Do these rules still make sense?

Scott: Rob Davis is out sick and will not be here today.

Sonia: [Handout #1 \(Linden Testing\)](#)

Sonia: [Handout #2 \(Declining Trees\)](#)

Brenley: The draft document has been emailed out all of you for review and we have a couple copies here with us today. A huge thanks to Demian and the Water Quality folks with Denver Water who went out to do the samples at the pump station/lakes. At every location 3 samples were taken (the cost is \$100 per sample). We started taking samples in late June through September. In the report you will see raw data, basically this is just a baseline sample. We did GPS data for each location (so the next year we

know exactly where to go). The report is separated site by site so if you wanted to see something particular you can. This document will be available on-line once it has been finalized.

Sonia: There was a plan to sample in Wash Park after a rain event. What we had noticed was how much the PH and sodium increased between the dechlorination plant and irrigation system. Did you notice a change in storm events?

Demian: The first sample after the storm it ran over night in Wash Park. That was the only one that had pretty much the same proximity at the time. Storm date event: 6/29/16.

David: We were told that there would sampling done in the lake to compare. That doesn't appear to have happened.

Al: Yes, it did happen. I have enough data from both lakes to make a comparison.

David: Do you have any more data on the lakes themselves? We know what's going in but we don't know what's coming out.

Al: The sodium results are new from last year. I tried to increase the number of site visits over the Summer, I was able to get two at Smith and three at Ferrill Lake. The long term trend we see between the two is that the chloride has been consistently similar.

Al: Regarding the stormwater piece, as we saw with what DWB was able to do with that, its challenging to do if you just rely on lucky timing (i.e., sampling the lakes on your normal schedule but soon after a storm event). It takes pointed sampling, something you do in response to a storm event, and/or even prior to a forecast storm and then during the storm. We (Denver P&R and Env Health) will do what we can, but I'd prefer we are not committing to a hard number of samples collected, or anything like that. I will develop a plan, and as discussed at the meeting, look into working with volunteers, parks personnel, and whatever it takes to try and get some useful data. Its easy for me to say this, but will be a challenge to make it happen, but we will try. I'm thinking this won't happen until the ditch is running next year. If we were able to get samples from 2 or 3 storm events (maybe a couple sets of samples on each storm event), I'd be happy with that.

[Al's graph \(RecycledWG Lake 2016\)](#)

David: I think Al's information needs be put into this report.

Al: I can get you information/data in any format you need so I can be included in the report. My data can go in the appendix.

Brenley: I'm more than happy to include it in the document.

David: In the scope of the report it said there would be water reports on Smith Lake but they weren't done but Al tested it.

Al: We had talked about it and I offered to help.

Lisa: In the agreement it said Al would do it.

Scott: Remember everyone this document is still a draft.

David: The other point is that in the summary of the report said that there will no longer be water tests. I think that should not be the case.

Brenley: We're not seeing a huge change at the locations we were monitoring that's why I put we will no longer be doing water tests. We can amend this if needed. It did took well over 500 hours working on this report to get to this draft document that includes sampling, analysis, but I don't even think that included our Water Quality lab testing. This has been a multiple agency effort and the first time we have done this type of report. I'm really proud of the two groups working together I this will help both organizations in the future.

David: I'm floored I cannot believe they said they will no longer do watering testing.

Scott: Water testing will still be done by AI.

David: What I'm saying is it should not state that in the report that there will no longer be testing if AI is doing it.

Scott: Brenley will revise the language in the report regarding the water testing. Testing will still be done by AI from Environmental Health.

Brenley: In the report we have a section about water quality city ditch. We can include a table and description. We can also include a brief narrative of the sampling that AI did. I strongly think all raw data should be placed in the appendix.

Cindy: I was wondering if volunteers could help with sampling? How can we get the community involved?

Scott: I think this might be a great thing to try out.

Lisa: In regards to data collection and efforts moving forward on page 94 of the report Brodd Recommendations. Scott will talk next about the role of the advisory group and next steps. I think we all had envisioned that this time next year we would all get together again (those of you that choose to stay), and will have two years of data.

Scott: I just want to thank everybody! This type of thing has never been done anywhere before. The amount of information in this document is phenomenal. It's amazing to think to think a year ago things were a little rocky getting this group started but we all ended up getting on the same page. We all have different goals, Denver Water supplies recycled water to us, Parks has a role of utilizing the water for our parks, Community Members want to make sure we are utilizing it correctly. I know this document is still a draft but it will be a living document we will add to it every year. I want to personally thank Denver Water Brenley did this report she took a lot, a lot of effort and a lot her personal time putting this together.

Brenley: I would like to personally thank Demian he did all the sampling. He made she he did the samples when he was supposed too we wouldn't have this without his efforts.

Scott: Thank you Demian

Scott: Rob and his team and AI have also put in a lot of effort. This document is a baseline for us to move forward. Like I said before no-where in the country has done. Denver is leading the way for recycled water usage and documenting what it does. Thank you guys!

Brenley: Colleagues that I know that we have been doing this has reached out to me. People are very impressed with what we have done.

Scott: One thing we will be requesting is to get folks from PRAB, INC, etc together in month or two and put together a power point presentation and get everyone up to speed on how this project went. We have made a lot of strides.

Bill: I have a recommendation for Rob and his team. To expand their minds a bit and put the tree on an 0-100 % scale. If you put down a bigger scale you're going to have a much easier way to relate the information if a tree is dying or not. Trying to scale out the health of the tree.

Scott: I will get with Rob on this.

Cindy: FANS is trying to put together an Adopt a Tree. I think we can incorporate the tree samplings into this.

Scott: I think we can figure something out. I will get with Rob.

Lisa: [Recommendations \(Flip Chart Notes\)](#)

Scott: Once the document is finalized we will post it on our website.

Cindy: I did not see anything on migration strategies. Can something be put together?

Scott: Yes, I will put something together and get it over to Brenley. I will get to Brenley around 12/14.

Brenley: In the report each part has a fact sheet I think this is a great place to put the migration strategies there.

Scott: We will be meeting annually around this time of year. Please let me know if you want to opt out of meeting. I will be the point of contact if anything comes up during the year or you may contact Laura Morales. We will notify the media around the same time we notify PRAB and Community Groups.

Thank you Lisa!

Adjourn