

Rate Affordability Task Force Meeting #1

Date: September 23, 2015

Time: 1:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.

Location: 1305 Woodrow Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45204

Overview

The task force, appointed by Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners, held its first meeting to discuss rate affordability for the Greater Cincinnati Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD). This task force, led by Madeira City Manager Thomas Moeller, includes 15 diverse members representing local governments, business owners, homeowners, renters, senior citizens, low-income residents, environmental groups, and non-profit organizations. The purpose of this task force is to provide the Commissioners recommendations to mitigate ratepayer fee increases by April, 2016.

Summary

For the first publicly-held meeting, 27 total individuals were present including the task force members listed on the next page. Furthermore, two commissioners, Chris Monzel and Todd Portune, made appearances at separate times. This meeting served as an introduction to the task force and MSD. During the first half of the meeting, Tom Moeller discussed the purpose, duties, process, roles, and rules of the task force. The information referred to by Mr. Moeller can be seen in the MSD Affordability Taskforce word documents on the website (look for the *BOCC Resolution* creating the Task Force dated 3/18/2015 and the *Rules of Engagement/Conduct*).

The second half of the meeting, David Anderson, Director of Public Financial Management, provided a brief overview of the MSD including their history, location served, revenues, costs, and consent decree. The information communicated by Mr. Anderson may be viewed in *The Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati Introduction* PDF available on the website. Lastly, commissioner Portune reminded the group of the narrow focus and task at hand.

Next Meeting

Although no specific date is set, the next public meeting is expected to be sometime in mid-October on the same day, Wednesday, and time. The current MSD rate structure and rate structures used by other cities will be discussed at this next meeting. Also, during the next meeting, the information requested from the first meeting will be provided. Task force members are encouraged to send any examples of affordability programs to Karen Ball prior to the next meeting. If there are any recommendations or questions, feel free to contact Hamilton County's MSD Monitor Karen Ball via email at Karen.ball@hamilton-co.org.

Request Information

- 1) Bond indentures from federal consent decree
- 2) Components (cost, completion percent, and projected cost) for the two phase project
- 3) Break down of current costs (maintenance, operations, repairs, and storm water)
- 4) Description of ongoing projects
- 5) Projected rate increases in future years including dollar amounts
- 6) Dollar amounts for history of rate components pie charts
- 7) Why monthly billing is more expensive than quarterly
- 8) Whether commercial irrigation includes sewer fees

Task Force Members Present

Name (Last, First)	Organization
Beck, Clark	Communities United for Action
Bernloehr, John	Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber
Bieger, Jennifer	United Way 211
Burke, Suzanne	Council on Aging of Southwestern Ohio
Crane, Lucy	United Way of Greater Cincinnati
Kammer, Nancy	Greater Cincinnati Building Owners & Managers Association
Miles, Robert	Communities United for Action
Moeller, Thomas	City of Madeira
Morgan, Noel	Legal Aid Society of Southwest Ohio
Norman, Charles	Hamilton County Board of Elections
Quarry, Mark	Cincinnati Area Board of Realtors
Russell, Christine	City of Springdale
Tassell, Charles	Greater Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky Apartment Association
Wall, Marilyn	Sierra Club

Non-Task Force Members Present

Name (Last, First)	Organization
Aluotto, Jeff	Hamilton County Administration
Anderson, David	Public Financial Management
Ball, Karen	Hamilton County MSD Monitor
Christian, Sigman	Hamilton County Administration
Christmann, Holly	Hamilton County Environmental Team
Driehaus, Denise	State Representative
Fightmaster, Sean	Plante Moran, PLLC
Johns, Steven	Hamilton County Regional Planning
Moran, Chris	League of Women Voters
Monzel, Chris	Hamilton County Commissioner
Nightengale, Jeanne	League of Women Voters
Portune, Todd	Hamilton County Commissioner
Sturgill, Heather	Northside Community Council