



**PROJECT GROUNDWORK**  
*your pipeline to clean water*

# **Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy (LMCPR) Community Outreach Report**

**Prepared for:**

**Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati**

**Prepared by:**

**Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati**

**Submitted**

**September 2012**

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## **Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy (LMCPR) Community Outreach Report to Hamilton County and City of Cincinnati**

### **INTRODUCTION**

During heavy rains, the combined sewer system managed by the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) can overflow, making Cincinnati among the top five utilities nationally dealing with combined sewer overflows (CSOs). MSD is under a federal Consent Decree to reduce or eliminate the overflows and has implemented a major public works initiative called Project Groundwork to achieve compliance and bring value to the community through this significant investment.

Since more than half of the CSOs occur in the Lower Mill Creek watershed, which covers 40,000 acres in the heart of Hamilton County, MSD must implement a Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy (LMCPR) that aims to achieve significant volume reduction by 2018 (Phase 1). MSD has evaluated potential approaches to eliminate a substantial volume of the overflows, including:

- A traditional "gray" approach that includes an underground storage tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility to capture and treat CSOs before they reach Mill Creek, a tributary of the Ohio River; this is referred to as the default solution.
- A sustainable/hybrid approach that primarily seeks to control CSOs by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers; examples include new storm sewers, stormwater detention basins, and restoration of existing or defunct streams.

The potential approaches are detailed and compared in the LMCPR Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report. Additional solutions will be proposed for Phase 2 after 2018.

One of the concepts being evaluated under the sustainable approach is known as the Lick Run Alternative. It would eliminate about 750 million gallons of overflows each year, or roughly 50% of the annual overflows from one CSO in the Lick Run watershed. The central element of this project is a proposed urban waterway through the Cincinnati neighborhood of South Fairmount, as well as a series of in-line green infrastructure installations such as bio-infiltration basins and bio-swales within the watershed.

Once a preferred approach is selected by the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, it will be submitted to the U.S. EPA and other federal and state Regulators by December 2012.

For more than two years, an inclusive process for sparking dialogue between MSD and the community it serves has been underway to ensure ratepayers and citizens have a voice in the complex decisions required to meet the U.S. EPA Consent Decree requirements.

This report includes community input about the LMCPR provided to MSD during the formal comment period initiated between June 26, 2012 and September 4, 2012. Multiple methods were offered for submittal of input to ensure participation from anyone who wanted to comment. In addition to verbal and written input at the two Town Hall meetings, community members were invited to submit comments by email and phone.

For ease of review, the report is divided into sections including:

- An Executive Summary outlining the various community engagement efforts undertaken by MSD over the past two years to inform and dialogue with the community, with emphasis on the effort during the formal comment period,
- Data and graphical representations summarizing the verbal and written input received during the formal comment period,
- Appendices, including:
  - A transcription of the verbal comments received at both Town Hall meetings held during the formal comment period (Appendix A),
  - Transcriptions of all written comments received during the formal comment period (Appendix B),
  - A transcription of the exit surveys from both Town Hall meetings (Appendix C), and
  - Original materials, including the full stenographer's report and select exhibits, original copies of written comment cards and original copies of exit surveys from both Town Hall meetings, as well as original copies of emails (Appendix D).

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

MSD has worked for more than two years to provide information and seek input from the greater Cincinnati and Hamilton County community about the proposed LMCPR. The goal of MSD's community engagement has been to obtain feedback early in the planning and design process so it could be incorporated into the findings to be submitted by December 2012 to Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati for advancement of a proposed solution to the Regulators.

The objectives of the community engagement program were simple but strategic:

- To increase awareness of the project among Lower Mill Creek watershed residents, businesses, property owners and other interested citizens, as well as city and county agencies and non-profit organizations.
- To increase opportunities for the community to provide input into the decision-making process.

To ensure a well-considered and comprehensive effort, MSD developed a strategic Communications Plan for Project Groundwork in 2010, and subsequently tailored a communications approach to the unique needs and issues of sub-watersheds within the Lower Mill Creek Watershed. Engagement with the community included open houses/community design workshops, community outreach, media relations, written/visual materials and partnerships with external organizations. Rather than rely solely on one outreach pathway such as a website, MSD employed multiple communication channels to ensure all voices within the community are heard and considered. Significant time and resources have been dedicated to this endeavor. While this report focuses on the community comments received during the formal comment period, an overview of the community engagement in the years leading up to the formal comment period is summarized at the end of this Executive Summary.

In terms of potential conclusions to be drawn from the comments received during the formal comment period, there were a range of opinions expressed and concerns raised regarding both solutions under consideration. While valid conclusions can only be reached by reading each comment, what appears to emerge is a generally favorable disposition toward the sustainable alternative over the default. It also appears clear that there are divergent opinions regarding the complexity of implementing this approach, and that discussions with the community should be ongoing regardless of which approach is advanced to the Regulators.

### **Formal Comment Period**

A formal period for community comments was open from June 26, 2012 to September 4, 2012. Comments gathered during this period were informed in part by the LMCPR Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report which was made available to the public through the Project Groundwork website and other distribution channels.

In the weeks leading up to and during the formal comment period, two Town Hall meetings were conducted by MSD to provide the community with findings of modeling and other analysis, as well as estimated costing information for the alternative "sustainable" solution and the default tunnel solution. Information was also made available to the community during this time through channels including:

- A copy of the presentation that was made to City Council on June 26th was posted on the Project Groundwork website

- MSD made a presentation to the First Suburbs Group, and informed attendees that presentations could be made upon request for those who will be unable to attend the Town Hall meetings
- MSD Director Tony Parrott appeared on the Newsmakers Program hosted by Dan Hurley on WKRC on Sunday, August 19th discussing the consent decree and the proposed solutions to achieve compliance
- An email notification was sent to community meeting and community design workshops attendees notifying them that the LMCPR Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report and the Lick Run Master Plan were available online for review and comment, and also notifying them of the Town Hall meetings
- An email and survey were sent to Communities of the Future Advisory Committee (CFAC) members making them aware that the Report and the Master Plan were available for review on the Project Groundwork website, and inviting them to attend the town hall meetings
- Along with a posting about the Town Hall meetings on the main MSD website and the Project Groundwork website, MSD used its Twitter account to “tweet” the availability of the reports on the website and announcing both of the Town Hall meetings

The first Town Hall meeting was held on August 16, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the MSD Administration Building at 1081 Woodrow Street in Lower Price Hill. Attendees who signed in numbered 117, and 125 people were physically counted in attendance. The meeting began with a presentation by MSD Director Tony Parrott who presented an overview of the technical findings, the cost estimates, the regulatory requirements, and other information intended to fully inform the community on the options being presented to Hamilton County and the City of Cincinnati. A stenographer was on hand to document verbal comments which were limited to two minutes for each person to ensure all attendees had an opportunity to speak. A total of 12 community members chose to provide verbal comments. One person completed a written comment card. Attendees were also made aware of the option to email or call MSD to have their comments recorded as part of the formal record. Twenty-five people filled out exit surveys.

The second Town Hall meeting was held on August 23, 2012 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the MSD Wastewater Collection Division at 225 W. Galbraith Road in Hartwell. Attendees who signed in numbered 93. The meeting was conducted just as the previous Town Hall with a slightly modified presentation given by MSD Director Tony Parrott. A stenographer was on hand to document verbal comments and a total of 16 community members chose to provide verbal comments. Six people completed written comment cards. Attendees were again made aware of the option to email or call MSD to have their comments recorded as part of the formal record. Twenty-four people filled out exit surveys.

MSD received a total of 64 comments during the formal comment period. In addition to the 28 verbal comments documented by the stenographer at both Town Hall meetings, MSD received a total of 36 written comments (28 email comments, 7 written comment card comments, 1 transcribed comment).

A graphical and data representation of these comments is presented in the next section for ease of reference. The full record of comments is included in the appendices, including the 49 exit surveys collected at the Town Hall meetings. The exit surveys were voluntary for attendees, and in some cases submitted anonymously.

## **Summary of Community Engagement since 2010**

### ***Communities of the Future Advisory Committee (CFAC)***

As part of Project Groundwork, MSD developed a concept called "Communities of the Future," which integrates sustainable sewer infrastructure improvements with urban renewal in areas that experience high volume or frequent CSOs. To assist and guide MSD with this vision, a Communities of the Future Advisory Committee (CFAC) was created in March 2010. The CFAC is comprised of about 100 representatives of a cross-section of public agencies, community members, and members of County Administration and legal team. CFAC meetings are planned, coordinated and scheduled with representatives from Hamilton County Regional Planning. The CFAC has met regularly throughout the more than two years of the project to provide input to Project Groundwork. Members of the South Fairmount community who have expressed interest have been invited to participate with this group. The President and the Vice President of the South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC), as well as the President and Vice President of the South Fairmount Business Association (SFBA) attended CFAC meetings as well as meetings of the three sub-groups formed by CFAC to address specific issues.

### ***Open Houses and Community Design Workshops***

#### **Lick Run Watershed Open Houses/Community Design Workshops**

MSD has hosted or participated in numerous community engagement meetings to help inform and educate the public and gain critical feedback to help shape project plans. In January 2010, a "kick-off" Open House was held in South Fairmount to introduce the project to the Lower Mill Creek Watershed community, and provide overview and background information on the challenges to be addressed under the Consent Decree. The Open House was attended by more than 120 members of the community with more than 50% from the Lick Run watershed. MSD had more than 30 staff, consultants, and public agency volunteers at eight stations talking one-on-one with attendees about Project Groundwork, the potential Lick Run solution, and the default tunnel project and timeline. Extensive information was provided on the overall effort, as well as concepts under consideration for the Lick Run watershed. Attendees were able to speak directly with MSD and other representatives to have their concerns addressed and issues documented.

MSD next conducted a series of three Community Design Workshops (CDW) to allow all voices within South Fairmount to share unique perspectives and offer direct feedback on how the area may be transformed by the alternative solution. Along with presentations about the technical findings of the ongoing analysis of the proposed alternative and the default solution, the workshops allowed attendees to meet in small groups with MSD staff and technical consultants to discuss issues of concern and share their vision for a preferred solution. Each workshop built on the previous, with input received from the community incorporated into the next round of discussions.

The first CDW was held on August 11, 2010 and focused on the proposed urban waterway in South Fairmount with topics ranging from waterway characteristics to recreational opportunities. The meeting was advertised by sending postcard invitations to more than 6,500 Lick Run residents, property owners, businesses and local stakeholders, and also by publishing the information in the South Fairmount community newsletter and other community newsletters and on the Lick Run website. The workshop was

attended by 113 people, with 60% indicating they live, work or own property in the Lick Run watershed. Of this 60%, 45% were from South Fairmount.

On October 26, 2011, MSD conducted the second CDW. Using feedback obtained from the first workshop, revised concepts were presented for review and comment at small group breakouts. Along with discussion of the proposed urban waterway, this second workshop covered transportation network opportunities, green planning principles, and trail network opportunities. The meeting was advertised by sending postcard invitations to more than 6,500 Lick Run residents, property owners, businesses and local stakeholders, and also by publishing the information in the South Fairmount community newsletter and other community newsletters, on the Lick Run website and in the local news media. The workshop was attended by 93 people, with 63% indicating they live, work or own property in the Lick Run watershed. Of this 63%, 43% were from South Fairmount.

MSD conducted the third CDW on February 23, 2012 using feedback obtained from the first two workshops. Revised concepts for the proposed urban waterway were presented for comment and input. The third workshop included an overview presentation, Q&A and breakout sessions to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of a preliminary design concept for the urban waterway in South Fairmount and long-term vision plan. The meeting was advertised by sending postcard invitations to more than 6,500 Lick Run residents, property owners, businesses and local stakeholders, and also by publishing the information in the South Fairmount community newsletter, on the Lick Run website and in the local news media. The workshop was attended by 98 people, of which 58% live, work or own property in the Lick Run watershed. Of this 58%, 49% were from South Fairmount.

Following each of the workshops and open houses, MSD prepared summary brochures detailing the input received. These brochures were mailed to workshop participants and posted on the Lick Run website.

#### Bloody Run Watershed Open House

MSD hosted an Open House for the Bloody Run Watershed on February 9, 2012 at the Woodward Career Technical High School in Bond Hill. The event lasted from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and attracted 42 community residents, business owners and other interested stakeholders. The Bloody Run Watershed covers more than 2,200 acres in central Hamilton County and includes portions of Amberley Village, Columbia Township, Village of Golf Manor, the City of Norwood and three Cincinnati neighborhoods: Bond Hill, Pleasant Ridge and Roselawn. Of the 42 attendees, 60% lived or owned property in the Bloody Run Watershed. The meeting was staffed by approximately 20-25 people including representatives from numerous government agencies, community service institutions and other civic organizations. The goal of the meeting was to introduce the Bloody Run Watershed community to the complex issues associated with the Consent Decree, and to begin a dialogue with stakeholders in advance of more detailed discussions about watershed-level solutions. To reach prospective attendees in Bloody Run, MSD mailed more than 5,500 invitations to residents/businesses in the Bloody Run watershed and also distributed press releases to the media and flyers and articles for local municipalities and Cincinnati neighborhoods.

#### Kings Run Watershed Open House

MSD hosted an Open House for the Kings Run Watershed on March 1, 2012 at the Harmony Lodge in Spring Grove Village. The event lasted from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and attracted 54 community residents, business owners and other interested stakeholders. The Kings Run Watershed covers more than 2,200

acres in western Hamilton County and includes two sub-watersheds: Kings Run and Ludlow Run. The Kings Run sub-watershed overlaps the Cincinnati neighborhoods of College Hill, Spring Grove Village and Winton Hills, as well as a small part of Springfield Township. The Ludlow Run sub-watershed overlaps College Hill, Northside, Spring Grove Village and a small portion of Winton Hills. Of the 54 attendees, 70% lived or owned property in the Kings Run Watershed. The event was staffed by approximately 20-25 people including representatives from numerous government agencies, community service institutions and other civic organizations. The goal of the meeting was to introduce the Kings Run Watershed community to the complex issues associated with the Consent Decree, and to begin a dialogue with stakeholders in advance of more detailed discussions about watershed-level solutions. To reach prospective attendees in Kings Run, MSD mailed more than 5,000 invitations to residents/businesses in the Kings Run watershed, and also distributed press releases to the media and flyers and articles for local municipalities and Cincinnati neighborhoods.

#### West Fork Watershed Open House

MSD hosted an Open House for the West Fork Watershed on January 26, 2012 at the North Presbyterian Church in the community of Northside. The event lasted from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. and attracted 65 community residents, business owners and other interested stakeholders. The West Fork Watershed covers more than 6,000 acres in western Hamilton County and includes portions of the City of Cincinnati, City of Cheviot and Green Township. Within Cincinnati, the watershed includes parts of seven neighborhoods: College Hill, East Westwood, Fay Apartments, Mt. Airy, Northside, South Cumminsville and Westwood. Of the 65 attendees, 70% lived or owned property in the West Fork Watershed. The goal of the meeting was to introduce the West Fork Watershed community to the complex issues associated with the Consent Decree, and to begin a dialogue with stakeholders in advance of more detailed discussions about watershed-level solutions. To reach prospective attendees in West Fork, MSD mailed more than 9,000 postcard invitations to residents/businesses in the West Fork watershed, and also distributed press releases to the media and flyers and articles for local municipalities and Cincinnati neighborhoods

#### ***Outreach to Neighborhood Organizations***

MSD has reached out to all the community councils within the Lick Run, Bloody Run, Kings Run and West Fork Watersheds to make them aware of watershed activities and community meetings and to provide articles for their websites/newsletters. In addition, MSD has attended and given presentations to community councils in South Fairmount, Northside and North Fairmount.

Since 2010, an MSD representative has attended each meeting of the *South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC)* to answer questions and provide project updates. Upon request, MSD has made presentations to this group addressing specific areas of concern. In addition, MSD has provided representatives from the consulting firm assisting with the conceptual and detailed planning for Lick Run (Human Nature) to attend a meeting at the request of the SFCC. Human Nature gave a thorough overview and update of the project, as well as responded directly to questions from attendees. Project update articles have been provided since 2010 by MSD to the SFCC for placement in the South Fairmount community newsletter. At the request of SFCC leadership, MSD has also met periodically with individual members of the Council to provide detailed project updates and gather input.

MSD has attended of the *South Fairmount Business Association (SFBA)* as requested, making presentations and directly responding to questions and concerns. In an additional step intended to ensure information is made available and dialogue is ongoing between meetings of the full association, MSD agreed to meet regularly with a core committee of members of this group called the Committee of Five. These meetings offered an additional opportunity for businesses to stay abreast of ongoing project analysis and evolving concepts, as well as proactively raise issues of concern.

At the request of the SFCC and the SFBA, a special follow up input meeting was held after the second CDW with the leadership of these community groups to allow for additional review and comment on the concepts presented at the Community Design Workshop. Representatives from Hargrove Engineering attended this special follow up session as well.

At the request of the SFCC and the SFBA, a preview discussion was held with the leadership of the SFCC and the SFBA prior to the third CDW. The intent of the meeting was to provide a review of the information to be presented to the public at the Community Design Workshop and to allow for upfront input from these groups as promised by MSD to the two organizations.

### ***Direct Outreach in the Lick Run Watershed***

#### Communication with Residents, Property Owners and Businesses

Early in the community engagement process, a letter was mailed to every property owner within the Lick Run watershed and corridor – approximately 6,500 – to provide an update on the project, a URL for the new Lick Run website, and a point of contact. More than 100 people called to find out more about the project. These and others who have expressed interest in the project are documented in a stakeholder list that is used to correspond about upcoming meetings and project updates.

MSD has met one-on-one with property owners and residents in the area who have requested additional information, and has maintained an ongoing dialogue with interested individuals through multiple email exchanges, phone calls, and meetings.

#### Community Outreach

MSD participates in numerous community festivals, such as the Bethany House Children's festival and Back to School Fest, to maintain contact with the community and provide an ongoing link for information exchange. At the request of the SFCC, MSD helped to beautify a park in South Fairmount on Make a Difference Day in 2011 and helped clean up trash during the Great American Cleanup in spring 2012.

#### Lick Run Watershed Tours

During the summer and fall of 2011 and spring 2012, tours of the Lick Run watershed were conducted for members of the community to help them gain a better understanding of the challenges associated with combined sewer overflows (CSOs). Tour guides provided on-site information about facilities such as the CSO in the South Fairmount community that discharges into Mill Creek, and other areas that contribute to the complex issue of managing water resources. More than 100 people participated in the tours.

#### South Fairmount Business Survey

In early 2010 as the alternative solution was initially being conceptualized, an MSD representative visited a number of local businesses in the South Fairmount community who could potentially be impacted by or have interest in solutions proposed for the corridor in order to engage them in a one-on-one dialogue

introducing the high level goals of Project Groundwork, offering an overview of why the Lower Mill Creek watershed is critical to that effort, offering potential solutions being considered for the area, and to ask for input on how the property owner would like to see the community improved through the process, as well as other stakeholders that should be engaged.

At the request of the SFBA, and to ensure business voices across the project area were continuing to be considered, MSD conducted a survey of businesses in January 2012. The survey was distributed at a SFBA meeting, and individual businesses were also contacted. The survey asked for information about the interest in remaining within the Lick Run corridor, what assistance a business would like to see with regard to relocation, and other informative data. The business survey findings were provided to the SFBA and SFCC, as well as to the CFAC.

### ***Project Website***

MSD developed a dedicated website for Project Groundwork ([www.projectgroundwork.org](http://www.projectgroundwork.org)) to provide an overview of the consent decree and the solutions being considered to achieve compliance. In addition, an area of the website is dedicated to the Lower Mill Creek Watershed ([www.projectgroundwork.org/lowermillcreek](http://www.projectgroundwork.org/lowermillcreek)) and to the subwatersheds of Lick Run, Bloody Run, Kings Run and West Fork to provide community members with updated information on concepts and issues in their communities. The websites have served an important role in archiving extensive amounts of information and data for use by the community in staying informed and up-to-date as the proposed concepts have advanced. Periodic emails are sent out alerting interested citizens to new updates on the website. An MSD Communications email address is available on the project website and on all communications to the public providing community members a direct and ongoing channel to ask questions or provide input to MSD.

### ***Written/Visual Materials***

MSD has developed numerous written/visual materials to help educate the public, including videos, fact sheets, letters, brochures, FAQs, newsletter articles and posters.

### ***Partnerships***

MSD has partnered with numerous public and private agencies throughout the more than two years since the community engagement effort was initiated. These agencies represent a range of expertise and bring important voices to the table to ensure the concepts put forward for U.S. EPA consideration are vetted thoroughly on multiple fronts such as transportation, public safety, urban planning, relocation, environmental issues, and more. These agencies also represent community members across Hamilton County and Cincinnati through their respective memberships, and they have served an important role in informing a broad cross-section of the entire greater Cincinnati community. Some of these agencies include Hamilton County Planning and Development Department, Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities, Cincinnati Parks, City of Cincinnati Economic Development Division, Ohio State University (OSU) Extension, Hamilton County, City of Cincinnati Department of Planning & Buildings, U.S. Geological Survey, the Mill Creek Restoration Project, Green Umbrella, Ohio EPA, and U.S. EPA.

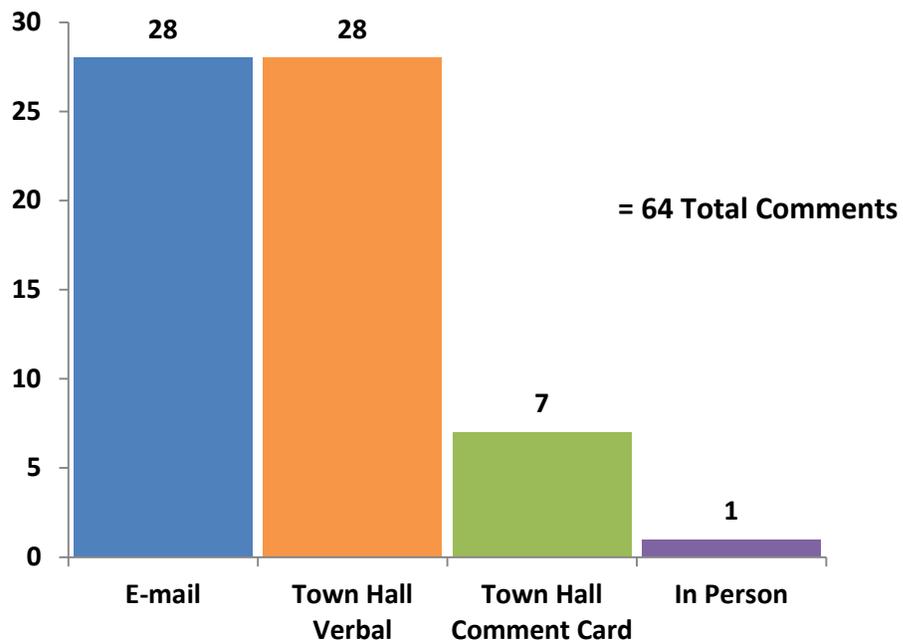
In addition, MSD has also initiated a Project Groundwork Partners program that recognizes vital partners in developing solutions to the infrastructure challenges. A list of partners can be found at [www.projectgroundwork.org/partners](http://www.projectgroundwork.org/partners).

### ***Enabled Impact Projects***

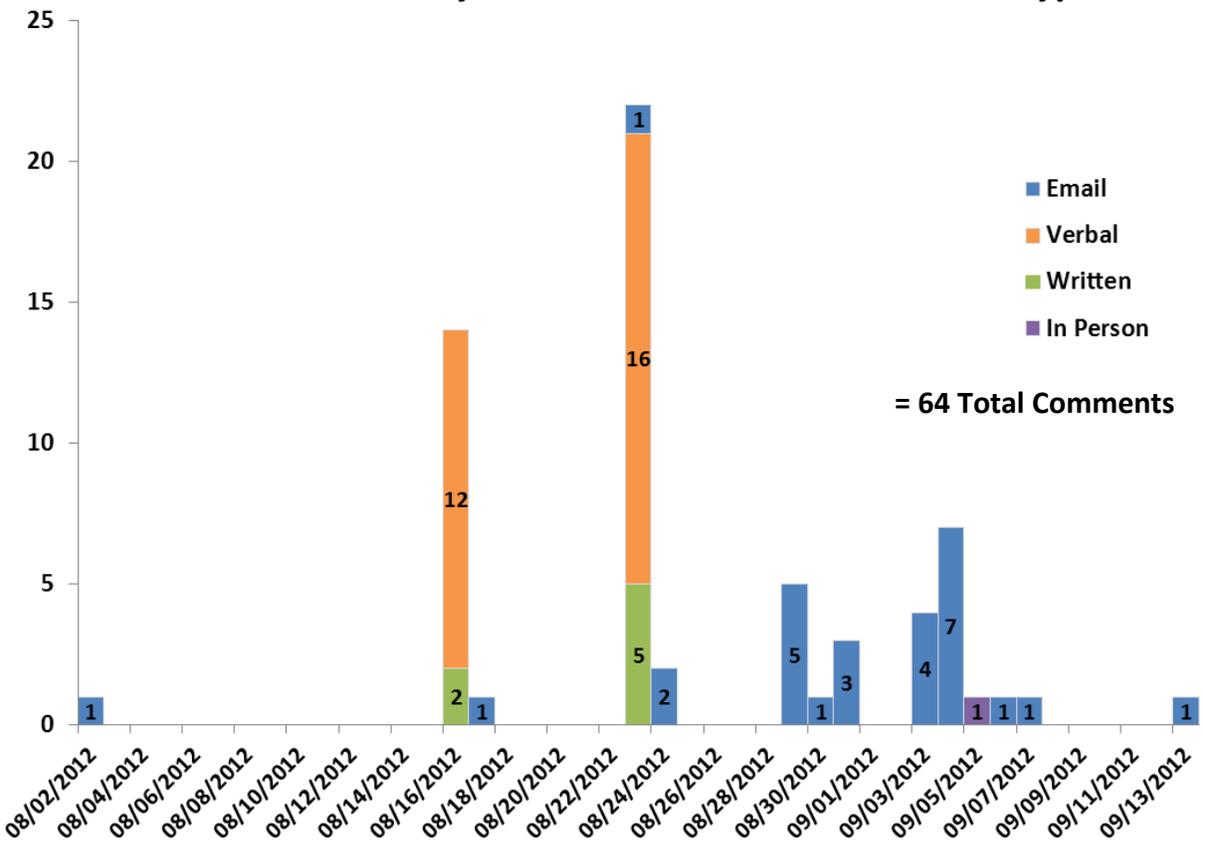
To demonstrate how sustainable solutions can address both stormwater issues and contribute to overall quality of life for the community, MSD has partnered with entities in several Lower Mill Creek watersheds to demonstrate the effectiveness of various stormwater controls. These controls are primarily Low Impact Development (LID) projects that capture less than 10 million gallons of stormwater annually. MSD partners in Lower Mill Creek include several local churches, a senior apartment complex and Cincinnati Parks. Examples of stormwater controls under evaluation include bioinfiltration basins, rain gardens, and pervious paving. One of the largest projects is a double bioinfiltration basin at St. Francis Court Apartments in South Fairmount.

## **Graphical Summary & Geographic Origin of Public Comments**

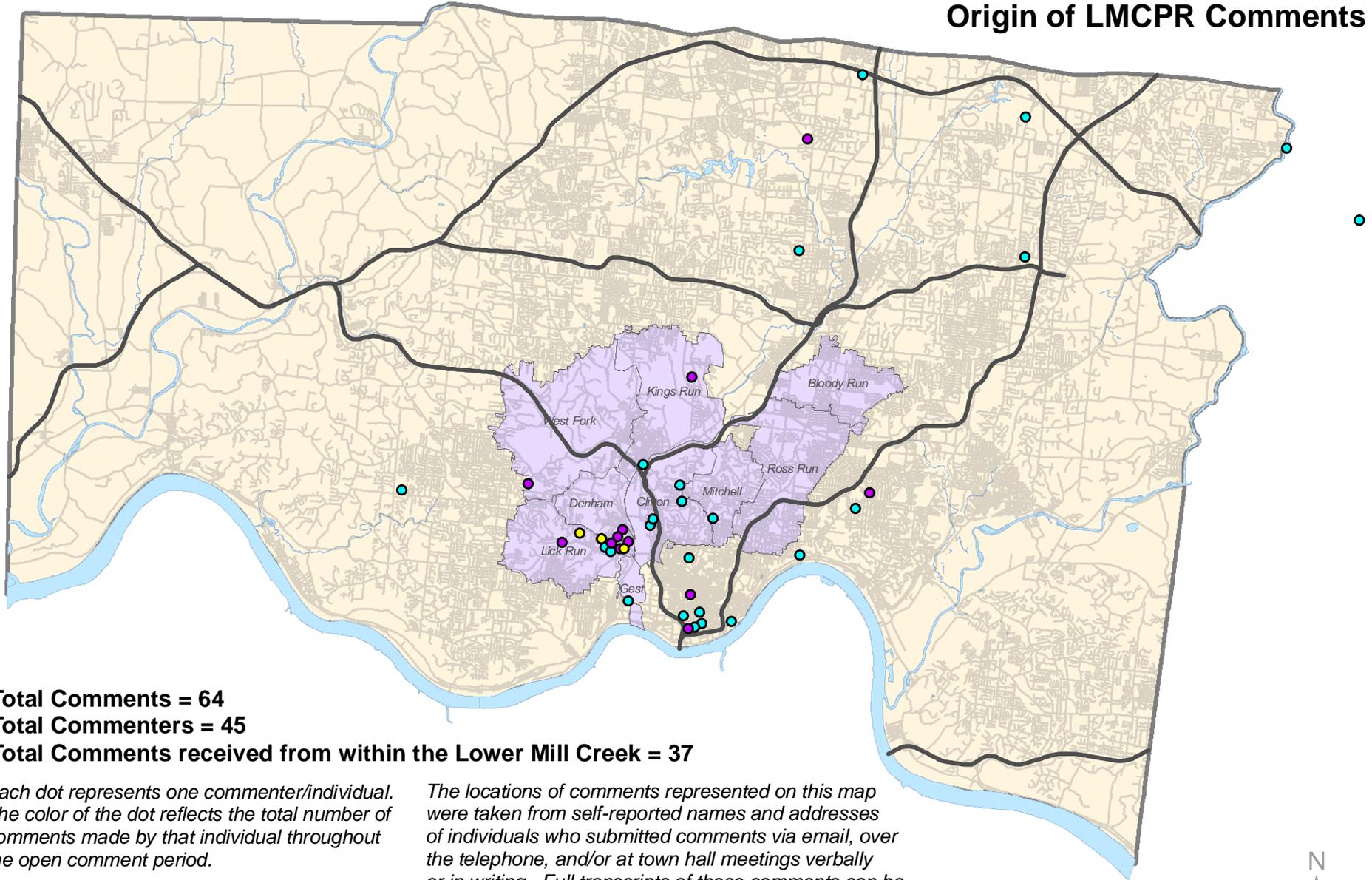
## Total Comments by Type



## Total Comments by Date Received and Comment Type



# Origin of LMCCR Comments



**Total Comments = 64**  
**Total Commenters = 45**  
**Total Comments received from within the Lower Mill Creek = 37**

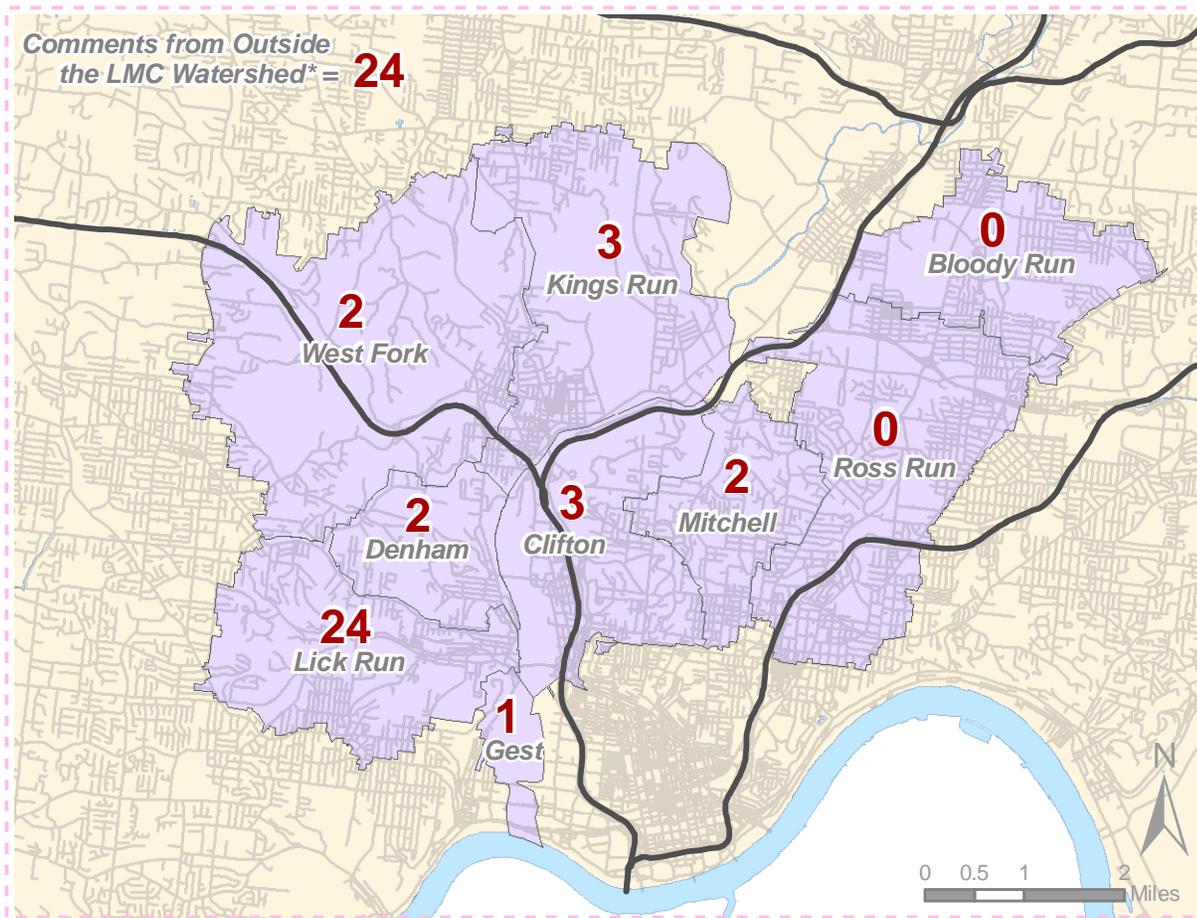
*Each dot represents one commenter/individual. The color of the dot reflects the total number of comments made by that individual throughout the open comment period.*

*The locations of comments represented on this map were taken from self-reported names and addresses of individuals who submitted comments via email, over the telephone, and/or at town hall meetings verbally or in writing. Full transcripts of these comments can be found in the Appendixes of this report.*

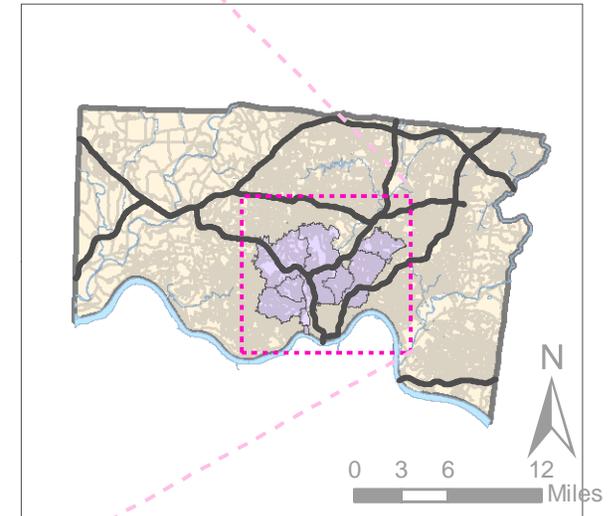
- Lower Mill Creek sub-basins
- Rivers and streams
- Major roadways
- Streets
- 1 Comment
- 2 Comments
- 3 Comments



\*Not all commenters provided an address so this map does not display all comments



**Origin of LMCPR Comments:  
 Numer of Comments  
 by Sub-basin**



**Total Comments = 64**  
**Total Commenters = 45**  
**Total Comments received from within the Lower Mill Creek = 37**

**3** Numer of total comments per sub-basin

 Lower Mill Creek sub-basins

 Rivers and streams

 Major roadways

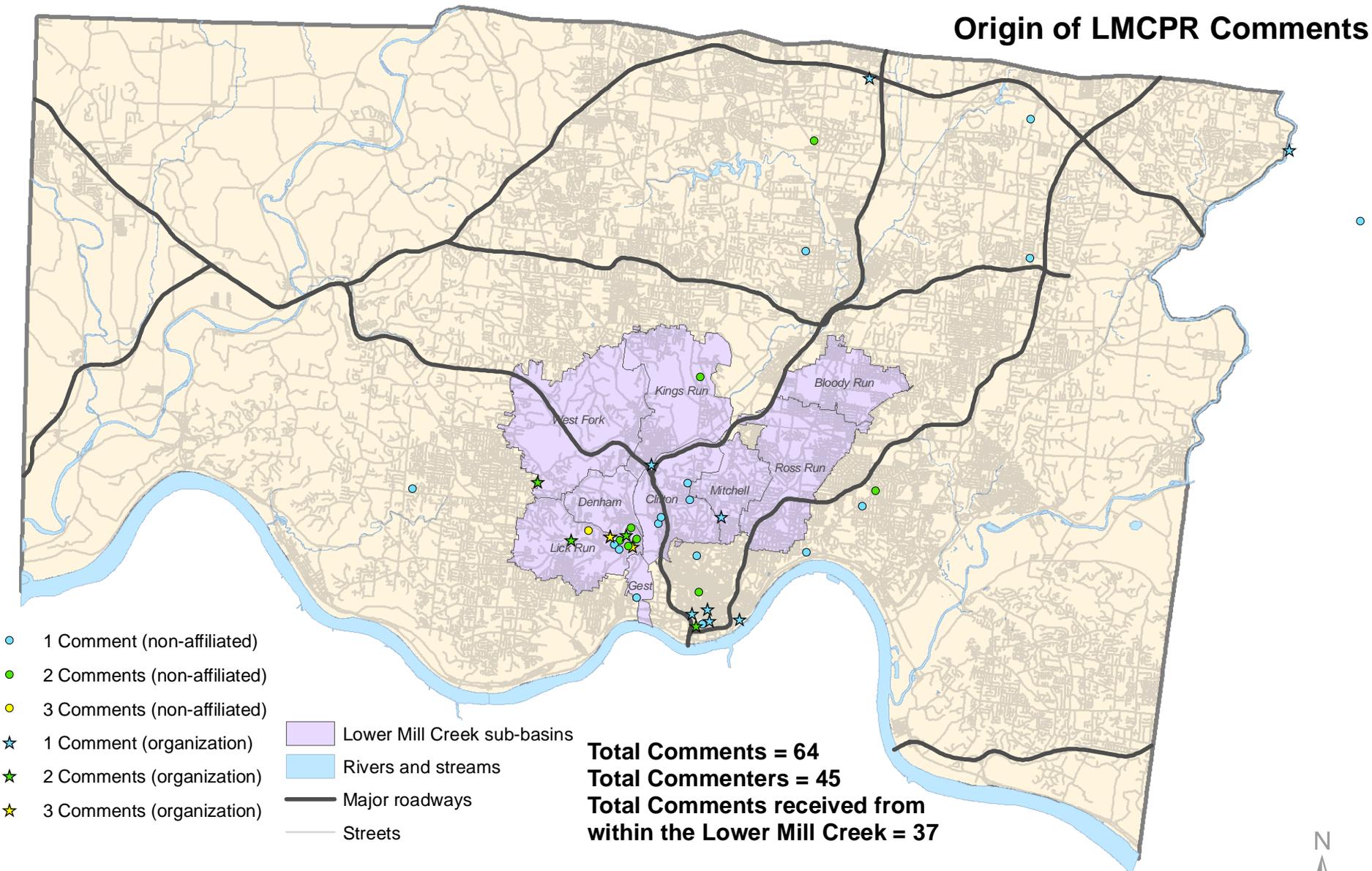
 Streets

*The locations of comments represented on this map were taken from self-reported names and addresses of individuals who submitted comments via email, over the telephone, and/or at town hall meetings verbally or in writing. Full transcripts of these comments can be found in the Appendixes of this report.*

\*Not all commenters provided an address, so the total comments displayed here does not match the overall total (63)

Source: CAGIS, MSDGC  
 September 10, 2012

# Origin of LMCPR Comments

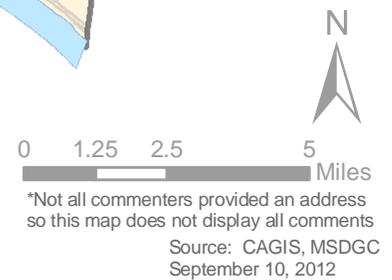


- 1 Comment (non-affiliated)
- 2 Comments (non-affiliated)
- 3 Comments (non-affiliated)
- ★ 1 Comment (organization)
- ★ 2 Comments (organization)
- ★ 3 Comments (organization)

- Lower Mill Creek sub-basins
- Rivers and streams
- Major roadways
- Streets

Each point represents one commenter/individual. The color of the point reflects the total number of comments made by that individual throughout the open comment period. Circles represent individuals who were speaking on their own behalf, or who were not affiliated with a particular local or national organization. Stars represent individuals who claimed to be speaking on behalf of an organization or group.

The locations of comments represented on this map were taken from self-reported names and addresses of individuals who submitted comments via email, over the telephone, and/or at town hall meetings verbally or in writing. Full transcripts of these comments can be found in the Appendixes of this report.



**Spreadsheet Overview of Public Comments from Formal Comment Period**

|    | First Name | Last Name                    | Page # of<br>Comment | Comment Type | Date       | Address # | Street             | Suffix | City       | Zip Code |
|----|------------|------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|--------|------------|----------|
| 1  | Anonymous  | -                            | A75                  | Written      | 08/23/2012 |           |                    |        |            |          |
| 2  | Anonymous  | -                            | A75                  | Written      | 08/23/2012 |           |                    |        |            |          |
| 3  | Kym        | Ahern                        | A37                  | Email        | 08/23/2012 |           |                    |        | Cincinnati | 45238    |
| 4  | Edward J.  | Bemerer                      | A56                  | Email        | 09/04/2012 | 1551      | Queen City         | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 5  | Lucas      | Bentley                      | A36                  | Email        | 08/17/2012 | 1600      | Gest               | Street | Cincinnati | 45204    |
| 6  | Brian      | Bohl                         | A65                  | Email        | 09/13/2012 | 22        | Triangle Park      | Drive  | Cincinnati | 45246    |
| 7  | Tom        | Carroll                      | A45                  | Email        | 08/31/2012 | 120       | Loveland           | Avenue | Loveland   | 45140    |
| 8  | Jacqueie   | Chischillie                  | A24                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 1692      | Harrison           | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 9  | Jacquelyn  | Chischillie                  | A51                  | Email        | 09/03/2012 | 1692      | Harrison           | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 10 | Barry      | Cholak                       | A7                   | Verbal       | 08/16/2012 | 2631      | Linden             | Street | Cincinnati | 45215    |
| 11 | Barry      | Cholak                       | A69                  | In person    | 09/05/2012 | 2631      | Linden             | Street | Cincinnati | 45215    |
| 12 | Robin      | Corathers                    | A53                  | Email        | 09/03/2012 | 1617      | Elmore             | Court  | Cincinnati | 45223    |
| 13 | Hershel    | Daniels                      | A25                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 2         | Garfield           | Place  | Cincinnati | 45205    |
| 14 | Matt       | Davis                        | A46                  | Email        | 08/31/2012 | 441       | Vine               | Street | Cincinnati | 45202    |
| 15 | Gregory    | Drake                        | A19                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 1871      | Knox               | Street | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 16 | Jennifer   | Eismeier & Bruce Koehler     | A56                  | Email        | 09/04/2012 | 720       | Pete Rose          | Way    | Cincinnati | 45202    |
| 17 | Elliott    | Ellis                        | A4                   | Verbal       | 08/16/2012 | 1724      | Fairmount          | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45225    |
| 18 | Elliott    | Ellis                        | A16                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 1724      | Fairmount          | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45225    |
| 19 | Larry      | Falkin                       | A62                  | Email        | 09/06/2012 | 805       | Central            | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45202    |
| 20 | Eilieen    | Frechette                    | A21                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 5081      | Wodden Shoe Hollow | Lane   | Cincinnati | 45232    |
| 21 | Couper     | Gardiner                     | A75                  | Written      | 08/23/2012 | 3547      | Mooney             | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45208    |
| 22 | Patricia   | Garry                        | A58                  | Email        | 09/04/2012 | 2859      | Colerain           | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45225    |
| 23 | Eric       | Gruenstein                   | A61                  | Email        | 09/04/2012 | 3518      | Cornell            | Place  | Cincinnati | 45220    |
| 24 | Ed         | Gutfreund & Eileen Frechette | A58                  | Email        | 09/04/2012 | 5081      | Wooden Shoe Hollow | Lane   | Cincinnati | 45225    |
| 25 | Kathleen   | Karle                        | A54                  | Email        | 09/03/2012 | 5990      | Werk               | Road   | Cincinnati | 45248    |

|    | First Name   | Last Name | Page # of<br>Comment | Comment Type | Date       | Address # | Street     | Suffix | City       | Zip Code |
|----|--------------|-----------|----------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|--------|------------|----------|
| 26 | Jill         | Keith     | A39                  | Email        | 08/29/2012 | 1753      | Montrose   | Street | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 27 | Cecilia      | Kloecker  | A17                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 9485      | Wynnecrest | Drive  | Blue Ash   | 45202    |
| 28 | Bruce        | Koehler   | A76                  | Written      | 08/23/2012 | 720       | Pete Rose  | Way    | Cincinnati | 45202    |
| 29 | Marvin       | Kraus     | A76                  | Written      | 08/23/2012 | 415       | Bond       | Place  | Cincinnati | 45206    |
| 30 | Kathy        | LaDow     | A73                  | Written      | 08/16/2012 | 2501      | Knorr      | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 31 | David        | LaDow     | A11                  | Verbal       | 08/16/2012 | 2501      | Knorr      | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 32 | Kathy & Dave | LaDow     | A40                  | Email        | 08/29/2012 | 2501      | Knorr      | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 33 | Kathy & Dave | LaDow     | A41                  | Email        | 08/29/2012 | 2501      | Knorr      | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 34 | Tim          | Mara      | A18                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 1417      | Pleasant   | Street | Cincinnati | 45202    |
| 35 | Timothy      | Mara      | A37                  | Email        | 08/24/2012 | 1417      | Pleasant   | Street | Cincinnati | 45202    |
| 36 | Mary Beth    | McGrew    | A63                  | Email        | 09/07/2012 | 51        | Goodman    | Drive  | Cincinnati | 45219    |
| 37 | Jo Ann       | Metz      | A8                   | Verbal       | 08/16/2012 | 2225      | Queen City | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 38 | Jo Ann       | Metz      | A22                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 2225      | Queen City | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 39 | Michael      | Miller    | A10                  | Verbal       | 08/16/2012 | 3348      | Meyer      | Place  | Cincinnati | 45211    |
| 40 | Michael      | Miller    | A24                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 3348      | Meyer      | Place  | Cincinnati | 45211    |
| 41 | LaToya       | Moore     | A43                  | Email        | 08/29/2012 | 200       | W. 4th     | Street | Cincinnati | 45202    |
| 42 | Julie        | Murray    | A17                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 147       | Parker     | Street | Cincinnati | 45219    |
| 43 | Jim          | O'Reilly  | A4                   | Verbal       | 08/16/2012 | 24        | Jewett     | Lane   | Wyoming    | 45215    |
| 44 | Michael Earl | Patton    | A20                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 3767      | Millsbrae  | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45209    |
| 45 | Michael Earl | Patton    | A55                  | Email        | 09/03/2012 | 3767      | Millsbrae  | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45209    |
| 46 | Mimi         | Rook      | A38                  | Email        | 08/24/2012 | 2951      | Sidney     | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45225    |
| 47 | Kendra       | Schroer   | A50                  | Email        | 08/31/2012 | 1402      | Oakridge   | Drive  | Cincinnati | 45140    |
| 48 | Steve        | Slack     | A22                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 377       | Howell     | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45220    |
| 49 | Dennis       | Smith     | A7                   | Verbal       | 08/16/2012 | 1543      | Queen City | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 50 | Dennis       | Smith     | A19                  | Verbal       | 08/23/2012 | 1543      | Queen City | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |
| 51 | Dennis       | Smith     | A59                  | Email        | 09/04/2012 | 1543      | Queen City | Avenue | Cincinnati | 45214    |

|    | <b>First Name</b> | <b>Last Name</b> | <b>Page # of<br/>Comment</b> | <b>Comment Type</b> | <b>Date</b> | <b>Address #</b> | <b>Street</b> | <b>Suffix</b> | <b>City</b> | <b>Zip Code</b> |
|----|-------------------|------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 52 | Joe               | Thoman           | A9                           | Verbal              | 08/16/2012  | 1617             | Queen City    | Avenue        | Cincinnati  | 45214           |
| 53 | Joseph C.         | Thoman           | A60                          | Email               | 09/04/2012  | 1617             | Queen City    | Avenue        | Cincinnati  | 45214           |
| 54 | Marilyn           | Wall             | A9                           | Verbal              | 08/16/2012  | 816              | Van Nes       | Drive         | Cincinnati  | 45246           |
| 55 | Marilyn           | Wall             | A23                          | Verbal              | 08/23/2012  | 816              | Van Nes       | Drive         | Cincinnati  | 45246           |
| 56 | Margo             | Warminski        | A8                           | Verbal              | 08/16/2012  | 342              | W. 4th        | Street        | Cincinnati  | 45202           |
| 57 | Margo             | Warminski        | A45                          | Email               | 08/30/2012  | 342              | W. 4th        | Street        | Cincinnati  | 45202           |
| 58 | Michael           | Weinstein        | A76                          | Written             | 08/23/2012  | 11427            | Reed Hartman  | Highway       | Cincinnati  | 45241           |
| 59 | Ray               | West             | A44                          | Email               | 08/29/2012  | 1707             | Westwood      | Avenue        | Cincinnati  | 45214           |
| 60 | Paul              | Willham          | A35                          | Email               | 08/02/2012  | 1871             | Knox          | Street        | Cincinnati  | 45214           |
| 61 | Paul              | Willham          | A6                           | Verbal              | 08/16/2012  | 1871             | Knox          | Street        | Cincinnati  | 45214           |
| 62 | Paul              | Willham          | A17                          | Verbal              | 08/23/2012  | 1871             | Knox          | Street        | Cincinnati  | 45214           |
| 63 | Charles           | Young            | A5                           | Verbal              | 08/16/2012  | 1535             | Knox          | Street        | Cincinnati  | 45214           |
| 64 | Charles           | Young            | A21                          | Verbal              | 08/23/2012  | 1535             | Knox          | Street        | Cincinnati  | 45214           |

*\*Address details in grey italics were not included  
in original comment but were determined later*



## **Appendix A: Verbal Public Comments**

## **Appendix A: Verbal Public Comments (continued)**

Appendix A includes the following documentation:

### MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 16, 2012

- Transcription of Verbal Public Comments
- Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 2 (written comments submitted to reporter)

### MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012

- Transcription of Verbal Public Comments from the MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012
- Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 11 (stills from a video of Kings Run after a heavy rain) at the MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012
- Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 15 (written comments submitted to stenographer) at the MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012
- Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 16 (written comments submitted to stenographer) at the MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 16, 2012**

Transcription of Verbal Public Comments

**MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy  
MSD Administration Building  
August 16, 2012**

**Transcription of Verbal Public Comments**

1.

Elliott Ellis, President  
South Fairmount Community Council President  
1724 Fairmount Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.471.5099  
[whccerlene@aol.com](mailto:whccerlene@aol.com)

**Comment:**

Good evening. My name is Elliott Ellis. I'm a resident of South Fairmount and President of the South Fairmount Community Council. We are here to determine the best solution for removing two billion gallons of Lick Run Watershed CSOs from entering the Mill Creek untreated.

Is it a tunnel, as directed by EPA, or is it an above-ground solution? The solution needs to be based on sustaining South Fairmount. The solution must have business anchors located and defined by South Fairmount Residents, not by consulting firms. The solution must consider and be defined by community-historic assets designing around as necessary. The solution must be based on community wants, needs and don't wants. The solution must be more than a suggested possibility or an opportunity for community redevelopment. The solution must be based on more than a, what if, a belief in, if we build it, they will come. It must be said again. The solution must be based on sustaining the South Fairmount community.

MSD's tunnel alternative funds only proposed open ditch, no more. MSD's alternate will change South Fairmount forever and a day. South Fairmount deserves more than clear cutting a hundred and 62 years of history and architecture. You won't have to clear cut South Fairmount to achieve results. South Fairmount deserves more than an open ditch defining our community. Thank you.

2.

Jim O'Reilly  
Wyoming City Council  
24 Jewett Dr.  
Wyoming, OH 45215  
513.708.5601  
[joreilly@fuse.net](mailto:joreilly@fuse.net)

**Comment:**

Jim O'Reilly, from the Wyoming City Council. I have longer than two minute's remarks so I've given a copy of them to the reporter. Very specifically from a point of view of the elected officials, out in the

suburbs, we are concerned about the quality of the communication. MaryLynn Lodor did an excellent job presenting to our First Suburbs quarterly meeting about what's being done. There should be more clear language about why individual year-to-year costs are increasing, so that we can respond to our rate payers who call us at our City Hall to complain about the eight to ten percent.

Secondly there should be a better job of explaining why the variation between the original cost estimates and the more recent ones. I have the advantage of having been on the original plan committee, so I know a lot more. But we really do need explanations, people, why the cost estimates have gone up so much.

Third, as to the tunnel, I'm going to just short circuit this. There's a lot of information out there about other cities that have done tunnels. And I think it would be beneficial for us to see what's actually happened to Chicago and other cities where they've had the tunnel projects.

We are not looking at a vacuum at alternatives. We need people to understand why the tunnel would be so expensive and why it's been expensive elsewhere. The next, the concern about jobs, this would be a significant loss of jobs if communities were unable to get businesses to locate here because those businesses saw their water and sewer rates going up eight to ten percent a year. That would be significant.

I'm very concerned about the automation and personnel issues. And that's a balance which I've described in my printed remarks. And finally I would like the County and the City to clarify, after the 2018 lapse of the original 50-year provision, who is going to be the owner of the bonds? If there are major bond investments to be made, as obviously there are, then there's got to be some clarification of how much the County taxpayers, how much the County taxpayers are taking on, versus how much the City is taking on. That's a very important public finance matter. And for the remainder of it, for lack of time, I'm going to refer to my printed remarks. Thank you.

3.

Charles Young  
South Fairmount Community Council, Vice President  
1535 Knox St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.251.2332/513.404.5725  
youngcharles@zoomtown.com

**Comment:**

Good afternoon. My name is Charles Young. I'm the Vice President of the South Fairmount Community Council. Having spoke -- heard the comments from my President, I want to add a few things of my own.

As you know I've been involved with this process for nearly two years now. And I'm merely expressing my concerns around the economic impact to our community. And also trying to keep or having you guys keep the cost to our rate payers at a low rate. I know that's a hard thing to deal with, but that's what we're looking for.

Now, as you know, the July 2011 report, had the Community Council asked the representatives to stand up for civil society. We've tried to do our best to do that. And we would like to know is it more important to make the water clean and safe or are you more concerned about money? What I mean by that, I'm talking about the bond ratings that you guys talk about all the time. We would like to present our own community plan to you as soon as we can. And I know you've probably heard about that for some time.

And it's my personal opinion that if we can agree the alternative plan that you present is something that's very commonly welcomed in the community.

I would say this also. If we do anything to improve things in our community it's better than doing nothing. And I know that for true, because in 1993 we tried to do that eight years ago and it failed.

President Reagan said once to Mr. Gorbachev, tear down these walls. This is in Germany. Well, we're asking you to tear down these walls Mr. County, Mr. City and let the dialogue begin so that we can help our own community move forward and a new rebirth. Thank you.

4.

Paul Willham

Knox Hill Neighborhood Association

1871 Knox St.

Cincinnati, OH 45214

317.244.5511

[victiques@gmail.com](mailto:victiques@gmail.com)

**Comment:**

Good evening. My name is Paul Willham. I've almost 30 years of experience in the field of historic preservation, neighborhood development. I'm a retired attorney. I'm also President of the Knox Hill Neighborhood Association of South Fairmount.

Our area would overlook this proposed alternative. We do not support the alternative as it would destroy historic fabric. And there is no concrete redevelopment plan with signed commitments. We support the proven grey approach that's been used in other cities.

In 2011 MSD planned to demolish buildings. A letter was sent out advising that nine buildings to be demolished, eight on Queen City, one on Westwood. The letter stated as additional properties are required more demolitions will be planned.

I immediately contacted the City Urban Conservative regarding Federal Section 106 Requirements and he knew nothing about it. Had I not contacted Ms. Lundgren and advised her about federal requirements anticipatory demolitions were to be MSD's policy. MSD has only one plan, a glorified drainage ditch. They have lied to the residents and business community. Public forums were held not to receive real input, but to direct that input in the direction MSD wants to go. And their reports do not reflect the real position of my neighborhood or South Fairmount.

I can't speak for other neighborhood organizations, but we intend to file an amicus brief with the Federal court with jurisdiction over the Consent Decree. And if the County Commissioners cannot effectively police MSD activities a complaint with State Utility Regulatory Commissions.

At this time South Fairmount took a vote, this week. And South Fairmount and Knox Hill are going to pursue a National Historic Registry nomination for the South Fairmount Basin. You will not take out historic assets away from us without consent of the community. Thank you.

5.

Barry Cholak  
Citizen  
2631 Linden St., North Fairmount  
Cincinnati, OH 45225  
513.471.5898

**Comment:**

My name is Barry Cholak. I live in North Fairmount on the edge of South Fairmount. I would like to recommend that to keep this process open and more transparent as an ongoing process that there be established in some sort of oversight committee. Some sort of steering committee made up of citizens who would be directly involved in the outcome of this whole process.

I'm talking about a citizen-driven steering committee, oversight committee, which would be made up of private citizens who would be a part of the community. Oversee the input that would come from the neighborhoods themselves, environmentalist, community development. All the various assets that makes up this whole total community. So what I'm talking about is maybe each one of these watersheds would have its own task force or steering committee. And it would be staffed by MSW -- or MSD on an ongoing kind of basis to keep the public internally informed, keep them aware of what's happening, keep them involved in the cost. And keep the, keep the process moving in a positive way. Thank you.

6.

Dennis Smith  
South Fairmount Business Assoc.  
1543 Queen City Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.921.4717  
dennis@paperproductscompany

Ladies and Gentlemen, my name is Dennis Smith. I'm President and Owner of Paper Products Company in South Fairmount. The oldest continuously operating business in South Fairmount. I'm also President of the South Fairmount Business Association. Besides the daylighting of the stream we also are faced with the possibility of a new viaduct going south of the present one. And they've also proposed, at some point in the future, about making Westwood Avenue a boulevard.

The impact zone of these three projects encompasses about 68 million dollars in sales. I personally have signed an affidavit, I interviewed the business owners. 68 million in sales reported about 22 of the 30 businesses in South Fairmount representing about 600 jobs. Myself, personally, I do believe that the daylighting is a done deal.

And I refer to a report that is on the MSD website and I'm going to quote directly from it with the USEPA logo right next to it. This is a quote of Bob Newport of Region 5 EPA in Chicago. He says, USEPA is focused on the modeling and based on what they have seen it's a no brainer. Given the land you have already been able to obtain, etcetera, there is no way that I would see the USEPA not approving an alternative especially with Nancy Stoner in Office of Water. Headquarters has been briefed and they want to make an alternative solution work. If we had this information at the time of the WWIP was drafted a tunnel never would have been part of the solution. Cincinnati's lead with source control makes sense.

To me this says it's a done deal. And I believe that these meetings and workshops, etcetera, have been fulfilling a legal formality. They have used -- as an example, this is a report done by the University of Cincinnati, which compares Lick Run with an area up in Kalamazoo, Michigan and Downtown Kalamazoo called the Arcadia Creek. I have been there personally. I have a customer there. And trying to compare Arcadia Creek with Lick Run, is like comparing Lick Run with Mars and Arcadia Creek is Earth. There just is no comparison and they actually paid for this report. Thank you very much, Ladies and Gentleman.

7.

Margo Warminski  
Cincinnati Preservation Association  
342 W. 4th St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
513.721.4506  
[margo@cincinnati-preservation.org](mailto:margo@cincinnati-preservation.org)

**Comment:**

Good evening. Margo Warminski of Cincinnati Preservation Association. The Lick Run water way is an opportunity-created unique amenity while addressing a critical environmental problem.

If this is done right it could be transformational for the neighborhood. But it won't achieve its potential for placemaking benefits without saving as many of the historic buildings in the area as possible.

The valley, the hills, the creeks, the buildings, the people who built them all worked together to create a powerful sense of place that remains in place 'til this day. Mitigation under the Section 106 process, once that finally begins, offers opportunities for saving many of these historic National-Register eligible buildings either leaving them in place or avoiding or relocating them. But if these buildings are moved they need to be adopted, they need to have a reuse plan and funding for renovation as recommended in the Final Phase I Report and not just left as orphaned buildings.

The planning process also needs to talk about what is going to happen to these buildings if the green alternative is rejected or modified for a hybrid plan. We're afraid that if you do nothing, they will end up being demolished, the neighborhood will end up with nothing and it deserves better. But regardless of which plan is chosen we also need to fix the traffic through the valley to encourage reinvestment. You can't have a revitalized neighborhood business district unless you repopulate the neighborhood as a livable, walkable community. And that is not going to happen while it's used as a commuter raceway.

Just in conclusion, this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to revitalize a neighborhood that has seen far too much bad planning in the past. Let's work together with all the stakeholders to create a real community of the future. Thank you.

8.

Jo Ann Metz  
San Antonio Church- President, Lick Run Valley Historical Association  
2225 Queen City Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.662.9934

**Comment:**

I'm Jo Ann Metz. I'm with the San Antonio Advisory Council and also President of the Lick Run Valley Historical Association. It's 20 sum years in operation down there. I'm a fourth generation South Fairmount person, been around the world too, out in Oak Hills and elsewhere.

So, I agree that everyone here has their own interests. And I like to see the American process, it's good, it's positive. We can work it out. Our experience at San Antonio has been very good with the MSD oversight. And the group that is designing this, we have been listened to, counseled with. And everything they promised us at our church, so far as being a drainage center, has been complied with. And cheerfully, it can be worked out, I agree with Margo. So far, as South Fairmount is concerned, we have had the bad end of the stick for a long, long time. I think it can be worked out, I really do. Thank you.

9.

Marilyn Wall  
Sierra Club  
816 Van Nes Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45246  
513.226.9235  
[marilyn.wall@sierraclub.org](mailto:marilyn.wall@sierraclub.org)

**Comment:**

My name is Marilyn Wall and I want to add to voices that have already expressed the desire to get more transparency, to get more information shared with the public about these projects. It's particularly frustrating since I've, I've been involved in this, efforts, with MSD for years and years. And to be learning new information at the last minute, to hear costs are increased we have drastically different modeling data that there are questions about water quality standards and exactly what is MSD trying to convey?

But we've asked for more questions -- we've asked more questions and asked for more information. And we hope that MSD will make a bigger effort to try to make information available to people. There's a lot that -- things have changed recently.

For instance, the Kings Run solution is different than what was presented at the open house, it's different than what was presented to community members when they asked MSD to come to the community and explain what was going on. Yet do they really know that what has been proposed now is different? You know, the postcards that went out didn't even mention Kings Run. That people have really no idea what's, what's, what's coming forward.

We would hope that MSD is making every effort to ensure that we do meet water quality standards and that nothing MSD does causes or contributes to violations of those standards. What is caused by Butler County is Butler County's problem and they can certainly do a better job up there, and hopefully they will. But we really would like to encourage MSD to keep this project in budget and to keep it on time and to deliver the benefits that we really need in this community. Thank you.

10.

Joe Thoman  
Weil Thoman Moving & Storage Company  
1617 Queen City Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.519.9654  
[joe-thoman@hotmail.com](mailto:joe-thoman@hotmail.com)

I'm Joe Thoman and this is my friend Tippy the Canoe. And I'm playing a little what if. Thank you.

Thanks, Charles. So I'm playing a little what if. Okay. Everything that's going to happen to the property owners in this location are affected by eminent domain, potentially eminent domain, and governed by rules on the books how they're being treated.

I feel there's going to be some shortfalls, possibly not getting all the monies you think your real estate is worth once you've had the appraisals, once the attorneys get done with the discussions on both sides there's going to be a shortfall. And nobody liked the numbers the other day in the newspaper. Okay. I don't like the numbers that I see and Tippy is riding right beside me.

We want to know how we can change the laws so it doesn't cost the property owners personal income. Because the only thing available out there is monies available from the City at two percent or whatever, but it's got to be paid back. So we're going to be relocated if this goes through and we want to know what kind of law, what kind of laws can be brought into effect to compensate us for our expenses.

Tippy doesn't like the 600 miles of water that she saw on the map. And she would love to see some money and so would everybody else in the neighborhood that's being transferred. Thank you.

**Tony Parrott's Response to Joe at meeting:**

I want to make a -- was it Mr. Joel? Joel. Who? Thoman. The one thing that I, I wanted to be able to tell you tonight and any other industry that's out there. I know that when we talk about relocation assistance we've talked about us following the -- a city process and the Uniform Relocation Act. We have been, this summer, working very diligently with the City Administration to look at other opportunities and other resources that would be available for businesses.

Most recently the City Manager did approve administrative regulation that will allow us on a project-by-project basis to use supplemental resources for businesses. And we can get into a little more details about that, but I at least wanted you to know that we heard you the first time and we've been working since then. And so we want to, we would like to meet with you to talk about that. But there's most recently the City Manager has approved additional supplemental assistance for businesses that we can share with you.

**Joe's response:**

Thank you for the efforts. We took a poll of business owners in the neighborhood. It was a number of 30 million. It really wasn't really pie in the sky. We're only asking for reality and responsible compensation. So, thank you. Tippy, do you need Tippy? Sure.

11.  
Michael C. Miller  
Rivers Unlimited, Mill Creek Watershed Council  
3348 Meyer Pl.  
Cincinnati, OH 45211  
513.556.9751  
[mike.miller@uc.edu](mailto:mike.miller@uc.edu)

**Comment:**

I'm Michael Miller representing Rivers Unlimited and I'm a member of the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities. The effort you're putting forth here is directed at cleaning up water. This is generated by the Clean Water Act as you well know. And the comments here haven't been directed towards the clean

water implications of this, of this study. The daylighting of streams like the West Fork Creek and Lick Run that have been cement lined or put underground I'm a little alarmed at the number of underground storage tanks that are going to be used.

Anything that is underground does not oxidize organic material or nutrients. Flowing waters and wetlands and retention ponds do. In fact, retention ponds and wetlands are the most effective way at reducing E. coli from water sources in the series of reports I reviewed this afternoon.

It would be, it would, I would like to see more inclusion to the surface features in the headwaters reduction of the water flows into the Mill Creek as a policy. I just wanted to speak in favor of the supplemental environmental grants that you've already put out that have generated green ways, park ways and channel improvements for fish and wildlife in the Mill Creek. And we hope that those continue. Thank you.

12.

David LaDow  
South Fairmount Resident  
2501 Knorr Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.319.5826

**Comment:**

My name is Dave Ladow and I'm a resident of South Fairmount community. First of all I understand the cost will rise. Why -- I guess my first question is, are the costs of either of these projects going to be presented to the County in a today-dollar form rather than a 2006 dollar form, which is much more realistic?

And secondly, Mr. Portune, you and the County Commissioners, shame on you. Holding a closed meeting of public institutions. You should know better than that. I'm done.

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 16, 2012**

Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 2 (written comments submitted to reporter)

**Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 2 (written comments submitted to reporter) at the MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on August 16, 2012**

MSD PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS

Aug. 16, 2012

James T. O’Reilly

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. This is a vitally important point in the history of our local environmental progress, and I want to open by commending the MSD communications staff, Mary Lynn Lodor, for coming to visit our First Suburbs Consortium Quarterly Membership Meeting to address us about the public comment period. I may be the only suburban elected official who has read and keeps a copy of the consent decree in my office and who has studied these options over several years. I served on the Long Term Control Plan Advisory Committee and have been active in the Executive Committee of OKI Regional Council of Governments for many years.

These views are not necessarily those of our city, of OKI or of the Consortium.

1. The large sewer fee cost increases will have a direct impact on regional macroeconomic competitiveness as this county competes with Dayton, Louisville, Indianapolis, etc. for high liquid-generating industries and those with liquid-assisted machinery for bulk consumer packing or industrial uses. Sewerage rates factor into costs of goods produced; and the prospects of 8-10% annual increases will deter a liquids-using industry or a new developer of multi-unit housing opportunities from investments here. Overhead increases like an 8% sewer increase will deter jobs from being located here.

2. Post-2018 uncertainties regarding owner and operator roles for MSD are a cloud over the bond underwriting prospects, a relatively rare circumstance in the municipal bond market. so it cannot be presumed that the bond market will embrace a spike in issuance of long term municipal bonds for the construction of these projects at the desired AAA rating. Every step that can be taken to reduce the District's dependence on very large bond financing placements should be taken now, before the 2018 date enters into the consciousness of bond underwriters who evaluate the credit worthiness of the City and County. Multiple smaller issuances, spreading out time to completion makes more sense as a fund raising strategy.

3. Many good people work hard for MSD. But the personnel aspects of the additional MSD projects should be controlled by investment in automation wherever possible. The large legacy costs of additional staffing to the city pension plan and post-2018 to PERS for county employees will be a real problem that should be factored into the equation. Make every effort to reduce the workforce needed to operate the new systems, and consider investing in a study of peer comparatives to the costs per comparable task, of the sewer entities in other cities, to determine relative benefits of inside/outsource costs assigned to current and legacy costs of MSD workforce assignments. The weighted cost per employee of a manually operated system in MSD versus another city's automation savings is an important number as we calculate long term operational expense estimates.

4. Please do a better job of explaining the reasons for the variation between 2005, 2010 and 2012 sets of cost estimates. The public rate-payer is slowly awakening to the rising cost curve of projections for the consent decree in 2012 versus the original LTCP. Explain better and more often why costs went up so significantly. Make it clear if you can and the public will better accept the bad news.

5. Our accountability as the local elected officials for communities in the service area requires us to be ready when complaints are made about our billing numbers; may we please have an annual update of the reasons why the costs have gone up this year vs. last and this year vs. 3 years ago? Let us know so we remain credible in answering our residents' legitimate concerns.

6. The Tunnel is the "800-lb. gorilla" which must be squarely addressed in any discussion of the long term plan. As the consent decree gets older, some may forget the original role of the Tunnel was as the "Hammer" element intended to force serious consideration of costly but less difficult options. The LTCP committee members, including me, urged alternatives be offered to US EPA for the approval of the judge. The judge who inherited this case file is a generalist who is likely to defer to US EPA environmental engineers if they resist the MSD on alternatives to the tunnel. We need to have US EPA concurrence in the non-Tunnel project alternatives if we are to seek Boehner, Portman, and Sherrod Brown's help with the more visible and marginally less costly alternatives. I recommend that we intensely publicize tunnel storage experiences in other cities both as to the costs of creation (and disposal of rock) and costs of operation (pumps and power usage). Then MSD should position the alternatives as more benign and more rational. I am concerned that MSD may not have offered the public sufficient perspective on the issue of why several alternative rain-event water retention options will be feasible. The public must get that context from facts that MSD and its contractors can publicize. If the tunnel is the sole choice left standing after smaller surface projects are discarded, there may be a real problem with voter acceptance of the tunnel, e.g. "why didn't you tell us that A or B were our best alternatives to a Chicago-style tunnel?"

Thank you for considering these Comments.

Jim O' Reilly, Wyoming City Council, joreilly@fuse.net, 708-5601

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 23, 2012**

Transcription of Verbal Public Comments

**MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy  
MSD Wastewater Collection Division  
August 23, 2012**

**Transcription of Verbal Public Comments**

1.

Elliott Ellis  
South Fairmount Community Council  
1724 Fairmount Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.471.5099  
[whccerlene@aol.com](mailto:whccerlene@aol.com)

**Comment:**

Good evening. My name is Elliott Ellis. I'm President of the South Fairmount Community Council. When in -- or 2010 MSD began making public the need to remove CSOs in a project groundwork they published the same solutions for Project Groundwork. I quote from that pamphlet. MSD is currently pursuing potential opportunities in Carthage and South Fairmount and will continue to look for new partners. MSD's Vision 2012-2014, pamphlet, MSD's, Our Promise to You. Promised. And I again quote, engaged in integrated discussion making. From the very beginning the South Fairmount Community Council offered to partner with MSD. From the very beginning MSD have be silent on our offer to become Project Groundwork Lick Run partner. As a result, the South Fairmount Community Council formed a public private partnership with Hargrove Engineering, L.L.C.

We have developed enhancements to Lick Run's --or MSD's Lick Run project to ensure that South Fairmount would be more than an open ditch. We stand ready to make these enhancements public and will do so on Tuesday August 28th from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. at Orion Academy, located at 1798 Queen City Avenue. The South Fairmount Community Council has repeatedly stated that our enhancements would truly make the entire Lick Run project a win win for MSD, South Fairmount and the Lick Run Watershed.

MSD has said all the right words. Has MSD taken all the right actions? MSD's Project Groundwork Lick Run can never become a national model for CSO removal without all having a share in the outcome. South Fairmount deserves more than open ditch defining our community. Thank you.

2.

Julie Murray

CUFNA (Clifton Heights University Fairview Neighborhood Association)

147 Parker St.

Cincinnati, OH 45219

513.721.7543

[julimurray@aol.com](mailto:julimurray@aol.com)

**Comment:**

My name is Julie Murray and I'm a Member of the Community Council in CUF, Clifton Heights University Heights in Fairview. And I have questions rather than a prepared statement. Several -- well, a statement, several months ago, all the neighbors in my end of CUF had fumes coming from our sewer, big time, inside our homes. We had to evacuate our homes and we were told afterwards, when the people that were responsible for checking it out came that night, I'm glad to say so we could return to our homes, that it was the result of one of the industries dumping gasoline into the water system, into the sewer system. I was shocked. So, that's one example.

My question is since stormwater services is the lion's share of my residential water bill, by far, how much more will either of these projects cost a homeowner? That's my first question. And the second question is how is industry and business being prorated for their use of the same system? So those are the statement and the two questions. Thank you.

3.

Miss Cecilia Kloecker

9485 Wynnecrest Dr.

Blue Ash, OH 45242

513.745.9062

[kloecker@fuse.net](mailto:kloecker@fuse.net)

**Comment:**

I'm Cecilia Kloecker and I'm a resident of Hamilton County and I just have one sentence. I don't understand and I'm frustrated how MSD is defining this as a public feedback meeting when Tony Parrott speaks for 50 minutes and a two-hour meeting that allows only 40 minutes of public input.

4.

Paul Willham

Knox Hill Neighborhood Association

1871 Knox St.

Cincinnati, OH 45214

317.244.5511

[victiques@gmail.com](mailto:victiques@gmail.com)

**Comment:**

Good evening. My name is Paul Willham. I'm President of the Knox Hill Neighborhood Association. I've been involved in community turn-around efforts in several cities as a preservation consultant to

neighborhoods and redevelopment groups. I have extensive experience in urban planning and effective redevelopment strategies.

I would like to address the fuzzy math, MSD's proposed budgetary projections, and shed light on the real hidden costs involved in this project. Nowhere in the MSD alternative projection is factored the loss of property tax revenue. In short, property acquired by the County for this project is not going to be taxed. Based on the property MSD has acquired and the property MSD needs to acquire for the alternative plan, millions of dollars in property tax revenue are lost over the 25-year span in this project.

There's no concrete development, redevelopment plan with this alternative, no budget for redevelopment. Who would ultimately do the redevelopment? Simply the idea that we will build this and magically it will happen. As someone who has a history of redevelopment and new infill construction the idea that a developer would build market-rate 250 to \$350,000 infill in a basin centered around a drainage ditch is laughable.

Indianapolis has a similar project called Pogue's Run. You should go by it. It was built as a wet water park. You can't go to it because of the mosquitoes and the smell. Cincinnati has a history of redevelopment. We saw it with Queens Gate when we knocked -- when we evicted 25,000 people from there. We spent 43 million dollars to clear the neighborhood to build Queens Gate which were sold to private developers for seven, point, two million dollars. In urban planning circles the Queens Gate project is illustrated as to what not to do in urban renewal. Let's not make the same mistake again.

I support the deep tunnel is the only sensible alternative. The meager savings of the green alternative is offset by the property tax revenue forever lost by this proposal. You may save eight cents per unit, but when you factor in the real property revenue loss this alternative will cost far more and amount to the architectural rate of South Fairmount by MSD. Thank you.

5.

Tim Mara

1417 Pleasant St.

Cincinnati, OH 45202

513.246.4236

[Tmara4570@aol.com](mailto:Tmara4570@aol.com)

**Comment:**

My name is Tim Mara and I don't yet have an opinion as to which alternative is the best. I came here to learn. But I do feel that whatever alternative is ultimately chosen that rate payers should not be stuck paying for aspects of the project that are more the nature of economic development than addressing the stormwater overflows. This project, those kind of projects, should stand on their own feet and be funded either by agencies whose job is economic development or by developers who stand to benefit by the money making opportunities created by these projects and not the customers of MSD.

And this is not the first time that MSD has created projects that are more for economic development than to solve a sewer problem. And, Mr. Parrott, I mentioned to you the Glenview Pump Station project in Green Township which is to open up land rather than to solve a CSO problem. So we don't want to see that again. It's not your job to promote economic development and you should stick to the sewer issues.

I'm also concerned that the dollar comparison is a narrow way of looking at or comparing these projects.

Dollars are important, but they're not everything. As I understand it these alternative projects, one of them, calls for removal of acres of trees at Mount Airy Forest for stormwater detention basins. That's a loss of trees and wildlife. You have to put a dollar value on those losses in order to make a comparison valid. Just as you need to put a dollar value on the loss of historic structures along Lick Run in order to make the dollar comparisons valid. So we need to somehow bondize the loss of habitat in order to make these comparisons valid. Thank you.

6.

Dennis Smith  
Paper Products Company in South Fairmount  
South Fairmount Business Association President  
1543 Queen City Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.921.4717  
[dennis@paperproductscompany.com](mailto:dennis@paperproductscompany.com)

**Comment:**

Ladies and Gentlemen, my name is Dennis Smith and I'm President of the South Fairmount Business Association. You'll notice by what they're saying here tonight this is an outreach program. Tony mentioned about the 300 people that attended the workshops, workshops one, two and three. 21,000 invitations were sent out and only about 300 people showed up. And of that 300 people most of them were MSD employees, City employees or consultants. Last week I attended the South Fairmount or the one over at MSD headquarters in Lower Price Hill. And the statistics are there was hundred and 17 people that attended that meeting, that's similar to this crowd here. Of the hundred and 17 close to 70 were employees of the MSD, the City, the County or consultants. 20 businesses were represented or probably about 18 businesses. There were some extras there for each company. And there was a miscellaneous of about 30 people. I suspect this group here tonight also is very similar in its makeup. I think there's a lot of County, City employees, MSD employees. And this is part of the outreach effort. Somehow the MSD is not getting out to the general public.

You'll notice in tonight's presentation that Tony said nothing about businesses in South Fairmount that will be affected by this Project Groundwork including the viaduct and possibly Westwood Avenue. Total of about 68 million dollars in sales are representing of about 22 of the 30 companies that are there. And I have affidavits from these people who I interviewed representing about 600 jobs. There seems no regard whatsoever for what the businesses are to do. They say they reach out and they reach out basically in name only. They do talk to us, he mentioned here tonight, but he didn't say anything about what they were going to actually do for us.

And also I want to say we've invited the USEPA to come to our meetings twice and they refused saying they don't have money in their budget. And we've offered to pay for their airfare. Thank you.

7.

Gregory Drake  
Knox Hill Neighborhood Association  
1871 Knox St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
317.244.5511  
[gad.victiques@gmail.com](mailto:gad.victiques@gmail.com)

**Comment:**

Good evening. My name is Gregory Drake and I'm the Redevelopment and Project Coordinator for Knox Hill Neighborhood Association of South Fairmount. I support the proven deep tunnel approach for South Fairmount as I feel it provides the necessary requirements under Federal Consent Decree. But more importantly it would, it would preserve historic assets which are best, which are the best chance for rebirth and redevelopment in South Fairmount.

We cannot risk our history and viable redevelopment based on leveraging historic assets for unknown and untested theory. Nor are there any redevelopment numbers available for review. This is nothing more than a 1960's urban renewal scheme repackaged as a green alternative. It didn't work in 1960s and it won't work this time. There is nothing green about placing an extended or existing built, existing-built structure in a landfill, excavating brownfields and bringing new soil in, in hopes of development will come. Thank you.

8.

Michael Patton

Citizen

3767 Millsbrae Ave.

Cincinnati, OH 45209

michalearlpatton@yahoo.com

**Comment:**

Hello. My name is Michael Earl Patton. I'm an engineer, I live in Oakley. I wanted to say that of the two alternatives presented, the deep tunnel and the sustainable alternative, that I'm very skeptical of the deep tunnel because I'm concerned about the ongoing operational costs. As I say, it's not the cost but the upkeep, you know, to pump all that water down. Let the water drain down down down to a deep tunnel and then pump it up again, you know, after every heavy rain it's just going to be extremely expensive. And I do not see energy costs getting cheaper over time.

So, that's my explanation whether the sustainable or alternative can't be improved. I did listen to some of these concerns here, I do think they are legitimate, but that's what my concern is about the deep tunnel.

I do have two questions. Mr. Parrott spoke of the two percent of the medium income and some kind of indicator as to the economic burden. He did not say where we are now with respect to that two percent. I would like to know what that is? And also this is the Consent Decree, and attachments which I downloaded off of the website. It's speaks of a one, point, five billion dollar capital cost after which if we spend that much money in 2006 dollars, as Mr. Parrott likes to say, you know, we can, you know, work with the parties to see if we can get a time extension.

I think Mr. Portune mentioned a three and a half billion dollar cost, but I'm not sure if that's a capital cost. But I would like to know where we are with respect to the one, point, five billion dollar capital cost Section 9 of this Consent Decree? Thank you.

9.

Eileen Frechette  
Wooden Shoe Hollow Neighborhood Association  
5081 Wooden Shoe Hollow  
Cincinnati, OH 45232  
513.542.2055  
efwoodenshoe@fuse.net

My name is Eileen Frechette and I live in Wooden Shoe Hollow. It's part of Spring Grove Village Winton Hills area, Kings Run Watershed.

I have a very strong feeling about if our money is to be spent, at least I'm going to be charged for what happens. It feels really important to me that you approve how affective the system will be. And the multiple modeling process concerns me, 'cause this could go on for a long long time. You can come down to Kings Run which is daylighted in Wooden Shoe Hollow. You can see what happens in a normal small rain. And you can think about what has happened in the past year when we had 70 inches of rainfall.

I don't, in my going through these papers, see a projection that really covers what is happening with our rainfall and what is happening with the volume and the velocity of stormwater. That's not including development that may occur. But we need to see real models. And our community offered to be very much a part of showing the situation, demonstrating what's happening down there. And we have been waiting for our community design project. I know one was done in Lick Run.

So I would like to know what happened to the community design project? And also, how affective will this really be? I don't want to see lots more money spent modeling for several more years. Thank you.

10.

Charles Young – Vice President  
South Fairmount Community Council  
1535 Knox St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.251.2332/513.404.5725  
youngcharles@zoomtown.com

**Comment:**

Good evening. My name is Charles Young. I'm the Vice President of the South Fairmount Community Council. Proceeding me, my President, Mr. Elliott Ellis, laid out for you some of the difficulties we are having in our community. And trust me, if I was in South Fairmount right now I probably would have a bunch of eggs thrown at me.

But let me say this to you. Those of you who really don't know me as the Vice President of my community I'm also an accounting major, economics minor. I have said on many a times and many occasions that I think this challenge that the MSD and the County has is a great one.

And I would think that we can champion it with a win win situation solution. Just as this past week, for the first time, this community was able to engage the County in a dialogue that can put us forward with that effort.

I do want to see a new birth in our community. I think we can achieve that. But today I'm here to talk about the cost. Now in my schooling and my training we would talk about the cost curve, the subsupply and the demand. Presently I'm trying to figure out how can we pay for this. Most of us, well, most of you, are not like me are not rich so you have to pay for, pay for this project. That means that you have to have a set amount of people to supply this cost or this payment for this project. So that means that there's not going to be a decline in our population, or is it? So, who's going to pay for this? And if we're going to pay for this and you want us to pay for this why don't you give us something at the end of the year that we can recapitalize our money loss through our taxes? Give us a credit, and then I can see my investment in this project being sought in my own personal business. Because a lot of your businesses I know pay for it, I mean, you can write it off. But some of us smaller people can't do that. So I'm asking possibly, you legislators, give us a tax credit that we can write off every year to help sustain this project for you. And as you know the economy is declining. Thank you.

11.

Steve Slack  
Land/Home Owner on Kings Run  
5045 Wooden Shoe Hollow  
Cincinnati, OH 45232  
slack@fuse.net

**Comment:**

Hi. I'm Steve Slack. I'm a landowner in Wooden Shoe Hollow in Kings Run which runs directly, yeah, on my property. I want to put it in the record that I gave MaryLynn Lodor a thumb drive of a rain event in December of 2011 of just a simple one-day rain that filled up Kings Run. **(Note: Stills from this video are included in this appendix).** That's over the sewer, the daylighted stream and, you know, it was a foot below flood.

And I was reading about the alternative solution that I just learned about recently and that there could be even more stormwater diverted to Kings Run. And it just simply cannot handle any more capacity than it does right now. So you have a video of what that rain event looks like because we see it all the time there in Wooden Shoe Hollow. I understand that the EHRT that could be installed at 217 would be designed for a one and a half inch rain event.

And the way it rains there I don't know if that would actually help the situation since so often we have more than one and a half-inch rain events. And so I would like some more information about the statistics on that sort of thing. And the, of course, the alternatives are unknown really right now since I haven't had a chance to talk with people what exactly what those are. And that's it. Thanks for listening. And I hope that the sustainable solution is the solution. I hope it all works out. I don't envy your job at all.

12.

Jo Ann Metz  
San Antonio Church & Lick Run Valley Historical Association  
2225 Queen City Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.662.9934

**Comment:**

I'm Jo Ann Metz. I'm with the San Antonio Church. The congregation sent me. Also, I'm the President on Lick Run Valley Historical Association. We've been in business about 22 years. I live on the floor of the valley. The people on the floor of the valley, it should be made clear, feel very differently than the people that live on the ridges and on, halfway up the valley.

It's kind of amazing. The people that are speaking for South Fairmount actually live in Central Fairmount and I thought you should know that. Not that we have great differences in what they bring up, but probably is useful to them, but we are really glad that somebody's come and saved us from all the traffic and the sewage that backs up in our basement. We are perfectly willing to cooperate in any way we can, and our church has. And I want to remind you that the EPA has a long proud history here in Cincinnati. I know it personally for many years, and was acquainted with an agency. They could always assign a special group and unit that would see to it that this is not an open ditch, that it's sustained. And it would be a feather in our hat and a feather in their hat to turn something good like that out of Cincinnati. They have a long history of helping the nation's health system. I wish you would ask for that when you bargain with them. They're good men and women. Thank you.

13.

Marilyn Wall  
Sierra Club  
816 Van Nes Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45246  
513.226.9235  
[marilyn.wall@sierraclub.org](mailto:marilyn.wall@sierraclub.org)

My name is Marilyn Wall and I'm a Member of Sierra Club. And I just wanted to touch on a few topics. I'm glad to hear Mr. Parrott say that more information will be made available on the web. We've been asking for more information and I think you are hearing that from a number of people tonight.

Also, who would like to understand the project better and understand the implications, the water quality issues and so on, far better than what they can from the information that's been made available to date. We -- also glad to hear a little bit different descriptions of what's going on with water quality and MSD's goals as far as water quality goes. But the ultimate goal is not just that did we achieve volumetric reductions in short term, but to actually achieve water quality standards in the long run. And that's, that's the ultimate purpose of the entire effort with the Consent Decree.

We're really concerned about whether or not the right solutions are being picked when they're being aimed simply at meeting an 85 percent goal as opposed to ultimately what the benefit is from working toward achieving water quality and whether or not we're picking the right solutions at this point. We're looking at pretty significant changes in the volume of overflows from just a few years ago. And we have a lot of concerns about how accurate these are right now and how well this really represents the impact to water quality within Mill Creek as well as the other watersheds in -- that MSD is responsible for.

How accurate are they? We know MSD says they're very confident, but we need to see real data and real validation by actual flow monitors and so on to know both the flow is right and also what the actual water quality at the point of overflow is. Whether it is highly concentrated or contains a lot of storm-water runoff. We're very concerned about the cost and how much these have risen since they were first put together in 2009. And we're also -- there are many aspects of the so-called green plan than -- finish? Yes, okay. That um -- about the green plan, they are really not very green. The Kings Run overflow area is really a grey solution. It's pipes, it's EHRTs, it's storage, it's retention ponds which were -- are part of very

traditional grey infrastructure as are many of the conveyances that are being talked about. The box channel under Lick Run. We'd like to see a really green plan and we hope that MSD can produce one. Thank you.

14.

Michael C. Miller  
Rivers Unlimited, Water Quality Committee MC Watershed Council of Communities  
3348 Meyer Pl.  
Cincinnati, OH 45211  
513.675.0293  
[mike.miller@uc.edu](mailto:mike.miller@uc.edu)

**Comment:**

I'm Michael Miller. I'm speaking for Rivers Unlimited and I'm on the Water Quality Subgroup of the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities. We're interested in water quality attainment in the Mill Creek.

That's what this is all about. Chris Yoder has just done a massive job for you as you're well aware. And the TMDL for the Lower Great Miami is also out. So, we're, we're very attuned to what the water quality ought to be. One of the aspects of the, of the plan is to reduce volume and we think it ought to reduce overflows.

I don't want to see an 85 percent reduction in volume. I want to see a reduction of 85 percent of the number of overflows. The overflows bring in the first flush. That contains most of the toxins, the oil, the brake linings, the road salt. That is the lethal part to the water quality of the stream.

In Ohio it is macroinvertebrates and fish that determine our water quality. And water quality standards are used in -- as in support of the biological water quality or biocriteria. We hate to see underground structures. There's no, there's no purification that occurs in underground structures. In fact, they are biofilms that create places for nanobacteria to grow and perpetrate and slough off. It's the sunshine shallow waters, bubbling creeks, small retention ponds, rain gardens that are going to be the solution.

We would like to see you move up into the uplands and do more retention on site with the evaporation infiltration and retention. Thank you.

15.

Jacque Chischillie  
Resident, South Fairmount  
1692 Harrison Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.623.0615  
[jac.3sisters@hotmail.com](mailto:jac.3sisters@hotmail.com)

**Comment:**

So I'm going to come up here and talk, not with credentials. Although at one point in my life I was a chemical engineer. I don't have credentials on water quality. I'm going to talk about being a lifetime resident of South Fairmount. And you talk about taxes going away from South Fairmount. Ladies and Gentlemen, our property values can't get any lower in South Fairmount than they are right now.

So if the MSD can bring a project that's going to be beneficial for the environment as well as economically beneficial to the neighborhood, then there's a strong following of South Fairmount residents who are behind you and want to see this daylighted. And, with Jo Ann, I'm on the floor, so when it rains I have a river running through my basement not my front yard. Thank you.

16.

Hershel Daniels

Hargrove Engineering

2 Garfield Place, Suite 300

Cincinnati, OH 45205

[Hershel@hargroveengineering.com](mailto:Hershel@hargroveengineering.com)

**Comment:**

My name is Hershel Daniels. I'm with Hargrove Engineering, I'm an oceanographic tech, and we're the partners of the South Fairmount Community Council. I've written out the questions, and I invite all of you to come out next Tuesday at 6:00 to 8:00 at Orion Academy in South Fairmount. And come out with questions.

What we're going to be releasing -- we've released a draft in April, but we're going to be releasing our work product. And it includes a lot of what has been from the water quality and from the biological from the flow that is addressing the sustainability of the community. We have written questions for the MSD. But come on out next Tuesday 6:00 to 8:00 and we'll answer your questions.

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 23, 2012**

Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 11 (stills from a video of Kings Run after a heavy rain)



**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 23, 2012**

Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 15 (written comments submitted to stenographer)

**Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 15 (written comments submitted to stenographer) at the  
MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on August 23, 2012**

Jacque Chischillie  
Resident, South Fairmount  
1692 Harrison Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.623.0615  
[jac.3sisters@hotmail.com](mailto:jac.3sisters@hotmail.com)

There is a strong following of South Fairmount residents who are excited to see positive change in our community. Therefore, we support the sustainable solution to the combined sewer problem. We have witnessed South Fairmount diminish from a community to a blighted neighborhood. Although the objective of the project is to reduce the volume of water being treated, the side affect of the project is improved quality of life for the residents of South Fairmount. We have been waiting for something like this for a long time.

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 23, 2012**

Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 16 (written comments submitted to stenographer)

**Special Exhibit from Commenter No. 16 (written comments submitted to stenographer) at the  
MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on August 23, 2012**

Hershel Daniels  
Hargrove Engineering  
2 Garfield Place, Suite 300  
Cincinnati, OH 45205  
Hershel@hargroveengineering.com

You will make your modeling data available.

Will u enter into P3.

Let me be clear, the figures quoted are 2006 costs that lost 2012.

How much money have you spent in the design phase so far? In the future?

What is your SBA agreement slope?

What do you mean by sustainability in terms of economic development

Does your costs include maintenance

You are building for how long

## **Appendix B: Written Public Comments**

## **Appendix B: Written Public Comments (continued)**

Appendix B includes the following documentation:

- Transcriptions of Emails
- Transcription in Person
- Transcription of Written Comment Cards from the MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 16, 2012
- Transcription of Written Comment Cards from the MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012

## Transcription of Emails

## MSD Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

### Transcription of Emails

1.

Paul Willham  
President of the Knox Hill Neighborhood Association  
1871 Knox St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
317.244.5511  
[victiques@gmail.com](mailto:victiques@gmail.com)

#### **Comment submitted 08/02/2012:**

My name is Paul Willham and I represent the Knox Hill Neighborhood Association and area of approximately 224 homes in the area overlooking this proposed project.

The Knox Hill Neighborhood Association is in favor of the deep tunnel approach to resolve the storm water separation issue for Mill Creek. This is a proven, tested solution that will resolve the issue and most importantly preserve historic South Fairmount.

We are OPPOSED to the alternative which would destroy significant historic architecture, dislocate businesses that employ local residents and forever destroy the history of the City of Cincinnati.

There is nothing 'green' about the demolition of existing structures and placing them in a landfill, the removal of millions of tons of soil, the trucking in of soil to replace a brownfield all to 'recreate' a stream that was essentially used as an open sewer when it originally existed.

We question the 'openness' of this entire process, when section 106 review was only considered after our neighborhood association raised the issue when the county was ready to begin demolition. We question the 'openness' of property acquisition. Most importantly we question the openness of the process when it was made apparent to EPA, long before this alternative was presented to the public that this was the proposed plan that would essentially result in the destruction of the South Fairmount for yet another "urban renewal scheme" which Cincinnati is famous for.

In the 1960's we demolished another neighborhood called Kenyan Barr for the construction of Queensgate Industrial Park. 25000 people, mostly poor African Americans were dislocated to Avondale, Walnut Hills and other parts of the city which prompted 'white flight' and forever changed the character of this city and in the minds of many urban planners, hastened its decline. Kenyan Barr now only exists in many urban planning textbooks as a classic case of what not to do in responsible urban planning, and Queensgate never reached a level of success it was projected to do.

If MSD has its way with this alternative plan, a glorified drainage ditch, we are doomed to repeat the mistake of Kenyan Barr and further ruin the 'preservation image' of Cincinnati.

For Knox Hill we see this process as a farce. The community was never engaged but directed in a carefully controlled process. We will bring our position directly to EPA, our Congressman, Senators, the Governor, and the federal court via an amicus brief we will submit directly to the court.

South Fairmount is a viable community which can be redeveloped by leveraging its historic assets, creation of a national historic district, creation of a main street development program and turn itself

around without its destruction as MSD, and this city's mayor proposes.

We will never support a "boondoggle" that will result in the destruction of South Fairmount, because MSD and the city is worried about its Moody's bond rating more than the citizens of this city.

2.

Lucas Bentley  
1600 Gest St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45204  
[bentleylucas@gmail.com](mailto:bentleylucas@gmail.com)

**Comment submitted 08/17/2012:**

To all parties this concerns:

Below is taken directly from MSD's website: [http://www.msdc.org/about\\_msdc/msdc\\_mission/index.html](http://www.msdc.org/about_msdc/msdc_mission/index.html)

Mission:

To protect public health and the environment through water reclamation and watershed management.

Vision: Our diverse and inspired workforce is recognized regionally for exceptional service and commitment to our community and is a global leader in water reclamation, environmental services and organizational excellence.

Values: We commit to serve as professionals with honesty, integrity, accountability, and respect

First off, MSD needs to heed to their values of honesty, integrity, and accountability and respect the public in which they serve by honoring their mission statement. Second, to say, "complying with the consent decree doesn't mean the water has to be clean (Mary Lynn Lodor, The Enquirer 08/17/12)" seems to go entirely against MSD's mission to protect public health and the environment through water reclamation (*Water reclamation is a process by which wastewater from homes and businesses is cleaned using biological and chemical treatment so that the water can be returned to the environment safely to augment the natural systems from which it came. It is used today as both an aquifer and stream enhancement strategy. Water reclamation helps decrease diverging water from sensitive eco-systems which depend greatly on the flow to improve the quality of the water. Water reclamation also decreases the pollution to bodies of water, such as oceans and rivers, by diverting the wastewater*) and watershed management (*Watershed management is the study of the relevant characteristics of a watershed aimed at the sustainable distribution of its resources and the process of creating and implementing plans, programs, and projects to sustain and enhance watershed functions that affect the plant, animal, and human communities within a watershed boundary. **Features of a watershed that agencies seek to manage include water supply, water quality, drainage, stormwater runoff, water rights, and the overall planning and utilization of watersheds.** Landowners, land use agencies, stormwater management experts, environmental specialists, water use surveyors and communities all play an integral part in the management of a watershed).*

How can projects such as the Lick Run Project be estimated at a cost of over \$3 billion and, in paraphrasing Ms. Mary Lynn Lodor, the water quality standards will still not be met? How is this protecting the environment and public health? How is meeting water quality standards not the main objective behind any of these repairs and updates within MSD's sewer system and the impact it has on our waterways?

Lucas Bentley

**3.**

Kym Ahern  
J.L. Rei Co  
P.O. Box 389021  
Cincinnati, OH 45238  
513.471.8809

[kymahern@aol.com](mailto:kymahern@aol.com)

**Comment submitted 08/23/2012:**

With the ongoing and expensive sewer updates throughout the county, my biggest concern is that the utility bill does not follow the person actually using the service. Unlike Duke Energy bills where the usage is always tied to the user, the water/sewage bills fall back on the landlords. With only a 40% home ownership rate in the city, the cost to landlords is becoming exorbitant. Almost every time a tenant leaves one of our houses, we are stuck with at least a \$300-500 unpaid water bill. We cannot file a small claims suit to collect this money because the tenants are not leaving a forward address. I would imagine in the last 20 years, we have paid out hundreds of THOUSANDS of dollars for deadbeats who don't pay their own bills.

This policy must be changed to hold people accountable and to lessen the burden on the landlords. There also should be a change to bill everyone monthly and not quarterly. The quarterly bills are too expensive for many people to manage considering that 60% of the bill is for sewer projects.

Sincerely,  
Kym Ahern

**4.**

Timothy G. Mara  
1417 Pleasant Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-6916  
(513) 246-4236 (H)  
(513) 484-8773 (cell)  
[TMara4570@aol.com](mailto:TMara4570@aol.com)

**Comment submitted 08/24/2012:**

Attached are my comments which are more detailed than I was able to make in the 2 minutes available to me last night.

Timothy G. Mara

**Attached letter:**

To: Metropolitan Sewer District  
In re: Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

In response to your request for comments, I submit the following additional comments beyond those which I made at the town hall meeting on August 23.

I came to the meeting to learn about the alternatives being considered and to hear what my fellow citizens had to say about the alternatives. I appreciate Mr. Parrott's presentation, but as someone else noted at the meeting, the presentation began late and was too long. By the time Mr. Parrott finished, many in

attendance were ready to leave. In the future, I strongly suggest that no more than 30 minutes be devoted to presentations so that we can get right to public comments before the audience becomes restless.

Although I have not yet come to a firm opinion about which alternative I should support, I do feel that whatever alternative is ultimately chosen, the ratepayers should not be stuck paying for aspects of the chosen alternative which are not directly attributable to reducing the overflows. Specifically, I note that there are a substantial number of projects which appear to have been modified to spur additional economic development and revitalization. While it is commendable that MSD be amenable to such modifications to achieve positive impacts beyond eliminating combined sewer overflows, any additional costs incurred should be funded by agencies responsible for economic development or by developers themselves who would benefit from the money-making opportunities created, not the MSD ratepayers.

I am also concerned that the additional costs incurred by making modifications to projects in order to accommodate economic development opportunities may push the total project cost so high as to put into play opportunities to revisit the obligations and timetables found in the consent decree. To the extent that the increased costs are not directly attributable to the overflow aspects of the projects, this could create a false impression that the cost of compliance has risen so high as to be unacceptable.

The phenomena of MSD going beyond its mandate to eliminate combined sewer overflows to create economic development opportunities are not new. In Green Township, MSD staff has proposed to extend the Wesselman Sewer to eliminate the Glenview Pump Station when a less expensive update of the pump station would prevent future overflows. The apparent justification for spending more of the ratepayers' money is to open up land for development. The additional money could be better spent on fixing other CSOs. Raising sewer rates to fund economic development amounts to an unvoted tax increase in order to enhance the land values of a few.

Lastly, I am concerned that MSD is comparing the alternatives based solely on cost of construction. Operation and maintenance expenses should also be considered. Additionally, it does not appear that the comparative analysis of the alternatives considers non-monetary costs, such as loss of woods where stormwater retention basins are proposed for the loss of historic structures in the Lick Run basin. Some effort should be made to monetize or otherwise compare the alternatives in those respects.

Sincerely,  
Timothy G. Mara, JD, AICP

5.  
Mimi Rook  
Camp Washington  
2951 Sidney Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45225  
[mimiyoga1@yahoo.com](mailto:mimiyoga1@yahoo.com)

**Comment submitted 08/24/2012:**

Hi Mary Lynn,

I really wanted to make one of your meetings, but we are down to one car and my husband does not get home from work until between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. I fully support your daylighting initiative. After the summer we have had and all the suffering plants and trees and animals, your initiatives become ever more important to the region's health and well-being.

I hope the community realizes how important the right decision is. Business as it has been done before won't work! I am so sorry I could not add my voice to that discussion the last 2 weeks.

Mimi Rook

6.

Jill Keith  
1753 Montrose St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.471.4432  
[jilki@aol.com](mailto:jilki@aol.com)

**Comment submitted 08/29/2012:**

To Whom it may concern,

Last evening I attended a very disturbing meeting about the MSD project proposed for South Fairmount!

MSD is proposing a landscaped, daylighted waterway to carry rainwater runoff from the western part of Cincinnati to their treatment plants. Since this proposal I have noted an increase in homes being repaired and some properties being purchased near the proposed site. I believe this is in hope of a better future for the area related to the MSD project. This area of South Fairmount is consumed with litter, blight, drugs, and crime. (I know I live right in the center of it).

There are several people who are opposed to this idea for varying reasons (mostly fear of losing the few small businesses in the area). They have proposed a different idea on how this runoff should be handled.

This group of people (none of them residents of the immediate South Fairmount area) believes it would be better to clear cut over 20 acres of trees from the hillsides overlooking Cincinnati (creating even more water runoff) and build a waste treatment plant to welcome people to South Fairmount! I have been a lifelong resident of South Fairmount. The only beautiful thing about our neighborhood at this time is the tree covered hillsides surrounding the valley! If you drive over here from downtown (especially over the next few months-autumn) you will see an almost smoky mountain looking welcome to the neighborhood. Once in the immediate area it is a lost cause. The neighborhood is a collection of run down properties and litter.

If we trade MSD's proposed plan for this treatment plant South Fairmount will be the laughing stock of Cincinnati. When the East side is taking advantage of their waterway (the Ohio River) by building expensive homes and nice restaurants why should the west side settle for continued blight topped with a waste treatment plant.

I believe the MSD's project is a catalyst needed to improve this area and hope that the businesses affected by the project can work with MSD to improve the area for the residents that are here 24/7!

Jill Keith

7.

Kathy and Dave LaDow  
2501 Knorr Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.319.5826  
[ladow.k@gmail.com](mailto:ladow.k@gmail.com)

**Comment submitted 08/29/2012:**

I apologize if you have received this twice. It was human error rather than technical!

We were out-of-town and had no access to the internet, therefore we could not respond to the email we received on August 26, 2012 from Hershel Daniels of Hargrove Engineering (HE) until now:

Re: South Fairmount

Inbox

Hershel Daniels [hershel@hargroveengineering.com](mailto:hershel@hargroveengineering.com) via yahoo.com

Aug 26 (3 days ago)

to Tony, Greg, Chris, Todd, Jeff, me, youngcharles, Whccerlene, Diana, Dorothy, Jacquie, Jill, Jim, me, LaToya, Lavina, Maureen, Michael, Pam, Ray, rob, dennis, Lea, Cincinnati, Yvette.Simpson

<http://southfairmount.blogspot.com/>

This is the site for all public announcements related to the public private partnership established between the South Fairmount Community Council [SFCC] and Hargrove Engineering, LLC. This agreement was agreed upon by actions of the SFCC board in October 2011 which instructed the SFCC President and Vice President to be the day to day point persons in the agreement.

Hargrove Engineering, LLC, is an established minority owned small business enterprise whose President is Fred Hargrove, Sr. PE, MBA, CCM. The business was started in 1986 and is majority owned by Fred.

Our core competencies are focused on systems engineering and integration services [SE&I]; architecture, engineering and construction management [AEC], HVAC and plumbing solutions; technical engineering services [TES]; information and communications technology services [ICT]; environmental and energy services (ESG), and; Research & Development (R&D).

At Hargrove Engineering AEC we know that Diversity of Talent and a Passion to do great work assures success. That is why we are in the process of bring together over 50 other firms from around the world into a partnership to support clients from around the globe from our new headquarters in South Fairmount.

Regards,

/s/ hershel daniels junior

HERSHEL DANIELS, JUNIOR

- \* President, Friends of the African Union
- \* Business Development Director at Hargrove Engineering, LLC [MBE AEC/GC ICT Consultant]

This transmission is intended for the sole use of the individual and entity to whom it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. You are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or duplication of this transmission by someone other than the intended addressee or its designated agent is strictly prohibited. If your receipt of this transmission is in error, please notify Hershel Daniels, Junior c/o Hargrove Engineering at [hershel@hargroveengineering.com](mailto:hershel@hargroveengineering.com)

10 attachments — [Download all attachments](#) [View all images](#)

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The 9 pages that were attached to the email contained no explanation of what the company would actually be doing to accomplish the needs and wants listed on page 4 of the document.

To establish competency, we would like to see written documentation of the projects HE has completed with regard to any municipal/county projects they say they have been involved in. Was HE involved in an engineering consultation role?

Mr. Daniels has spoken of talks with representatives of African nations. Would HE provide documentation of these talks and their outcomes?

Would HE disclose the identification of the private entities who have been contacted for financial backing? What are the expected results?

The existence of the southfairmount.blogspot.com website has never been mentioned as a source of information at any South Fairmount Community Council meetings where I have asked that members be contacted by email for information about meetings and proposed plans.

I suggest that HE hires an editor to review and correct the spelling, punctuation and grammar errors in the documents it publishes. The many errors discredit its professionalism.

Dave LaDow  
Kathy LaDow

**8.**  
Kathy and Dave LaDow  
2501 Knorr Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.319.5826  
[ladow.k@gmail.com](mailto:ladow.k@gmail.com)

**Comment submitted 08/29/2012:**

Dear Mr. Sigman,

I was not able to attend last night's South Fairmount Town Meeting presented by the South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC) President and Vice-President along with the Hargrove Engineering (HE) firm representatives. I was out-of-town until late last night.

In the following messages, Ms. Moore and Ms. Keith have described my viewpoint about the SFCC and HE Lick Run CSO proposals and actions as well as I can. This email is to reaffirm what I've said in previous emails I've written or copied to you about the lack of SFCC true representation of its members and the community.

I acknowledge the time Mr. Elliot and Mr. Young spend as officers; it's a shame that their efforts are so closely aligned with what seem to me to be the self-serving involvement of HE.

I hope as the decisions about the submission of plans to, ultimately, the EPA are finalized, HE (I assume it'll still be around even if its plan is determined to have no merit.) and the officers of the SFCC will work to address the other problems in the whole community (crime, drug dealing, blight, community involvement, attraction of new business, residential housing, etc.).

Kathy LaDow  
Dave LaDow

On Wed, Aug 29, 2012 at 11:41 AM, LaToya Moore <[moorel@gcfdn.org](mailto:moorel@gcfdn.org)> wrote:

Dear Mr. Sigman,

I and many other South Fairmount (SF) residents echo Ms. Keith's sentiments in the note below. The notion of putting a "120 million GPD treatment facility in the community" has not been examined by a significant portion of South Fairmount residents (or anyone else for that matter). In fact, Elliott Ellis and Charles Young (South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC) president and vice president, respectively) have essentially worked on this project alone and much to exclusion of the SFCC membership. This exclusion concerns me a great deal, not only because Charles and Elliott are falsely purporting that they "represent the perspective of the community" but also because the development of a treatment facility will undoubtedly have a number of negative externalities that have yet to be thoughtfully considered.

Furthermore, I feel rather strongly that the community would like to move forward with the implementation of MSD's Lick Run alternative plan (provided that appropriate measures are in place for routine upkeep and maintenance). And while I do not want to suggest that the estimated cost of Hargrove's alternative plan is baseless; I do believe that it is unreliable and therefore should not warrant serious consideration until they are able to develop a more realistic cost estimate.

MSD has invested a tremendous amount of resources over the past two years to investigate alternative solutions to addressing overflow issues as mandated by the EPA. And as you know, this has included a significant amount of community and stakeholder engagement. Unfortunately, the SFCC/Hargrove team has not benefited from such rich feedback. So, while I do not oppose having a second option to the MSD alternative plan, I think full consideration of any alternative would require a significant investment of time and money and I'm not sure this one is worth it.

If warranted, I am happy to have a more in depth discussion about these issues.

Thank you,

LaToya Moore

South Fairmount Resident/ Former Trustee, SFCC/ Current SFCC Member

---

LaToya L. Moore, MCP | Community Investments Program Officer  
The Greater Cincinnati Foundation  
200 West Fourth Street | Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2775  
tel: 513-768-6109 | fax: 513-768-6122 | [www.gcfdn.org](http://www.gcfdn.org)  
Follow us: Facebook | Twitter

From: Jill Keith [mailto:[jilki@aol.com](mailto:jilki@aol.com)]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2012 11:07 AM  
To: LaToya Moore; [jchischillie@projetech.com](mailto:jchischillie@projetech.com); [christian.sigman@hamilton-co.org](mailto:christian.sigman@hamilton-co.org); [msd.communications@cincinnati-](mailto:msd.communications@cincinnati-ohio.gov)

oh.gov  
Subject: MSD / South Fairmount

To Whom it may concern,

Last evening I attended a very disturbing meeting about the MSD project proposed for South Fairmount!

MSD is proposing a landscaped, daylighted waterway to carry rainwater runoff from the western part of Cincinnati to their treatment plants. Since this proposal I have noted an increase in homes being repaired and some properties being purchased near the proposed site. I believe this is in hope of a better future for the area related to the MSD project. This area of South Fairmount is consumed with litter, blight, drugs and crime. (I know I live right in the center of it).

There are several people who are opposed to this idea for varying reasons (mostly fear of losing the few small businesses in the area). They have proposed a different idea on how this runoff should be handled.

This group of people (none of them residents of the immediate South Fairmount area) believes it would be better to clear cut over 20 acres of trees from the hillsides overlooking Cincinnati (creating even more water runoff) and build a waste treatment plant to welcome people to South Fairmount! I have been a lifelong resident of South Fairmount. The only beautiful thing about our neighborhood at this time is the tree covered hillsides surrounding the valley! If you drive over here from downtown (especially over the next few months-autumn) you will see an almost smoky mountain looking welcome to the neighborhood. Once in the immediate area it is a lost cause. The neighborhood is a collection of run down properties and litter.

If we trade MSD's proposed plan for this treatment plant South Fairmount will be the laughing stock of Cincinnati. When the East side is taking advantage of their waterway (the Ohio River) by building expensive homes and nice restaurants why should the west side settle for continued blight topped with a waste treatment plant.

I believe the MSD's project is a catalyst needed to improve this area and hope that the businesses affected by the project can work with MSD to improve the area for the residents that are here 24/7! Jill Keith

**9.**

LaToya Moore  
The Greater Cincinnati Foundation  
200 West Fourth St.  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
513-768-6109  
moorel@gcfdn.org

**Comment submitted 08/29/2012:**

Dear Mr. Sigman,

I and many other South Fairmount (SF) residents echo Ms. Keith's sentiments in the note below. The notion of putting a "120 million GPD treatment facility in the community" has not been examined by a significant portion of South Fairmount residents (or anyone else for that matter). In fact, Elliott Ellis and Charles Young (South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC) president and vice president, respectively) have essentially worked on this project alone and much to exclusion of the SFCC membership. This exclusion concerns me a great deal, not only because Charles and Elliott are falsely purporting that they "represent the perspective of the community" but also because the development of a treatment facility will undoubtedly have a number of negative externalities that have yet to be thoughtfully considered.

Furthermore, I feel rather strongly that the community would like to move forward with the implementation of MSD's Lick Run alternative plan (provided that appropriate measures are in place for

routine upkeep and maintenance). And while I do not want to suggest that the estimated cost of Hargrove's alternative plan is baseless; I do believe that it is unreliable and therefore should not warrant serious consideration until they are able to develop a more realistic cost estimate.

MSD has invested a tremendous amount of resources over the past two years to investigate alternative solutions to addressing overflow issues as mandated by the EPA. And as you know, this has included a significant amount of community and stakeholder engagement. Unfortunately, the SFCC/Hargrove team has not benefited from such rich feedback. So, while I do not oppose having a second option to the MSD alternative plan, I think full consideration of any alternative would require a significant investment of time and money and I'm not sure this one is worth it.

If warranted, I am happy to have a more in depth discussion about these issues.

Thank you,

LaToya Moore  
South Fairmount Resident/ Former Trustee, SFCC/ Current SFCC Member

**10.**

Ray West  
Executive Director, Interfaith Business Builders  
1707 Westwood Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
ibb@fuse.net  
513-557-3600

**Comment submitted 08/29/2012:**

Mr. Sigman:

I wish to add my voice to the chorus of South Fairmount residents stating that the president and vice president of the South Fairmount Community Council do not speak for us. I write as a longtime resident and property owner in South Fairmount.

The announcement that the South Fairmount Community Council is advocating for a sewer treatment plant in the neighborhood was news to me. This was not made known to the community until after the SFCC officers had presented the concept to you. There was no public awareness or consideration of this prior to their presentation to you. There was certainly no vote of South Fairmount residents, property owners and/or businesses on this proposal prior to the SFCC officers presentation of it to you.

The neighborhood also learned last night that Hargrove Engineering has presumably been signing letters of intent with various parties outside the city for implementation of elements of their plan. This too has had no proper oversight from the community. The legality of this is certainly open for questioning.

While the neighborhood has quietly allowed the president and vice president of the South Fairmount Community Council to speak for the neighborhood for many years now, that period of our history may fast be drawing to a close.

The level of input which the Metropolitan Sewer District solicited from the neighborhood throughout this process was far greater than anything the neighborhood had experienced for decades. While there are undoubtedly some questions still to be worked out, overall the MSD is definitely to be complimented on its very professional work on this project.

Thank you for your consideration. I do hope in the coming months South Fairmount will have more positive news to report.

Ray West

**11.**

Margo Warminski  
Cincinnati Preservation Association  
342 West Fourth Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
[margo@cincinnati-preservation.org](mailto:margo@cincinnati-preservation.org)

**Comment submitted 08/30/2012:**

The Lick Run Alternative offers an opportunity to create a unique amenity while solving a critical environmental problem, and could be transformational for the neighborhood. CPA is pleased to see the plan calls for saving historic buildings when feasible. These resources add value to the project and create a unique sense of place. We encourage MSD to save as many historic buildings as possible, by avoidance or relocation: for example, selected National Register-eligible properties could be moved and reused. We would be happy to work with MSD to seek funding to help make this happen.

Regardless of which plan is chosen, the heavy volume of high-speed traffic through the valley will need to be addressed to encourage reinvestment. The neighborhood will not be repopulated as a livable, walkable community with a revitalized business district unless residents feel comfortable living there and walking the streets.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important project.

**12.**

Tom Carroll  
City Manager, Loveland  
TCarroll@lovelandoh.com

**Comment submitted 08/31/2012:**

Please find attached our letter.

Please also note that the due date of September 3, 2012 is a legal holiday. More care and consideration should be given to selecting due dates for public comments which are not set aside to honor the labors and sacrifices of hard working Americans.

Tom Carroll  
City Manager

**Attached letter:**

August 31, 2012  
City of Loveland

James A. Parrott  
Executive Director

Metropolitan Sewer District  
1600 Gest Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45204

**Re:** Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

Dear Mr. Parrott:

As a stakeholder and the owner of certain sewer assets in the Polk Run Wastewater system, including the Polk Run Wastewater Treatment Plant, the City of Loveland is concerned about recent developments related to Metropolitan Sewer District's implementation of the Consent Decree as it relates to the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy.

Having reviewed MSD's presentation related to the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy, the City of Loveland wants to ensure that MSD pursues the most expeditious and cost effective solution to implementing the federal mandates contained in the Consent Decree. MSD should be implementing projects to comply with the Consent Decree in accordance with the time parameters stated therein, and preferably sooner. Any alternatives which do not comply with the Consent Decree obligations, which are more costly because the solutions accomplish policy objectives outside of the Consent Decree, and that do not expedite the completion date for the Consent Decree, are opposed by the City of Loveland.

I trust this comment will be helpful as you pursue submitting a solution to federal and state regulators by the end of 2012. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (513) 683-0150 or by Email at [TCarroll@lovelandoh.com](mailto:TCarroll@lovelandoh.com).

Sincerely,  
Tom Carroll  
City Manager

**13.**  
Matt Davis  
Cincinnati City Chamber  
513.579.3143  
[mdavis@cincinnati-chamber.com](mailto:mdavis@cincinnati-chamber.com)

**Comment submitted 08/31/2012:**

MSD Communications:

Please add the attached comments from the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber to the formal docket pertaining to Project Groundwork and the Consent Decree.

Thank you.  
Tom Ewing  
"reply" or  
513-579-3176

**Attached letter:**  
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber  
August 31, 2012  
James A. Parrott  
Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati  
1600 Gest Street

Cincinnati, OH 45204

Dear Director Parrott:

Congratulations to you and your team as MSD and its partners start the final phase of Project Groundwork. The decisions and policies that emanate from Project Groundwork will affect our city and region for decades to come. It's our assessment that Project Groundwork is a strong research and evaluation project and that it can serve as a strong foundation for critical decisions regarding stormwater control in Greater Cincinnati.

At the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, I asked our Government Affairs team, in conjunction with the Chamber's Environment Committee, to review Project Groundwork. That review has prompted the following comments and suggestions. I hope that you and the Hamilton County Commissioners find these suggestions helpful and that they will become part of your final review process as you and your team move towards a Phase 1 decision, due by the end of December, 2012.

A central element, perhaps *the* central element within Project Groundwork is which path to choose regarding a set of multi-million dollar projects, projects that must keep two billion gallons of stormwater out of MSD's combined system. MSD has concluded that there are two viable pathways to reach the 2 billion gallon goal. MSD refers to the two pathways as the Grey Alternative and the Sustainable Alternative, or the Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative. On behalf of the Chamber's review team, I appreciate the chance to offer comments on these Alternatives.

Our top concern is that the selected alternative meets all of the Consent Decree mandates. In addition, that compliance is met in the most cost effective ways and provides a level of assurance that this set of stormwater problems is behind us. The selected Alternative *must* provide a *permanent* solution, not something that requires constant attention and investment.

Prior to any decision, there are a number of outstanding issues that need further resolution. These issues are expanded upon below.

#### Impacts on Ratepayers.

In MSD's June 2012 "Refined & Updated Report" (hereafter, the Report) rates are only briefly dealt with (see page 112). It appears that either Alternative will require an increase in revenue of 8% each year between 2013 and 2016, with a decline in increases between 2016 and 2018. We seek greater clarity and detail regarding the projected increases. We think the following information needs to be presented and evaluated:

1. Does the 8% increase reflect revenue needed just for the Consent Decree projects or does the increase include revenue for *all* of MSD's upcoming infrastructure and operational costs between now and 2030? MSD staff has indicated that the 8% increase will cover all costs, that it is not just the marginal increase required for either Alternative. We think the Report needs to confirm, through a much more expansive rate presentation, that the 8% increase reflects the *entirety* of MSD's revenue requirements.
2. Does the 8% estimate include an inflationary factor? If so, what is that factor?
3. One particular concern with rates stems from the fact that specific projects and decisions in
4. Phase 2, starting in 2019, are not as well-defined as plans for Phase 1. This could set up a rather open-ended set of conditions and choices, with impacts on rates. How likely is it that the 8% projected rate increase for Phase 1 will continue into Phase 2? What is the likelihood that the rate increase will be higher or lower?
5. We are concerned that MSD rates will reach a tipping point for private investors, that rate levels will present a business cost judged to be too high and that new investments and facility

expansions will move out of Hamilton County. Surely, this is a worst-case scenario but an expanded attention to rates, within the Project Groundwork analysis, would provide further insight and clarity on this critical issue.

### Partnerships.

Throughout MSD's extensive reporting, the Sustainable Alternative appears to require many partnerships with agencies under the purview of the City of Cincinnati, including, for example, the Parks Department, Recreation, and Transportation and Engineering. From discussions with MSD staff, these partnerships are not critical for meeting the goals required in Phase 1. But we are not as clear regarding the need in Phase 2. MSD writes that Phase 1 is "not predicated on a well-defined plan for future Phase 2 requirements." That flexibility can be good and, true, MSD may be able to easily and readily move into Phase 2. However, Phase 2 could also present additional, unforeseen difficulties - technically and economically. We think the following information needs to be made available and evaluated prior to the December 31 decision:

1. How formal do possible partnerships need to be? It is not clear, for example, how money and resources will be handled across or between agencies and how regulators may view enforcement and responsibilities for project performance and maintenance. It's critical to note that the Consent Decree and on-the-ground results are mandatory and enforceable. The stormwater reduction has to occur and be maintained in perpetuity.
2. Consider, for example, the following scenario: The Parks Department becomes newly responsible for 50 or 100 acres of new greenspace declared to be an integral component for redirecting surface runoff. If the performance of that component degrades, or does not work as planned, what are the ramifications and choices and possible impacts for the City, the County and ratepayers regarding fines and mandatory redirection of resources? Is it possible, for example, that instead of spending money on Krohn Conservatory the Parks Department would have to use that money for Consent Decree requirements? Has the Parks Department agreed to do that?

### Timing:

In its June, 2012, "Alternatives Evaluations Preliminary Findings Report" MSD references the still developing relationship between Phase 1 and Phase 2:

The definition of longer-term compliance will be determined at some point in the future when MSD submits a Phase 2 plan for USEPA consideration. As previously stated, the decision for the LMCPR is not predicated on a well-defined plan for future Phase 2 improvements. Rather, it needs to be demonstrated that the selected LMCPR is viable and fits into a conceptual Phase 2 solution.

The inherent flexibility presented here can be an advantageous feature. It's our assessment that the Sustainable Alternative, on its face, seems viable. Nevertheless, in order to strengthen the decision making process we suggest further development of a "confidence level", if you will, regarding the "viability" and "fit" between either Phase 1 Alternative and subsequent demands in a Phase 2 solution. After all, Phase 2 is not that far away- it starts in 2019, just six years after the December, 2012 decision. What is the peer reviewed professional standard that should apply to projects of this magnitude with similar regulatory mandates? Either alternative must provide the greatest degree of certainty that these critical investments will meet the mandates of the Consent Decree.

In a summary cost table {Report, page 13} MSD calculates that the Grey Alternative would cost \$537.4 million. The Sustainable Alternative would be quite a bit less: \$317.4 million. That cost delta surely supports the Sustainable choice.

However, the total final remedy, after Phase 2, for the Grey Alternative is \$1.18 billion. The total cost for what becomes known as the "Hybrid Option" - apparently because it includes projects from both the Grey and Alternative choices - is \$1.24 billion - a \$60 million difference. The possibility exists that MSD could start with the Sustainable option and complete it in Phase 1. But there is the likelihood that those Sustainable results will not be acceptable and require costly variations in Phase 2. True, there is also the likelihood that the Phase 1 Sustainable investments will develop and function as predicted and MSD can continue with a Sustainable option for Phase 2 and complete the second Phase at a much lower cost: \$629.9 million.

Again, we think that the decision-making process would be strengthened and draw broader support if the confidence levels among these expensive choices were more fully developed and clearly presented.

Another issue related to cost and expense is the possibility of "LMCPR Schedule Extensions" referenced in the November, 2009, "Final Wet Weather Improvement Program." This text (see page 3, WWIP) seems to allow an extended schedule if project costs exceed the original estimate of \$244 million, which is surely the case now. We seek clarity on the meaning of these possible extensions and whether they set a policy option that could be helpful at this critical point in Project Groundwork.

#### Business Relocation:

For either Alternative, businesses in South Fairmount will be impacted. These impacts present issues beyond the engineering and environmental nature of the June Report. Still, a review process regarding either preferred Alternative must include economic impacts for current business operations. To the extent that businesses must be relocated we urge the City and County to do everything possible to help businesses stay close to their customers, employees and suppliers within the South Fairmount area.

#### City-County Control of MSD:

The City-County 50-year MSD ownership and operating agreement is due to expire in 2018. The timeline for Project Groundwork runs well past that important date. To the extent the issues of ownership, management and public finance could or will impact Project Groundwork, we believe that those, too, are issues that need to be brought into the discussion of an Alternative. What might a change in utility ownership and management mean for Project Groundwork's contractual and financial obligations and commitments? Hopefully, a future managerial and operational transition for MSD can be smoothly accomplished. But to the extent those imminent decisions affect Project Groundworks' demands, we believe it would be wise to begin to address such issues earlier, not later.

#### Conclusion:

The direction set by the decision due on December 31, 2012, will impact Greater Cincinnati for decades to come. Because of mandates and enforcement provisions we need a decision that reduces, to the greatest degree, the likelihood that agency and political leadership will have to constantly focus on the many complex and expensive issues inherent in the Consent Decree.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments. Please contact me if you have any questions or seek additional information about the concerns or the issues we have raised here.

Regards,  
Matt Davis, Vice President  
Government Affairs  
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber  
513-579-3143  
mdavis@cincinnatiachamber.com

**14.**

Kendra Schroer  
1402 Oakridge Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45140  
513.575.9412  
[kendra@fuse.net](mailto:kendra@fuse.net)

**Comment submitted 08/31/2012:**

August 31, 2012

Dear Decision Maker,

This letter is being sent to show support for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy for the Lick Run watershed. While, a tunnel may move storm water quickly, thus meeting the quantity specified to be removed in the US EPA Consent Decree, it doesn't have the same ability to improve storm water quality or impact the surrounding area.

The community in question, South Fairmount, is economically disadvantaged, and needs a jump start to return the area to a more prosperous time. If money is going to be spent, it seems best to maximize every dollar to ensure we get the most for rate payer money. Not only is the tunnel more expensive, it does little to create a positive economic impact for the host community.

The appealing factor with the "day-lighting" option is it creates more green areas and natural spaces that will become inviting destinations for the thousands of commuters that pass by daily. With new interest points, existing business will thrive, and attract more investment. Whereas, a tunnel will simply convey or hold water.

Another aspect that has to be considered is how the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy plan cultivates other opportunities in addition to economic growth, namely, health and recreation. With the emergence of this plan, other off shoots will grow. For example, walking trails, hike-bike paths, community gardens, rain gardens, educational opportunities, and natural areas are all possible with this option.

The LMCPR will also appeal to surrounding communities. Right now there is little interaction between neighborhoods, and this project could launch projects in surrounding communities to improve connectivity and capitalize on the new interest in South Fairmount.

Another important aspect to the LMCPR plan is it will substantially improve the quality of our storm water by physically separating it from sanitary flow. Not only is this more effective management of our resources, but it also reduces operating costs at MSD plants because they will be treating less water. Plus the natural effect of the water flow being controlled and tempered will help reduce erosion and sedimentary fill-in. The action of water traveling over rocks and riffles will also help remove particulate impurities, which is also important to aquatic life.

To summarize, there is no question that any choice will cost rate payers a lot of money, but if we are being forced to choose, let us pick the option that has the most holistic effect, and does the most for the least cost, namely the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy. By selecting this option, it opens up new possibilities for subsequent projects, and welcomes in new and innovative thinking for solving our long-term storm water management issues. I hope you will agree!

Sincerely,

Kendra G. Schroer, MCP, CHMM

**15.**

Jacquelyn Chischillie  
1692 Harrison Ave  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513-623-0615  
jac.3sisters@hotmail.com

**Comment submitted 09/03/2012:**

September 3, 2012  
Mr. Christian Sigman  
County Administrator  
138 E. Court Street, Room 603  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
Re: Lick Run Alternatives  
MSD Combined Sewer Overflow Project

Dear Mr. Sigman:

As a longtime resident of South Fairmount I have attended almost all of the meetings presented by the MSD and recently was present while Hargrove Engineering LLC presented their alternative to the South Fairmount City Council. I understand that something has to be done to reduce sewer overflows into the Mill Creek so one option will need to be selected to satisfy the EPA consent decree. As I understand it we the citizens have three options.

Option 1: Dig a very deep tunnel and use a large pumping station to convey large rainwater overflows deep under the Mill Creek,

Option 2: Build a large lake and creek structure to daylight the rain water overflow which can then evaporate into the atmosphere,

Option 3: - Hargrove's solution - Build a new treatment plant that will be large enough to treat approximately 800,000 gallons of rainwater.

All three options will require substantial capital investment. Option 1 and 3 will require energy to drive pumps and treatment equipment. Option 2 will require ongoing maintenance to the newly created lake.

Option 1 is the default option suggested by the EPA when they issued the consent decree.

- This option solves the problem by using an electrical energy to send the water deep underground.
- The goal of reducing overflow is accomplished and the residents of South Fairmount are left with a status quo neighborhood.
- In addition the natural path of the Lick Run remains permanently altered.

Option 2 is the MSD alternative to daylight the water. This option:

- Restores the Lick Run to its natural state and any additional rainwater can naturally evaporate.
- Evaporation would be an environmentally friendly process that does not require any additional energy and has been part of proven solutions in many cities addressing this same issue.

- A third auxiliary benefit would be to create a new urban green space that could be used to attract new investment to our neighborhood

Option 3 presented by Hargrove Engineering LLC would construct a new pumping station and treatment plant.

- This treatment plant would operate using Hargrove's patented technology to use a nitrogen rich environment to starve the bacteria and clean the sewer water.
- A 20 acre site on the side of hill would need to be cleared of old growth forest for the construction of the plant.
- Significant electrical energy would be consumed by the process to separate nitrogen from the air.
- Working with nitrogen has its own list of hazards as well as requiring trained workers to operate safely in the environment.
- This alternative would require the as much energy if not more to operate. It also does not remove the unnecessary step of treating rainwater.
- Lastly, Hargrove could not cite any examples of this technology being used by a similar sized city to reduce overflows.

As a lifetime resident I am writing this letter in support of the MSD daylighting option for the following reasons:

- Daylighting and evaporation uses passive technology which will require the least energy going forward to accomplish the goal of reducing sewer overflows.
- The project would be able to be scaled or modified should the need arise to reduce sewer overflows in the future.
- This option restores the natural flow of the Lick Run,

I believe that returning waterways to their original state is consistent with providing a more sustainable urban living environment. The Hargrove alternative uses technology which has not been proven and might in the end fall short of reducing the overflow enough to meet the EPA decree. This could potentially result in fines which would be paid by the MSD customers.

Let it be clear that there are many residents of South Fairmount who feel that the South Fairmount Community Council is excluding them from their decision-making and therefore are not represented by the Council in this matter.

Let it be clear that there are many residents of South Fairmount who feel that the South Fairmount Community Council is excluding them from their decision-making and therefore are not represented by the Council in this matter. We also empathize with the business owners of South Fairmount and the parties who would like to see the historic treasure of South Fairmount restored. The neighborhood has been status quo for too long. The residents have waited long enough for change and revitalization, especially those of us who remember when we used to be a community, not just a neighborhood. I believe restoring the waterway is the only solution to start moving the area in the right direction - environmentally, aesthetically, economically and socially.

Regards,  
 Jacquelyn Chischillie  
 1692 Harrison Ave.  
 Cincinnati, OH 45214

**16.**

Robin Corathers  
Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek  
1617 Elmore Court  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45223  
513-731-8400  
[robin@groundworkcincinnati.org](mailto:robin@groundworkcincinnati.org)

**Comment submitted 09/03/2012:**

--

Robin Corathers  
Executive Director

**Attached letter:**

Groundwork Cincinnati Mill Creek  
September 3, 2012

To: Tony Parrott, Director, Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati

Cc: Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek Board of Trustees

From: Robin Corathers, Executive Director, Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek

Re: Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

**I. Introduction**

Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek (formerly Mill Creek Restoration Project) has participated on the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) Communities of the Future Committee and in MSD's Lower Mill Creek public meetings and design workshops. The nonprofit has also reviewed the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report (LMCPR report) and offers the following comments:

**II. General Comments**

Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek endorses the Phase 1 Sustainable Alternative proposed by MSD. The Sustainable Alternative is watershed-based and holistic in scope, concentrating on source control with strategic Green Infrastructure projects (e.g., reforestation, stream restoration and day lighting, wetlands, rain gardens, green roofs and walls, and bio-swales).

These approaches are ecologically and fiscally sound and provide multiple benefits for Mill Creek neighborhoods and communities. Source control reduces the volume of stormwater and natural stream flows that enter combined sewers, preventing and reducing combined sewer overflows (CSOs) to Mill Creek and its tributary streams. Groundwork Cincinnati understands that additional grey infrastructure (e.g., the Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative) will also be needed to meet MSD Consent Decree requirements in the heavily urbanized Lower Mill Creek Watershed.

Over the past three years, MSD could have focused solely on building a far more expensive deep tunnel that the public would never see and that would have higher life cycle and energy costs to operate and maintain. The Hamilton County Commission, the City, and MSD are to be commended for their foresight in developing a viable alternative to a deep tunnel that saves dollars; engages diverse public and private partners; uses sewer improvements as a catalyst for stimulating economic reinvestment in Lower Mill Creek neighborhoods; and provides other major environmental, economic, social, and public health benefits to the broader community.

Groundwork Cincinnati is committed to collaborating with MSD whenever possible on implementation of Phase 1 and 2 Sustainable Alternative Green Infrastructure projects and to integrating sustainable watershed solutions into its ongoing Mill Creek environmental education programming. The nonprofit is willing to raise outside funds to underwrite some of the work ahead, including creating green ways, trails and other ecological improvements along daylighted portions of Lick Run and West Fork Creek. Further, Groundwork Cincinnati will continue to participate on the MSD Communities of the Future Advisory Committee and the Policy subcommittee, and to contribute to the development of the Lower Mill Creek Watershed Action Plan that will address other sources of water quality and biological impairments.

Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek is a dynamic, community-based nonprofit working in the Lower Mill Creek Watershed with the City of Cincinnati and other diverse partners to regenerate the health of Mill Creek and other natural resources, to revitalize economically depressed neighborhoods, to recycle derelict properties for productive reuse, and to build community capacity by educating youth and providing training and employment opportunities for adults. To date, the nonprofit has provided year-round environmental education programming for 26,000 youth; completed 25 ecological (wetlands, wildlife habitat, water quality, streambanks, and floodplains) projects; and constructed and landscaped 3.5 miles of the Mill Creek Greenway Trail in the Lower Mill Creek Watershed.

### **III. Specific Comments**

1. *Butler County Impacts on Mill Creek Water Quality:* In Chapter 12 of the LMCPR report, it indicates that even if MSD eliminates all of the CSOs to Mill Creek in Hamilton County, Mill Creek will still not reach water quality standards because bacteria levels will remain high from upstream Butler County sources. This is a critical issue impacting public health, water quality, and the ultimate net benefit of the MSD Consent Decree that must be resolved.

2. *Water Quality and Recreational Use in Lower Mill Creek:* The LMCPR report notes that channelization and industrial and transportation uses along the Lower Mill Creek severely limit recreational use of the river, and therefore reducing CSOs will not have a significant impact on public health or increase the number of days when there is recreational use of Mill Creek. Groundwork Cincinnati believes this picture is changing with development of the Mill Creek Greenway Trail; ecological improvements taking place in and along the river; and incremental improvements in water quality from CSO projects MSD has completed to date. As MSD continues to eliminate and reduce CSOs, thereby reducing public health risks, Mill Creek neighborhoods will increasingly want to recapture the river's benefits. Water quality is a high priority for these economically disadvantaged communities.

**17.**

Kathleen Karle  
5990 Werk Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH 45248  
**513-922-0574**  
[ka\\_karle@msn.com](mailto:ka_karle@msn.com)

#### **Comment submitted 09/03/2012:**

The Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy – Presentation  
August 16, 2012  
Comments

**I recommend that MSD implement the Tunnel**

After attending MSD's presentation and reviewing the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report, dated June 26, 2012 it became obvious the only project that will meet the 85% control of CSO's in the Mill Creek Basin is the tunnel.

Per the report: the tunnel (Phase I and II) has the lowest cost to achieve 85% control at every CSO and provides more alternatives for Carthage and SSO 700 solutions.  
(Page 26)

I would interpret this to mean the default tunnel project (Phase I) was to provide 85% control to the bottom eleven CSO's (002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 009, 125, 428, 429 and 666) not just in two or three areas.

The Sustainable Option (Phase 1) is just another gray solution of storm pipes that will dump 2,978,000,000 gallons of highly polluted urban stormwater into the waterways of Hamilton County disguised as a faux creek and wet lands. The faux-creek and wet lands planned for Lick Run Drainage Basin is a good idea in theory but too small to provide adequate treatment to meet the Consent Decree. As cited in the EPA Urban Fact Sheet (841-F-03-003), "Urbanization increases the variety and amount of pollutants carried into streams, rivers and lakes. The pollutants include: sediment, oil, grease and toxic chemicals from motor vehicles, pesticides and nutrients from lawns and gardens, viruses, bacteria and nutrients from pet waste and failing septic systems, road salts, heavy metals from roof shingles, motor vehicles and other sources, thermal pollution from dark impervious surfaces such as streets and roof tops." The Sustainable Option will not be able to remove these pollutants based on the design plan. It does not provide a large enough wet land to treat the amount of pollutants that will be present.

If the Sustainable Option is selected who is going to be responsible for treating this highly polluted urban storm water, Hamilton County?, City of Cincinnati?, or the Sewer rate payers? What will this cost?

As Tony Parrott stated, "solutions can be two fold;" but the obvious solution should benefit the greatest number of sewer rate payers and not just the city residents. Maybe it is time to fix the problem and leave city re-development to the City Manager and City Counsel to be paid for out of their budget and not the pockets of the county sewer rate payers.

### **CHOOSE THE TUNNEL!**

Thank you,  
Kathleen Karle  
513-922-0574

**18.**  
Michael Patton  
3767 Millsbrae Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45209  
513.731.6884  
michaearlpatton@yahoo.com

### **Comment submitted 09/03/2012:**

We need to know the costs of the alternatives with respect to the \$1.5 billion trigger contained in the Consent Decree (Section IX) and the 2% of median income trigger mentioned in the public meeting on August 23. Where are we now with respect to these triggers and where will we be after either of the alternatives is constructed?

Further we need to know the amount, in dollars, each of these alternatives will have on the typical water/sewage bill. Again, what is the typical residential (i.e., house) bill now and what will it be in the future after either of these alternatives is constructed?

I must, from past experience with MSD on questions of this nature, make it clear that in the second paragraph I am talking about residences -- especially houses -- where the owners or occupants are billed directly by MSD. I am not, repeat NOT, talking about apartment buildings or condos where the bill is divided amongst the various parties. If MSD does not have that information separately, then the data from customers with a 5/8 inch meter size may be used.

I am very concerned about the constantly escalating costs and the effect this will have on the typical homeowner. The effect is to drive those from moderate means either out of Hamilton County or to force them to sell their houses and to move into an apartment.

These costs also will hinder industries which use a large amount of water from moving here, My guess is that this will especially affect the food industry. They used to be a much stronger presence in Cincinnati than today. I think that the rising sewage costs helped drive them out.

Michael Earl Patton

**19.**

Edward J. Bemmerer, President  
BLK Properties  
1551 Queen City Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214  
513-921-4500  
edbemer@hotmail.com

**Comment submitted 09/04/2012:**

Gentlemen;

We are frustrated that after two years the same story is still be told. Oblige the businesses of South Fairmont with decent offers and move on.

**20.**

Jennifer Eismeier and Bruce Koehler  
Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities  
720 East Pete Rose Way, Suite 420  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
info@millcreekwatershed.org  
513.563.8800

**Comment submitted 09/04/2012:**

Attached please find the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities' comments on MSD's Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy. Thank you for the opportunity to submit feedback.

Jennifer Eismeier

**Attached letter:**

Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities

September 3, 2012  
Mr. James A. Parrott  
Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati  
1600 Gest Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45204

Dear Mr. Parrott:

On behalf of the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities (MCWCC), we are writing to support the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy (LMCPR) offered for public comment by the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD). MCWCC was formed to build consensus among the 37 political jurisdictions of the Mill Creek Watershed and undertake initiatives that improve the Mill Creek and its tributaries. MSD's proposed LMCPR demonstrates tremendous investment in an environmentally and economically superior alternative to the default tunnel solution, an alternative which will deliver watershed-scale improvements consistent with MCWCC's founding mission and community-driven work.

The benefit of a watershed approach is a holistic assessment of both water quantity and quality impairments, and a thoughtful comprehensive approach to reducing those impairments. MSD's consent decree mandate is tied solely to volumetric reduction, not to specific water quality improvements. MCWCC sees the lack of specific water quality improvement benchmarks as a weakness of the LMCPR. As partners in development of the Lower Mill Creek Watershed Action Plan (LMC WAP), the State of Ohio's process for identifying and addressing water quality impairments, MCWCC and MSD, among others, have a responsibility to aggressively pursue water quality improvement. We strongly encourage MSD to continue this engagement beyond its regulatory mandate of volumetric control.

MCWCC commends MSD for its rigorous pursuit of a feasible alternative to the default tunnel solution. We firmly believe implementation of the LMCPR, undertaken in tandem with water quality improvement delivered through the LMC WAP, and community revitalization efforts through brownfield redevelopment and continued construction of the Mill Creek Greenway trail, will bring us all leagues closer to realizing the vision of the Mill Creek as an amenity that improves quality of life and makes Greater Cincinnati an outstanding example of environmental stewardship.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Koehler  
Chair, Board of Trustees

Jennifer Eismeier  
Executive Director

**21.**

Patricia Garry  
Executive Director, Community Development Corporations  
Association of Greater Cincinnati  
2859 Colerain Avenue #11  
Cincinnati, OH 45225  
513.281.3774  
patricia.garry@cdcagc.org

**Comment submitted 09/04/2012:**

Thanks for the two docs you had delivered to me last week! I am impressed – and I really love the quote Roxanne Qualls gave you in the Executive Summary. I have been very happy with the openness and forward thinking MSD has shown throughout this project.

Keep up the good work!

Patricia Garry

**22.**

Ed Gutfreund and Eileen Frechette  
5081 Wooden Shoe Hollow Ln.  
Cincinnati, OH 45225  
513.542.2055  
[egutfreund@fuse.net](mailto:egutfreund@fuse.net)

**Comment submitted 09/04/2012:**

To The Staff of MSD:

We attended the recent public meeting on August 23rd concerning the options being considered for the Lower Mill Creek partial remedy.

We live in Wooden Shoe Hollow, very near the CSO 217 which regularly overflows into King's Run Creek, which is a border of our property. We have witnessed serious erosion which has taken land from our property over the years and we have regularly observed the unsanitary and unsafe water conditions when the creek is flooded with sewage.

**We want the preferred remedy to be the choice of an alternative, sustainable, green solution for the project. We want the solution to be sustainable, affordable, and most of all effective.**

**Effectiveness of Plan**

We have attended many meetings, and, based on some previous discussion, appreciate the changes that separate the sewers from storm water carriers. It makes sense to not treat "clean" rain water, though there is some question of the pollutants which are accumulated from road oils, etc. and the fertilizers used in lawn and landscape treatments.

There is no need to wait until some unknown time to implement "storm water management tools that advance water quality and quantity". This is low hanging fruit. It seems most important to slow and integrate water accumulation near the sources which means homeowners usage, commercial and open land runoff. Commercial business run off should have more regulation and monitoring so that developers and builders have more responsibility to reduce flow with ample detention. Education and implementation of low-water use showers and toilet equipment would also control use in a significant way, and require

little attention if the proper equipment is installed or retrofitted in homes and businesses. These point source controls can take the pressure off the CSO systems.

In our particular situation the control of raw sewage in the creek at the edge of our property is of utmost importance. Slow progress that only has a goal of gradually getting to 75% clean in many years is unacceptable in our perspective. Since the water that is planned to be treated by the EHRT station further upstream will be "discharged into the Mill Creek," will it end up in King's Run Creek on its way to the Mill Creek? What volume of water is expected to go into the creek in a high rain event? How can the creek tolerate potential additional water without worse erosion? What plans does MSD have for stream restoration for this part of the creek which has been so badly damaged and degraded in the last 30 years?

The proposed solutions we heard do not seem to address the increasing pattern of extreme weather events with high volume severe rainfall. The recent high volume storms this year have frequently gone over the 50-100 year rain quantities. How will the Gray Road Fill owners and other future developers of land in the area be held accountable for detaining appropriate amounts of water? The future development of the Land fill will no doubt cause additional runoff from buildings and pavement. How will they cooperate with solutions MSD proposes to control water at point sources?

Concerning "community participation and input which we welcome": what happened to the Community Design Meeting for the King's Run Watershed that was promised after the March 2012 meeting held in Wooden Shoe Hollow? The local community is still expecting that.

We look forward to hearing your response to our comments and questions.

Sincerely,  
Eileen Frechette and Ed Gutfreund  
5081 Wooden Shoe Hollow Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45232

**23.**  
Dennis Smith  
President  
Paper Products Company  
1543 Queen City Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214  
Office: 513-921-4717 Cell:513-739-7817  
E-mail: [dennis@paperproductscompany.com](mailto:dennis@paperproductscompany.com)

**Comment submitted 09/04/2012:**

Gentlemen,  
The original date the MSD posted to respond to their 2 most recent Town Hall meetings was yesterday, September 3, 2012, Labor Day, a national holiday. Today's date should be within the deadline. While the above "attachment" represents the interest of Paper Products Co., it also represents the view point and interests of most of the members of The South Fairmount Business Association. Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to continued dialogue.

**Attached letter:**

Ref: Response to MSD Town Hall Meetings!

The MSD's Project Groundwork will have a dramatic impact on Paper Products Company by potentially forcing us to move on someone else's timetable from our South Fairmount location. Our industry is

capital intensive and we need to update our machinery that includes printing presses and die cutters. We have 2 other manufacturing facilities nearby that support each other in the process of making folding paper boxes for the baking industry. We are a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation family owned company having been started by my father, Omer J. Smith, during the Great Depression in 1932.

Unknown to us around 2004 the Commissioners and USEPA and the courts entered into a consent decree that required the MSD to separate storm water from sewer water to solve the combined sewer overflow, CSO #5, in South Fairmount. The so called "deep tunnel" was mandated in the consent decree. At some point the MSD realized they could save rate payers and taxpayers millions of dollars by designing an alternative "green" solution referred to as "daylighting" of the old Lick Run stream. The Lick Run sewer runs directly through our property on Queen City Ave as well as through the properties of many other well established taxpaying businesses. We have two other locations - one in Camp Washington and the other in Queensgate. We must stay very close to those locations as one supports the others in the manufacturing process.

Since the MSD and the Commissioners are considering the less costly solution, we are asking that Paper Products Company and the other businesses of South Fairmount be allotted the funds necessary above and beyond the appraised values of our properties to move to like and similar locations elsewhere without debt. We are asking that since the MSD will be saving millions of dollars for ratepayers and taxpayers at our expenses by daylighting, that the requested funds be part of the MSD's budget. We are hopeful that the USEPA, Department of Justice, State of Ohio, Hamilton County, City of Cincinnati, and the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati will somehow find the authority to render economic justice as part the reality of enforcing the Clean Water Act by amending the laws, policies, ordinances, etc. to make this happen.

We are the job providers, tax payers, risk takers, and the true stakeholders in this project!

Dennis J. Smith  
President

**24.**

Joseph C. Thoman  
President, Weil/Thoman Moving & Storage Co  
1617-29 Queen City Ave  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45216  
Office: 513-251-5000  
weil@fuse.net  
weilthomanmovers.com

**Comment submitted 09/04/2012:**

Along with Dennis and Paper Products Co., Weil/Thoman Moving & Storage would like to voice our opinion on the matter.

You may view our view point expressed in the attachment.

**Attachment:**

Gentlemen,

From my experience, having attended two town meetings, the most informative speakers were the responders limited to two minutes.

In light of the proposed "Deep Tunnel" project, a responder at the meeting divulged a few negative points of this concept:

- Astounding \$500 Million project
- Crude application of wastewater management

With prodigious savings of \$200 Million, it can be readily perceived that "Daylighting" would be the most practical, economical, and ecological application of wastewater management for the South Fairmont community.

A movement for additional funding for persons who meet specific criteria was also announced. Great! Except funding for these "qualified" individuals still comes up short. There is no grant funding, only loans at a 2.00% interest rate. Why must we borrow money to pay for MSD's expense to cover "Project Groundwork"?

The best game in town is the courtroom. Let us line everyone up in a row and get our day in front of our peers! Let them compensate us for our total expenses – of which are not covered by the current practices.

I have both said and demonstrated with my coin purse - "It should not cost one red cent for me to relocate and re-establish!"

Weil/Thoman Moving & Storage is a 4th generation company that has been in business since 1891 - the days of the horse and wagon. The least effective maneuver would be to go out of business.

**25.**

Eric Gruenstein  
3518 Cornell Place  
Cincinnati, OH 45220  
513-558-5531  
GRUENSTE@UCMAIL.UC.EDU

**Comment submitted 09/05/2012:**

Attached please find my comments in response to the request for public input on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report. Please forward them to the City Council and BOCC.

Eric Gruenstein

**Attached letter:**

Comments on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report  
by  
Eric Gruenstein  
September 4, 2012

I am the chair of the Board of Advisors of the Green Partnership for Greater Cincinnati and a Professor of Biochemistry and Neuroscience at the University of Cincinnati Medical School. The following analysis and recommendation to the proposed alternatives presented in the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report represent my own opinions and not necessarily those of these organizations.

An overriding consideration which mitigation method to employ should be the ability to accommodate almost all of the extreme precipitation events that can be anticipated for the foreseeable future. This in turn requires that we have as clear an idea as possible of what, if any, changes may occur in the degree and frequency of those extreme events. It is therefore of great importance that we take note of a recent study by James Hansen et al in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (1).

Their study shows convincingly that the global warming which has been underway since the mid-twentieth century is the cause of a 100-fold increase in the incidence of extreme heat waves that occur locally. Since there is a high degree of agreement in the scientific community that global warming is likely to continue to increase at least for the remainder of the 21st century, it is certainly relevant to consider what effects these extreme temperature events will have on precipitation when discussing the best approach to fulfillment of the MSD consent decree. Here's what Hansen, et al have to say about that.

Changes of global temperature are likely to have their greatest practical impact via effects on the water cycle. ...The other extreme of the water cycle, unusually heavy rainfall and floods, is also amplified by global warming. A warmer world is expected to have more extreme rainfall occurrences because the amount of water vapor that the atmosphere holds increases rapidly with temperature, a tendency confirmed by observations. Indeed, rainfall data reveal significant increases of heavy precipitation over much of Northern Hemisphere land and in the tropics (27) and attribution studies link this intensification of rainfall and floods to human-made global warming (28–30).

Thus, it appears very likely that the number and extent of extreme rainfall events is going to be increasing, so the key question then becomes, "How much?" The answer, unfortunately, is difficult to predict, in part because, while we know that global warming is going to increase, the amount will depend to some extent on what actions are taken to mitigate it. Thus, the prudent approach to managing Cincinnati's combined sewer overflow should be to adopt whatever strategy provides the greatest degree of flexibility in responding to increases in the number and degree of extreme rainfall events.

Based on the Alternatives Evaluation of the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report, the prudent and preferred approach, i.e. the one with the greater flexibility, would clearly be the Sustainable Alternative.

1. Hansen, J, M Sato & R Ruedy, "Perception of Climate Change," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA, 2012 Aug 6. [Epub ahead of print]

**26.**

Office of Environmental Quality  
Larry Falkin, Director  
805 Central Avenue, Suite 320  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202  
(513) 352-5325  
[Larry.Falkin@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:Larry.Falkin@cincinnati-oh.gov)

**Comment submitted 09/06/2012:**

Dean,

Attached is OEQ's letter in support of the green alternative.

Larry Falkin, Director  
Office of Environmental Quality  
(513) 352-5325

**Attached letter:**

The Cincinnati Office of Environmental Quality strongly supports and recommends the Lower Mill Creek

Sustainable Alternative as presented in the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report (June 25, 2012). The OEQ has been a community partner in MSD's Communities of the Future (CFAC)/Project Groundwork planning and outreach efforts. OEQ has also partnered with MSD and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency in the implementation of the first Green Roof Loan Program where the Ohio EPA has made \$5 million available for linked-deposit, below-market-rate loans to install green vegetative roofs within the MSD service area.

OEQ led the development and now leads the implementation of the Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP), Cincinnati's sustainability plan. The GCP identifies 80 specific recommendations to reduce contributions to global climate change, reduce dependence on non-renewable energy sources, support local job creation and the local economy and help to clean Cincinnati's air, land and water.

The Lick Run Alternative Solution, as part of the Lower Mill Creek Sustainable Alternative, is estimated to reduce 838 million gallons (MG) of combined sewer overflow annually. With the default grey alternative that same 838 MG of combined sewer overflow would have to be pumped to the proposed tunnel and treated at the proposed new enhanced high rate treatment facility. Thus the default solution would require additional energy output for pumping and treating the 838 MG of the annual combined sewer overflow. This extra energy usage is estimated to be 26,974,730 kWh per year. The EPA's Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator ([www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html](http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html)) estimates that this extra energy usage would generate 18,601 Metric Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> gases per year.

Clearly, the Lick Run Alternative Solution effectively reduces green-house gas emissions and dependence on non-renewable energy sources. OEQ also foresees that the proposed Lick Run Alternative Solution will be a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization both in housing and commercial uses in the Lick Run neighborhood. The proposed daylighting of Lick Run, along with open space corridor and other amenities described and illustrated in the Lick Run Watershed Master Plan {May 2012} will bring increased value to the surrounding historical buildings making them ideal opportunities for energy efficiency upgrades that could be facilitated by funding and expertise of the Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance. In the end, the Lower Mill Creek Sustainable Alternative including the Lick Run Alternative Solution will help Cincinnati implement the Green Cincinnati Plan and move toward sustainability, including supporting local job creation and the local economy and helping to clean Cincinnati's air, land and water.

Sincerely,  
Larry Falkin, Director

27.

Mary Beth McGrew, AIA; Associate VP of P+D+C and University Architect  
Division of Administration and Finance, Planning + Design + Construction  
University of Cincinnati  
University Hall, 6th Floor;  
Goodman Drive; PO Box 210186  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0186  
Phone 513.556.1933

**Comment submitted 09/07/2012:**

Thank you for the opportunity to review the planning documents and provide comment. Len Thomas has provided a thorough review of the documents and I concur with his opinion as outlined below.

The information contained within the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati's proposed Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternative Evaluation and Lick Run Master Plan documents provide a comprehensive overview of the challenges, compliances, and opportunities, as well as, the benefits, risks

and estimated costs of a two phase project that investigates three distinct approaches to capture, treat or remove at least 85% of the annual overflows from combined sewers within the Mill Creek basin (Consent Decree with the U.S. EPA, the Ohio EPA and ORSANCO ).

The three strategies that are explored include a grey alternative ( default solution : deep tunnel pump station , with enhanced high rate treatment and partial sewer separation; a sustainable option, which does not include a deep tunnel, but does include large scale sustainable solutions for 6 watershed areas ( one of which is Lick Run : Phase I ); and a sustainable / hybrid alternative that includes a re-sized / reduced tunnel to Mitchell Ave whose dimension is based on other integrated large scale sustainable solutions. The reports introduce a combination of sewer separation strategies and BMP's with storm water removal estimated at 80% (non-compliant) for the sustainable solution, 88% for the grey alternative, and 90% for the sustainable /hybrid option.

While the Phase I grey alternative achieves 2BG of CSO reduction from the Lower Mill Creek watershed, and possesses an inherently greater operational reliability / flexibility (than the hybrid solution), its estimated cost is \$220M more than the sustainable / hybrid option. Furthermore, the identified risks / disadvantages contained within the grey alternative (greater energy demand, larger carbon footprint, complexity of construction, limited local contractor participation, and limited community revitalization potential) certainly present a measurable down-side for this approach.

The Phase I sustainable / hybrid alternative, on the other hand, not only achieves the 2BG of CSO reduction, but introduces numerous economic, social, and environmental benefits including job opportunities, neighborhood revitalization, more green spaces and natural habitats, a celebrated urban waterway system, as well as health benefits of elimination of sewer back-ups and decreased exposure to pathogens.

The Phase I sustainable /hybrid alternative consists of sustainable infrastructure projects in four watershed districts, and features large scale sewer separation, storm water detention basins, naturalized and new water channels, stream restoration, relocated combined sewers, and a small enhanced high rate treatment facility.

As part of the Phase I project, Lick Run features numerous storm water and sustainable strategies and best management practices that support both community renewal (South Fairmount) and infrastructure improvement (“Communities of the Future”). The limits of the strategic storm water capture / separation include a 2700 acre watershed district with targeted areas identified as Tier I ( 1800 acres of top priority, in which South Fairmount is located ) and Tier 2 ( the remaining 900 acres ) ,which are the non-priority upland areas already regulated by the City of Cincinnati Stormwater Utility and Building Code.

The concepts identified within the collaboratively developed Lick Run Master Plan will serve as a catalyst for transforming the Lick Run Watershed and South Fairmount Community by establishing a planning framework that creates a strong community character /identity, promotes economic growth, improves the transportation network, and supports a more sustainable environment.

As suggested in the Alternative Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report, the Phase I Sustainable / Hybrid alternative is the most flexible and offers the best approach for integration into the Phase 2 recommendations / parameters.

MSD has demonstrated, in the content of these two documents, a thoughtful, thorough and timely summary of the environmental, economic and social implications of the volumetric management of combined sewer overflows throughout the Lower Mill Creek. The evaluations and technical information introduce benefits and risks and take into consideration the responsibility of long-term watershed

planning. While the cost implications are sizeable regardless of the grey or hybrid option (approximately \$1.2B) compliance appears non-negotiable. MSD, and the multiple stakeholders, have brought forth an approach that seems to be reliable and responsible, and now will identify and cultivate funding sources to contribute to this essential infrastructure improvement.

**28.**

Brian J. Bohl, MES, CPESC, QDC  
Stream Specialist  
Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District  
22 Triangle Park Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45246  
(513) 772-7645 ext. 15  
[brian.bohl@hamilton-co.org](mailto:brian.bohl@hamilton-co.org)

**Comment submitted 09/13/2012:**

Mr. Parrott,

The attachment reflects comments and recommendations submitted by the Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District related to the "Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy – Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report". We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and would be interested in getting MSD's perspective on these preliminary comments.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Brian Bohl

**Attached letter:**

Mr. Tony Parrott, Director  
Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSDGC)  
1600 Gest Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45204

Subject: Comment on the MSDGC "Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report"

Dear Mr. Parrott, The Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District would like to thank you and your hard working staff members for the opportunity to provide comment on the "Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report" and the associated grey, sustainable and hybrid alternatives. Our agency has partnered with MSDGC through involvement in the Communities of the Future Advisory Committee, Lower Mill Creek Watershed Action Plan Committee, the Ault Park Project and response to citizens water issues. The submitted comments reflect our review given an expedited time frame. Consequently, we hope MSDGC is open to more detailed input regarding the design of individual project areas. The details of the project scope and design are vital to ensuring optimal combined sewer overflow (CSO) reduction and appropriate routing of storm water flows for the benefit of the public, aquatic life, MSDGC and associated partners.

Our agency recognizes and appreciates the efforts of MSDGC to evaluate multiple options in obtaining combined sewer overflow goals. Furthermore, we favor the incorporation of a sustainable approach to reducing overflows. There are significant water quality treatment benefits associated with appropriate implementation of the sustainable approach. Natural media can be extremely effective at removing

pollutants associated with storm water runoff, while increasing ground water supply. The sustainable approach and hybrid options appear to have similar benefits to the grey alternative from the perspective of percent watershed control and CSOs eliminated. Additionally, the projected Phase I cost of the sustainable/hybrid option alternative is considerably lower than the grey alternative. The Phase II projected cost of the sustainable option also appears to be much lower than the grey alternative.

Regarding the details of the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report and associated Town Hall/public information meetings, we have the following comments and recommendations.

- Produce and distribute a synopsis of questions, comments and responses from the August 2012 Town Hall meetings and prior public comment meetings and open houses related to the Lick Run Project, West Fork Project, Bloody Run Project, Kings Run Project, Ludlow Run Project and Denham Project. Include responses to all other comments received.
- Storm water detention design and implementation: To retain the additional storm water flows, many new basins are proposed. Some are proposed within existing stream channels. In order to reduce sedimentation within such basins and long term maintenance, we recommend installing basins outside of the primary stream channel. Or, detain storm water through multiple source controls. This should also enhance the ability for aquatic life to migrate through the project area, which is another measure of project success. There appear to be several in-stream detention facilities proposed in the Lick Run watershed and potentially the Denham and Kings Run watersheds.
- Water quality inflow and outflow monitoring should be conducted at source control measures to better understand and implement designs associated with maximum pollutant removal. MSDGC may find that there are lower costs associated with higher pollutant removal when MSDGC may find that there are lower costs associated with higher pollutant removal when utilizing more on-site planting media.
- Storm water models can be valuable tools in assessing pollutant removal efficiency based on the number, location and quality of best management practices (BMPs) within a watershed. However, localized water quality and volume reduction monitoring can play a vital role in model calibration.
- In addition to monitoring inflow and outflow at selected source control BMPs, we recommend seasonally consistent monitoring upstream, midstream and downstream of project areas to reveal the water quality improvements that have taken place. Knowing the actual in-stream water quality benefits will help MSDGC to prioritize and allocate resources more efficiently in future project areas. Key water quality parameters include stream habitat, stability, chemistry, macroinvertebrates, fish and salamanders.
- Consider requiring 2-5 year warranties on project performance in order to fully address early project failures or maintenance issues.
- Use alternative and sustainable energy sources to account for higher energy demands as a result of implementing solutions.
- MSDGC has been diligent at informing stake holders regarding the CSO reduction projects at the concept stage. Yet, it is also important to allow partner agencies and groups to provide feedback at various stages in the design process. Field implementation can often divert from concept plans so keeping constituents informed and maintaining transparency through the stages of design is critical.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report. Our agency welcomes the perspective of your agency concerning our recommendations. We commend the outreach efforts of MSDGC and value the opportunities we have to partner with your organization. Feel free to contact the Hamilton County Soil &

Water Conservation District at (513) 772-7645 ext. 15 if you have questions or would like clarification on these submitted comments.

Sincerely,  
Brian Bohl, MES, CPESC  
Stream Specialist

CC: Holly Utrata-Halcomb, District Administrator, Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District

## **Transcription in Person**

## MSD Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

### Transcription In Person

1.

Barry Cholak  
North Fairmount resident  
2631 Linden St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45215  
513. 471.5898

#### **Comment transcribed on September 5, 2012:**

Some thought or concerns

As an old city planner, I have always been appalled at the uncompromising land uses and transportation system in the Queen City Avenue corridor. City policies created this mess. I remember the days when I used to go to a bakery on Queen City Avenue. You couldn't park your car because there was nowhere to park, and eventually the bakery went out of business. So I was always seeking some way to correct it.

Then, along comes MSD and its sustainable solution, and they said let's do an open water system that will do something that nature should be doing. It's a very valuable way to resolve it instead of doing it underground. I thought this could be a great way to make changes. Other cities have been doing this. I really bought into it right way.

Then, there were some things that threw this thing into confusion:

- The perception that the original tentative costs doubled at the expense of the MSD ratepayer.
- The other perception is that this project isn't going to clean the water - that the Consent Decree did not require remediation of water quality.
- Throughout the exercise of community participation, costs of changes in land use were hardly mentioned and some really were either ignored or left out.
- Much investment by stakeholders (e.g., Parks, Rec, Community Development) were paid staff by MSD. Hardly volunteers. They want it both ways. They want to be paid for it, and they don't want to commit to resources.
- The resulting plans were responsive to a variety of needs and concerns suggesting new land uses. But MSD (in small print) said any land acquisition outside of the inner side of Westwood and Queen City was and would not be paid for by MSD, leaving the needed changes to unknown resources. No one claiming responsibility. Transportation people said the existing system

worked and that they weren't interested in real change. Parks & Rec said it would contribute if paid to do such. Some MSD people (engineers) said they really only needed land for MSD.

But that leads to the other issue of how are we going to make it happen. They didn't make any effort to put it into their budget. The question is the future of resources and whether there's any real commitment to find the resources. Glib remarks about revitalizing neighborhoods without identifying resources to do it is not responsive. Parks, Rec, Community Development has never identified any additional resources other than those that come from the ratepayer of MSD.

- The other thing I have concern about is an organizational thing. This strange hybrid of the city running MSD and the county in charge of policy and budget. It doesn't make it work very well. It causes great conflicts primarily because there are differences in directions. The city doesn't like to see MSD push in to the county at the expense of the city. The biggest thing is how to correct that. My thought – and it's worked with the banks – is they created a community czar (John Dietrich). It was an appointment made at the county with the city's support. For this Queen City project, you need the cooperation of the city and the city departments. There's got to be some kind of joint support to make it work.
- Maintenance of future waterway system is in question again. Will such maintenance be paid for by MSD, or will it be under the auspices of the city? Yesterday, I took a tour of the rain garden along Immanuel Church. It was unkept and untaken care of. Then, I went to St. Francis and I got out of the car. It looks like someone deserted it. It's not been cared for, it's not attractive. It shows lack of total maintenance. Then, I drove further on Queen City Avenue where there were trees marked with blue ribbons. They're all dead. I know it's been a hot summer, and the weather hasn't been a help to you. But on the other hand, is this a sign of how the waterway is going to be maintained in the future? It worries me that we would spend all this money and have it turn out this way. The city's parks have been maintained. But the experiments you've had have shown a lack of good maintenance.
- Obviously South Fairmount people have an interest. To call it a South Fairmount neighborhood is sort of strange, because it's not a neighborhood. It's not that they shouldn't be included. They should temper their viewpoint. I don't think what they want is what everybody else wants. I'm sure if they heard me say these things, they'd beat me to death. *Laugh.* But I'm an old community planner. Probably because the politicians promise everything. They make it difficult. Planning makes big plans and never has the resources to make it work.
- Another concern is of business displacement. I think MSD has made some effort to provide for relocation costs and things like that. It seems to me there needs to be some outreach to provide an opportunity for them to stay in the city or county. It's really key. How do we make them happy? I want to make sure they are satisfied in this process.

So, where am I on this thing? I truly don't know what the answer is. I'd like it to be proven to me that the cost benefit of this thing is worthwhile. Otherwise, I'd say put it under the ground and forget about it. I'm a little fearful that MSD ratepayer is going to bear the brunt of this. It's got to be a shared cost that comes from other resources other than MSD.

If you can begin to answer some questions about who is going to pay for this thing. I support the sustainable system 100% percent, but I have a question about how it's going to be maintained and the cost of all these things.

Where do we go from here? We need to clarify the cost benefit aspect of it. We need to assure ourselves that this has benefit to all of us. Either we find new or additional resources, or the city and county need to make a commitment to find them (e.g., grants, loans, 3CDC tax benefits).

Some organizational plan that marries both the city and county in a more upbeat way. I like to use the John Dieters example in the banks as a way to go. Or the 3CDC approach that combined public and private resources.

**Transcription of Written Comment Cards from the  
MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 16, 2012**

**MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy  
MSD Administration Building  
August 16, 2012**

**Transcription of Written Comment Cards**

1.

Kathy LaDow  
South Fairmount resident  
2501 Knorr Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45214  
513.481.2311  
[Ladow.k@gmail.com](mailto:Ladow.k@gmail.com)

**Comment:**

I speak for myself and, unofficially, for several others in my immediate streets. The loss of a few rundown/ “historical” buildings in a run-down neighborhood that is unlikely to enjoy a redevelopment economically and residentially should not impede the progress toward compliance with the EPA mandate. It should not impede the selection of the sustainable alternative remedy to the CSO problem. By the way, the vote taken by the S.F. Community Council and the Knox Hill (improvement) person was taken by about 15 people – hardly a representation of the community. The motion presented was vague and my understanding was that the Council would try to initiate further research into getting a certain block as a Historic District and that money might be obtained somewhere to do that. There was no motion or vote to sue anyone.

**Transcription of Written Comment Cards from the  
MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012**

**MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy  
MSD Wastewater Collection Division  
August 23, 2012**

**Transcription of Written Comment Cards**

1.

Anonymous

**Comment:**

That the alternatives to the tunnel has advanced to this stage is a testament to the hard work, talent and strength of our civil servants. This alternative in enormously complex and will not only benefit the environment, it will provide significant benefits for the community. We may disagree about which alternative to select but we should be grateful for our dedicated civil servants.

2.

Anonymous

**Comment:**

- What is the average rain event design for Gray Rd. landfill retention?
- Are there plans for impervious roadway replacement in College Hill?
- Since the coliform spike is at CSO 217, how come there is not more investment or attention to mitigating this?
- Will there be MSD answers to the written questions online?

3.

Couper Gardiner

AIA Urban Design Committee

3547 Mooney Ave.

Cincinnati, OH 45208

513.310.3098

[cgardiner@unitingarch.org](mailto:cgardiner@unitingarch.org)

**Comment:**

- Do you anticipate people leaving the district as a result of higher rates?
- The sustainable illustration for Phase 1 accomplishes more benefits for lower costs. Could still lower cost be possible and achieve adequate benefits, including the 2B gallon reduction?
- With lessons from past cost estimates where contingencies were insufficient to cover each next iteration, has the percentage for contingencies been increased so that decisions are based on a better estimate of total cost?
- Are external costs similar for the grey and sustainable solution illustrations, e.g., adjacent land owner watershed maintenance of infiltration rates in their property?

4.

Marvin Kraus  
ECO  
415 Bond Place, #4C  
Cincinnati, OH 45206  
513.861.3939

**Comment:**

How much will each plan cost a Hamilton County homeowner annually and for how long?  
What will a Hamilton County homeowner get in return?

5.

Michael Weinstein  
Partners Environmental Consulting, Inc.  
11427 Reed Hartman Highway  
Cincinnati, OH 45241  
513.618.6490  
[mweinstein@partnersenv.com](mailto:mweinstein@partnersenv.com)

**Comment:**

Please provide me a link to tonight's PowerPoint or provide instructions on how to obtain one. Thank you.

6.

Bruce Koehler  
OKI & Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities  
720 East Pete Rose Way, Suite 400  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
[bkoehler@oki.org](mailto:bkoehler@oki.org)  
(513) 619-7675

**Comment:**

See other side and attached maps.

The Mill Creek is not an open sewer, but a narrow green ribbon through an urban landscape staving for healthy streams. The Mill Creek is not a lost cause but a valuable resource that already has improved dramatically from the bad old days of toxic discharges, and gassing sewage sludge banks. Please see the attached maps to support my statement that the Mill Creek is not a lost cause.

## **Appendix C: Exit Surveys**

## **Appendix C: Exit Surveys (continued)**

Appendix C includes the following documentation:

### MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 16, 2012

- Transcription of Exit Surveys
- Summary of Exit Survey Results
- Graphic Presentation of Exit Survey Results

### MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012

- Transcription of Exit Surveys
- Summary of Exit Survey Results
- Graphic Presentation of Exit Survey Results

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 16, 2012**

Transcription of Exit Surveys

**MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy**  
**MSD Administration Building**  
**August 16, 2012**

**Transcription of Exit Surveys**

**1.**

Michael C. Miller  
[mike.miller@uc.edu](mailto:mike.miller@uc.edu)  
513.675.0293

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**Comments:** Likely

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

Model Conductivity in the two alternatives, since raw sewage runs high >1,500 mS. Mill Creek is often 800-1000, base is 400-500 mS. Creek is now 50% effluent.

**3. Additional Comments:**

Look at reducing E. coli with connected wetlands, rain gardens, and retention ponds. Avoid deep underground storage-- no biological/chemical degradation.

**2.**

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

Would like to see a more concerted effort (not just by MSD) to eliminate unfunded mandates and reign in the regulators. I am an environmentalist, but the EPA is going too far unchecked.

3.

Terrie Evans  
brunhilda@fuse.net  
513.474.8810

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

Hopefully we will create jobs with this solution, and the area will have a new and different life and direction.

4.

Barry Cholak  
513.471.5898

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

Need oversight- ongoing (something illegible)

5.

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

Good overall comments- not everyone will be pleased. Pursue what is best for the community at large. Special attention should be paid to what is left behind in community impact.

**6.**

E. Francis

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

This is an opportunity to improve this area. I have lived in this area, and it should be a welcomed improvement for a necessary solution. Excellent job by Brandi Lierman and Pam Taylor! Good job!

**7.**

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

TP's comments were way too long

8.

Bruce Koehler

[bkoehler@oki.org](mailto:bkoehler@oki.org)

513.619.7675

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

The Mill Creek is not a lost cause but a valuable regional resource that has improved dramatically from the bad old days of toxic discharges, gassing sewage sludge banks and concrete channelization.

9.

Richard Schoeff

[schoeffrl@gmail.com](mailto:schoeffrl@gmail.com)

513.310.0804

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

Always use sustainable solution.

10.

Jim O'Reilly  
[JOReilly@fuse.net](mailto:JOReilly@fuse.net)  
513.761.9398

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

Very good session. (something illegible) explanation.

11.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

Great presentation! Keep up the great work. Great participation from the audience.

12.

Stefanie Sunderland  
[ssunderland\\_2848@fuse.net](mailto:ssunderland_2848@fuse.net)  
513.542.4709

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

I agree with Fairmount Business Association president that it's already been determined which alternative MSD has chosen to reduce the amount of storm water flowing into the combined system. To support this answer and as a Northsider much of the hybrid sustainable solution has already been implemented in the West Fork Channel plan. What isn't clear is where the funding is coming from to pay for either model is coming from? Or exactly when will the community have the opportunity to actually plan how to repurpose land purchased to naturalize the creek?

**13.**

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

The sustainable option is preferable as it provides the highest potential for redevelopment of the Lick Run basin.

**14.**

David Finke

[tdfinke5@yahoo.com](mailto:tdfinke5@yahoo.com)

513.481.4220

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

15.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

16.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

17.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

18.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

3. **Additional Comments:**

You need to let everyone know the tunnel is now twice as long as originally planned, hence the doubling of the cost! Very misleading.

19.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

3. **Additional Comments:**

This is the first time I have heard about much of this, so more understandable info.

20.

John D. Kelly

[john\\_kelly\\_12443@hotmail.com](mailto:john_kelly_12443@hotmail.com)

513.460.2491

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

Clever description of what the first alternative looks like and how it impacts the South Fairmount community area.

**3. Additional Comments:**

Since the fecal coliform standard cannot be met because the level is already too high at the northern border of the district, is the central government EPA and Ohio EPA putting requirements on the Butler County Area to lower fecal coliform passed on to us?

21.

MaryAnn McGowan

[maryannc.mcgowan@duke-energy.com](mailto:maryannc.mcgowan@duke-energy.com)

513.287.1430

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

Would like to see Life Cycle cost comparison. Would like to know if any energy efficiency incentives are considered in the proposal.

22.

Jo Ann Metz

513.662.9934

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**Comment written in:** Green alternative is best. Human element is being served.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

Keep trying. It will work.

23.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

Please post PowerPoint presentation on the internet.

**24.**

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

Combination of tunnel with some sustainable.

**3. Additional Comments:**

**25.**

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

For the layman, clarification of some of the jargon would have been helpful.

**MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 16, 2012**

Summary of Exit Survey Results

# Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

## **MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy**

**MSD Administration Building  
August 16, 2012**

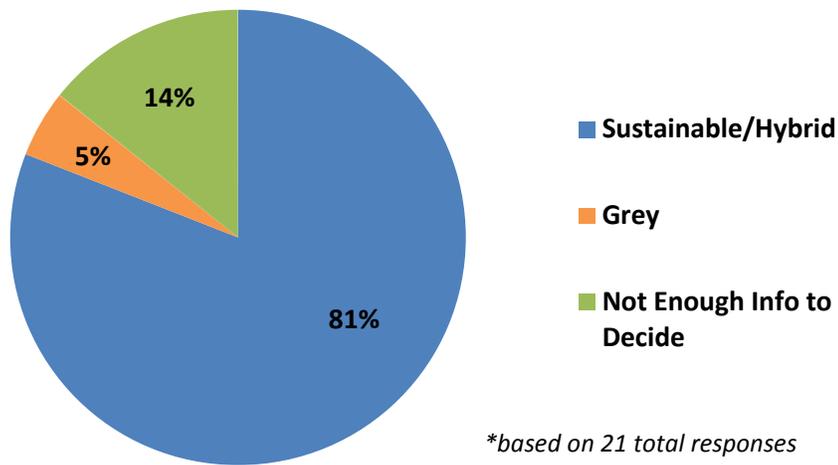
### **Summarized Exit Survey Results:**

- 25 people completed the exit survey
- Question #1: Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?  
Note: 21 people answered this question.
  - 17 out of 21 people (80%) were in support of the sustainable/hybrid alternative
  - 1 person (5%) was in support of the grey alternative
  - 3 people (14%) did not have enough information to make an informed decision
- Question #2: If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional info do you need?
  - Comments included technical data, asking for more understandable information, and suggesting a combination approach with the tunnel and sustainable
- Question #3: Additional comments?
  - Comments ranged from a number of questions, to a request for a lifecycle cost comparison, to words of support.

**MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 16, 2012**

Graphic Presentation of Exit Survey Results

**August 16, 2012 Town Hall Exit Survey:  
Given what you know at this time  
regarding cost and performance, what is  
your preferred solution for the Lower  
Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**



**MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012**

Transcription of Exit Surveys

MSD Community "Town Hall" Meeting on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy  
MSD Wastewater Collection Division  
August 23, 2012

Transcribed Exit Surveys

1.

Ed Gutfreund  
[egutfreund@fuse.net](mailto:egutfreund@fuse.net)  
513.542.2055

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**Comments:**

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

3. **Additional Comments:**

How will land use changes require future commercial development to be responsible for their water injuries?

2.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

3. **Additional Comments:**

Data such as # days >1.5" event?

\$0.5 Billion for 10% improvement. Really? We are on Mars-- looking for water.

3.

Warren High  
[warren.high@amec.com](mailto:warren.high@amec.com)  
513.474.8810

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

Use more than 25 years for cost projection.

4.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

There were several good questions asked in the public comment period. I would like to see answers published on MSD web site.

5.

Jeff Agricola  
[jagricola@springdale.org](mailto:jagricola@springdale.org)  
513.346.5520

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

**6.**

Julie Murray

[julimurray@aol.com](mailto:julimurray@aol.com)

513.721.7543

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

Who will bear what percentage of the high costs-- initially and longterm of this project-- what % of costs will residential customers carry? Who are the developers that this will benefit and what will they pay? And what % will be picked up by industrial use in the region?

**7.**

Jo Ann Metz

513.662.9934

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

Please use the EPA's "local" expertise. They will give you strength in combating "new" substandard plans from Hargrove Engineering. I'm praying for you all -- as are our parish!

8.

William Doering  
Wdoering@cinci.rr.com  
513.732.2228

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

First time getting involved with issue. More confused now than I was before meeting.

**3. Additional Comments:**

Would like to see an executive summary for each proposal.

9.

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

I appreciate that this is an extremely complex problem.

10.

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

I need to take small bites and digest the info as I go. Way too much info was presented in order to make a decision.

3. **Additional Comments:**

My community will be involved in a later phase I assume.

11.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

3. **Additional Comments:**

12.

David Rich

[drich@buildingvalue.com](mailto:drich@buildingvalue.com)

513.475.6783

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

3. **Additional Comments:**

I have professional interest in both solutions but believe the greener, sustainable approach is best for the communities involved.

13.

Samantha Brockfield

[sbrockfield@wincincy.org](mailto:sbrockfield@wincincy.org)

513.541.4109 x 124

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

More specific assurance on community impacts for daylighting projects; city and developer commitments.

**3. Additional Comments:**

As a community organizer and planner, I hope to be able to work with your team and various neighborhood leaders to achieve shared victory.

14.

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

15.

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

3. **Additional Comments:**

Very well presented. Enough of the modeling and let's fix the CSO problem!

16.

Anonymous

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

3. **Additional Comments:**

Too much smoke and mirrors. Not enough facts and truth.

17.

James Smith

513.821.8627

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs

Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

3. **Additional Comments:**

18.

Michael Keller  
[mkeller@emht.com](mailto:mkeller@emht.com)

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

19.

Kendra Schroer  
[kendra@fuse.net](mailto:kendra@fuse.net)  
513.575.9412

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.
2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**
3. **Additional Comments:**

Please let us know who to contact at OEPA and USEPA to provide feedback to those agencies.

20.

Thomas Hefley, Architect in partnership with Hargrove Engineering  
[hsarchitects30@yahoo.com](mailto:hsarchitects30@yahoo.com)  
513.363.8134

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
  - Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers

- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

As a part of the S. Fairmount Community public/private partnership, we have become very familiar with 2 solutions and have attempted dialogue to present a third alternative but failed to be given the opportunity to dialogue with MSD and their consultants as to potential of it to address many of the community concerns as well to potential cost-savings it offers.

**21.**

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

Please make the right decision about this monumental investment. I support the sustainable alternative.

**22.**

Bruce Koehler

[bkoehler@oki.org](mailto:bkoehler@oki.org)

513.619.7675

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

MSD staff deserves are gratitude for taking a balanced approach to a difficult situation. The sustainable alternative would serve as a demonstration project for the entire watershed.

23.

Jacque Chischillie

[jac.3sisters@hotmail.com](mailto:jac.3sisters@hotmail.com)

513-623-0615

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stromwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

24.

Anonymous

**1. Given what you know at this time regarding the cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative- primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stromwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative – deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision.

(person checked both)

**2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

**3. Additional Comments:**

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 23, 2012**

Summary of Exit Survey Results

# Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

## **MSD Community “Town Hall” Meeting on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy**

**MSD Wastewater Collections Division  
August 23, 2012**

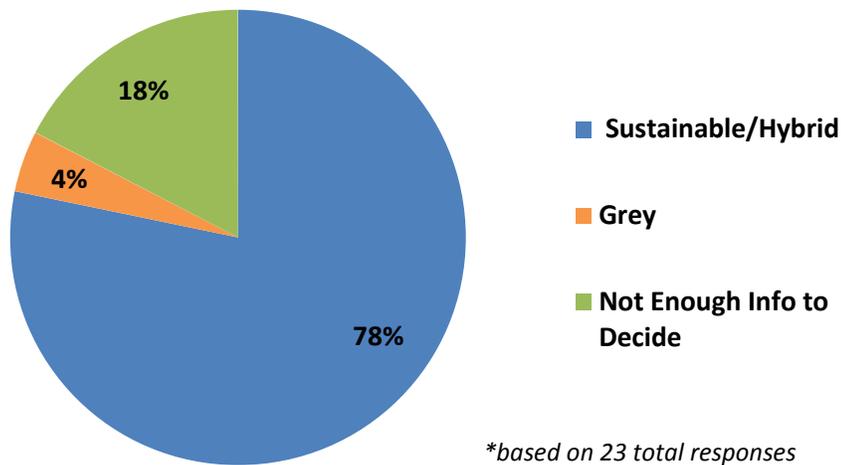
### **Summarized Exit Survey Results:**

- 24 people completed the exit survey
- Question #1: Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?  
Note: 23 people answered this question.
  - 18 out of 23 people (78%) were in support of the sustainable/hybrid alternative
  - 1 person (4%) was in support of the grey alternative
  - 4 people (17%) did not have enough information to make an informed decision
- Question #2: If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional info do you need?
  - Comments included technical data, more assurance on impacts to community, city and developer commitments
- Question #3: Additional comments?
  - Comments ranged from a number of questions, to a request to prepare an executive summary for each approach.

**MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012**

Graphic Presentation of Exit Survey Results

**August 23, 2012 Town Hall Exit Survey:  
Given what you know at this time  
regarding cost and performance, what is  
your preferred solution for the Lower  
Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**



## **Appendix D: Original Materials**

## **Appendix D: Original Materials (continued)**

Appendix D includes the following documentation:

### MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 16, 2012

- Stenographers Report and Exhibit 10 and 11
- Written Comment Cards
- Exit Surveys

### MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012

- Stenographers Report and Exhibit 10
- Written Comment Cards
- Exit Surveys

- Emails

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 16, 2012**

Stenographers Report and Exhibit 10 and 11

**In The Matter Of:**

*Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati*

---

*Community Town Hall Meeting  
August 16, 2012*

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*Absolute Reporting & Video, LLC  
3414 Edwards Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45208*

Original File MSD081612.txt

**Min-U-Script® with Word Index**

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METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT OF  
GREATER CINCINNATI

- - -

COMMUNITY TOWN HALL MEETING HOSTED BY THE  
METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT OF GREATER CINCINNATI AT THE  
MSD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 1081 WOODROW STREET, ROOM  
104, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45204, ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 16, 2012  
AT 6:00 P.M.

- - -

IN THE MATTER OF:

METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT OF GREATER CINCINNATI'S  
PROPOSED SOLUTION ON THE LOWER MILL CREEK PARTIAL REMEDY  
TO ELIMINATE UP TO TWO BILLION GALLONS OF COMBINED SEWER  
OVERFLOWS INTO THE MILL CREEK BY YEAR 2018, DURING PHASE I  
OF THE METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT OF GREATER CINCINNATI'S  
FEDERAL CONSENT DECREE.

- - -

1 APPEARANCES

2

3 MR. DAN HURLEY, DIRECTOR OF LEADERSHIP FOR CINCINNATI  
4 USA REGIONAL CHAMBER

5 MR. TONY PARROTT, MSD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

6 MS. MARYLYNN LODOR, MSD ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM MANAGER

7 MR. DEAN NIEMEYER, AICP, SENIOR PLANNER, FOR HAMILTON  
8 COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

9 MR. CHRISTIAN SIGMAN, HAMILTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

10 MS. LEISHA PICA, MSD

11 MS. DEB LEONARD, MSD

12 MS. KELLY WALSH, MSD

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| E X H I B I T S |  |      |
|-----------------|--|------|
| 1               | 2 MARKED                                     | PAGE |
| 3               | EXHIBIT NUMBER 1                             | 5    |
| 4               | Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater       |      |
| 5               | Cincinnati, Media Advisory                   |      |
| 6               | EXHIBIT NUMBER 2                             | 5    |
| 7               | We Need Your Input... to make our rivers and |      |
| 8               | streams cleaner and healthier.               |      |
| 9               | EXHIBIT NUMBER 3                             | 5    |
| 10              | Community Town Hall Meeting August 16,       |      |
| 11              | 2012, Sign-in Sheet                          |      |
| 12              | EXHIBIT NUMBER 4                             | 9    |
| 13              | Community "Town Hall" Meeting on the Lower   |      |
| 14              | Mill Creek Partial Remedy MSD Administration |      |
| 15              | Building - August 16, 2012. Agenda           |      |
| 16              | EXHIBIT NUMBER 5                             | 5    |
| 17              | Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives |      |
| 18              | Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report       |      |
| 19              | OVERVIEW                                     |      |
| 20              | EXHIBIT NUMBER 6                             | 5    |
| 21              | Lower Mill Creek Watershed Fact Sheet        |      |
| 22              | EXHIBIT NUMBER 7                             | 5    |
| 23              | Frequently Asked Questions about the Lower   |      |
| 24              | Mill Creek Partial Remedy                    |      |
| 25              | EXHIBIT NUMBER 8                             | 5    |
|                 | RECR8 Coming Soon ... (Card)                 |      |

| 1  | MARKED   | PAGE |
|----|--|------|
| 2  | EXHIBIT NUMBER 9                               | 11   |
| 3  | Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Community      |      |
| 4  | Town Hall Meetings August 16th and 23rd, 2012. |      |
|    | PowerPoint Presentation                        |      |
| 5  | EXHIBIT NUMBER 10-1 through 10-12              | 9    |
| 6  | Twelve contact information cards offered by    |      |
| 7  | citizens providing verbal comments.            |      |
| 8  | EXHIBIT NUMBER 11                              | 14   |
| 9  | MSD PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS, August 16, 2012,  |      |
| 10 | James T. O'Reilly                              |      |
| 11 | EXHIBIT NUMBER 12                              | 13   |
| 12 | Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Exit Survey    |      |
|    | (Card)   |      |
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1       WHEREUPON:

2                       (Exhibit Numbers 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 were  
3 marked for identification.)

4                       MR. SIGMAN:  If we can find some seats we'll  
5 get started in a moment here.  Just a couple housekeeping  
6 items here.  The restrooms for this facility are out this  
7 door or that door and around the corner and they're  
8 unlocked.  There's a male and female there.  All right,  
9 we'll get started.

10                      I thank you for coming out tonight.  I'm  
11 Christian Sigman the Hamilton County Administrator.  And  
12 I'm only going to spend about a minute or two kind of  
13 talking about the relationship on this very important --

14                      MEMBER OF AUDIANCE:  Speak into it so we can  
15 hear you.

16                      MR. SIGMAN:  I'm sorry?

17                      MEMBER OF AUDIANCE:  Speak into it so we can  
18 hear you.

19                      MR. SIGMAN:  Thank you.  I'm Christian  
20 Sigman the Hamilton County Administrator.  Thank you for  
21 coming out tonight.  I'm going to spend a couple minutes  
22 talking about the relationships and the institutions  
23 involved in this very important decision.

24                      This decision will be the biggest decision for  
25 the Hamilton County Commissioners, not the City Council,

1 since the Stadium vote. Now I wasn't here in 1996, but I  
2 know the aftermath of that vote, so the Commissioners want  
3 to get this right. So we have the Metropolitan Sewer  
4 District which is owned by Hamilton County and run by the  
5 City of Cincinnati and at an operational level we have a  
6 great relationship. In fact, MSD has won all kinds of  
7 management awards and innovation awards for the running of  
8 this utility and it's nationally recognized.

9 And what they're doing or trying to do to solve  
10 and address a Federal Consent Decree is being watched by  
11 utilities all across the country by consulting firms and  
12 lawyers. So we're almost the case study for this. No  
13 decision has been made on which way to go on this, it  
14 could go either way.

15 You're going to hear lots of good information  
16 that's basically dumbed down so we can understand it. I'm  
17 not an engineer by trade and I'm going to understand it as  
18 well. There's a second presentation opportunity that's  
19 going to be coming up and that date will be shared later.  
20 And then the County Commissioners will also hold public  
21 hearings and commentary on this.

22 So, with that, are there any initial questions  
23 before I turn this over to our moderator to kick this off?  
24 All right, Dan Hurley, it's all yours.

25 MR. HURLEY: Thank you, Christian. My name

1 is Dan Hurley. Those of you who were involved in the  
2 planning process in South Fairmount, I was able to join  
3 you, I think, I don't know, I think there were three  
4 public sessions. And the goal of this session, whether  
5 you were involved in the South Fairmount process or not,  
6 is to really hear from you.

7           There's going to be a basic presentation about  
8 what the options are and what each of those means. And  
9 then we're going to very quickly open it up to an  
10 opportunity for everybody to have a comment if you want  
11 it. We would ask if you do have a comment, the preferred  
12 way, although there will be a number of ways here, but the  
13 preferred way this evening is that you would come to this  
14 microphone. And you need to have one of these cards so  
15 that you have your name and basic information. Because  
16 everything that's being said this evening is being  
17 recorded not only on a tape, I don't think there's any  
18 tape anymore, digitally, but also by a stenographer up  
19 here, Linda Guinn, who will be -- is taking down  
20 everything.

21           So you want to be able to -- the person who will  
22 be sitting here, Deb Leonard, will take your card as you  
23 come and give that to the stenographer so she's really  
24 clear about who's speaking. Okay. Anybody who comes to  
25 the front has two minutes. And we really, if you look

1 around the room, there are a lot of people here, so we're  
2 really going to try to hold people to two minutes. And  
3 there is a time -- Dean is going to time with a one-minute  
4 and a 30-second sign and then there's a finish sign. And  
5 obviously, if you're in the middle of a sentence, we're  
6 not going to cut you off. But we want you to stay crisp  
7 to that two minutes. You can ask a question, and if you  
8 ask a question Tony or MaryLynn will try to answer that  
9 quickly. This is mostly for you tonight. Or you can just  
10 make a comment. You don't have to put it in a question  
11 form, you can just make a comment.

12 If you don't want to come up and speak at the mic  
13 this evening, unless people don't want to do that sort of  
14 thing, you can also provide a written comment card and  
15 there are those available. And you can make your comment,  
16 leave it here tonight or send it in by September the 3rd.  
17 Or you can e-mail, and if you're got an Agenda you've got  
18 an e-mail address that you can send it to. Or you can  
19 make a telephone call and call and leave your comment with  
20 somebody up until September the 3rd.

21 So the goal is really to take, to get your input.  
22 And there's another meeting next week, by the way, so  
23 there's really an effort here to hear from the public.  
24 Once all of those comments and the transcript is  
25 developed, those will go to the elected officials. Both

1 the Hamilton County Commissioners and the City Council  
2 Members. And that will be the basis for a lot of data for  
3 them to include and hear your voice in the process of  
4 decision making.

5 So that's sort of our flow this evening. Do I  
6 have that right? Are we -- anything I missed? Okay. And  
7 we're going to begin very quickly here with Tony Parrott  
8 who is the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Sewer  
9 District. And also with him this evening is MaryLynn  
10 Lodor. You're sort of behind the sign. Say hello. Yes.  
11 And she's the Metropolitan Sewer District Environmental  
12 Program Manager. Again, those of us who have been  
13 involved in the, in the South Fairmount process, know both  
14 of these people very well and have heard from them in the  
15 past.

16 So, with that, I'm going to turn it over to Tony  
17 so that he can help us understand the basic issues that  
18 have been -- that are laid out for a decision.

19 (Whereupon, Exhibit Numbers 4 and 10-1 through  
20 10-12 were marked for identification.)

21 MR. PARROTT: Thank you, Dan. Good evening,  
22 everyone. Thank you for coming out. We hope that it  
23 doesn't get too hot in the room. We're going to try to  
24 keep the air conditioning to a point to where you don't  
25 get too hot and fall asleep 'cause this is going to be a

1 long presentation. But we feel that it's necessary so  
2 that you get the information that is coming out of the  
3 Lower Mill Creek study that we've been conducting over the  
4 last three years.

5 I know there's a lot of interested stakeholders  
6 and a lot of information that we need to cover tonight.  
7 And so I'm going to take the first part of this evening  
8 and talk a little bit about some of the results. We have  
9 been really specific to try to bring forth the facts and  
10 the findings from the study. We're not here to advocate  
11 one way or the other for a project.

12 We're here to show you the analysis and the  
13 findings and what has happened over the last three years.  
14 And what information then is going to be packaged and  
15 tooled for submittal to either, either the co-defendants,  
16 the City Council and the County Commissioners. At that  
17 point it would be their decision to wrap up a  
18 recommendation to the Regulators by the end of this year.

19 So from an Agenda perspective, while we're here  
20 tonight, basically is to talk about why we're here. And  
21 as Dan covered, there's a lot of work that we've done and  
22 that's why we're here tonight. We're going to talk about  
23 the Lower Mill Creek area. Not only the community, but  
24 these subbasins and the watersheds that we are going to be  
25 doing our study in. We are going to be talking about what

1 is the Lower Mill Creek regulatory mandate. And we're  
2 also going to be talking about how we're going to comply  
3 with that mandate. And a little bit about who is  
4 involved, because obviously this work, as you'll see,  
5 cannot be done by MSD in a vacuum.

6 We've had a lot of interaction, a lot of  
7 collaboration with a lot of different parties. And we  
8 expect that that will continue as we move forward. And in  
9 terms of the Lower Mill Creek report, or the study, the  
10 final draft or the final recommendations will be made to  
11 the County Commissioners somewhat after this public input  
12 process.

13 As Christian mentioned, there will be a public  
14 hearing that the County Commissioners will hold. And  
15 subsequent to that there will be recommendations that will  
16 be packaged. And then at that point it will be up to the  
17 Commissioners to make a final recommendation to the  
18 Federal Government.

19 So, thank you all for being here tonight.

20 (Whereupon, Mr. Parrott presented the PowerPoint  
21 presentation off the record and Exhibit 9 was marked for  
22 identification.)

23 (Whereupon, the PowerPoint presentation  
24 concluded.)

25 MR. PARROTT: -- when you look at what we've

1 presented tonight it really kind of shapes the story about  
2 the technical justification. It shapes the story about  
3 the technical competency and the performance criteria and  
4 the certainty of the work that is being done over the last  
5 two or three years, and so there is a lot of information  
6 that is available on our website.

7 We are ready to receive any comment, we are ready  
8 to receive questions, as Mr. Hurley said earlier. And  
9 with that I will turn it back over to Dan to kind of lead  
10 us in that exercise.

11 MR. HURLEY: Thank you, Tony. Thank you for  
12 listening.

13 MR. PARROTT: I'm sorry. Turn my mic back  
14 on please. Hello. Somebody just told me that we do have  
15 a County Commissioner in the room. Mr. Todd Portune.  
16 Everybody welcome Mr. Portune. Thank you, Mr. Portune,  
17 for joining us.

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. PARROTT: Thank you.

20 MR. HURLEY: Thank you. Remember as you  
21 come up please fill out the form so that it can be passed  
22 to the stenographer so that we have the correct name and  
23 contact information. So this is the contact period. I  
24 just want to remind people that besides coming to the mic  
25 this evening, you can e-mail, call or leave a message out

1 in the lobby. There's an area where, and a form, where  
2 you can leave some comments there. And we also, at the  
3 end of the evening, would like you to fill out a -- or if  
4 you leave before the whole meeting's over, fill out an  
5 evaluation form that is out at the main table.

6 So, we can begin now with -- and I would ask you,  
7 even though you've turned that in, begin by just saying  
8 your name please.

9 (Whereupon, Exhibit Number 12 was marked for  
10 identification.)

11 MR. ELLIS: Good evening. My name is  
12 Elliott Ellis. I'm a resident of South Fairmount and  
13 President of the South Fairmount Community Council. We  
14 are here to determine the best solution for removing two  
15 billion gallons of Lick Run Watershed CSOs from entering  
16 the Mill Creek untreated.

17 Is it a tunnel, as directed by EPA, or is it an  
18 above-ground solution? The solution needs to be based on  
19 sustaining South Fairmount. The solution must have  
20 business anchors located and defined by South Fairmount  
21 Residents, not by consulting firms. The solution must  
22 consider and be defined by community-historic assets  
23 designing around as necessary. The solution must be based  
24 on community wants, needs and don't wants. The solution  
25 must be more than a suggested possibility or an

1 opportunity for community redevelopment. The solution  
2 must be based on more than a, what if, a belief in, if we  
3 build it, they will come. It must be said again. The  
4 solution must be based on sustaining the South Fairmount  
5 Community.

6 MSD's tunnel alternative funds only proposed open  
7 ditch, no more. MSD's alternate will change South  
8 Fairmount forever and a day. South Fairmount deserves  
9 more than clear cutting a hundred and 62 years of history  
10 and architecture. You won't have to clear cut South  
11 Fairmount to achieve results. South Fairmount deserves  
12 more than an open ditch defining our community. Thank  
13 you.

14 MR. HURLEY: Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 (Whereupon, Exhibit Number 11 was marked for  
17 identification.)

18 MR. HURLEY: Begin with your name please.

19 MR. O'REILLY: Jim O'Reilly, from the  
20 Wyoming City Council. I have longer than two minute's  
21 remarks so I've given a copy of them to the reporter.

22 MR. HURLEY: Thank you.

23 MR. O'REILLY: Very specifically from a  
24 point of view of the elected officials, out in the  
25 suburbs, we are concerned about the quality of the

1 communication. MaryLynn Lodor did an excellent job  
2 presenting to our First Suburbs quarterly meeting about  
3 what's being done. There should be more clear language  
4 about why individual year-to-year costs are increasing, so  
5 that we can respond to our rate payers who call us at our  
6 City Hall to complain about the eight to ten percent.

7 Secondly there should be a better job of  
8 explaining why the variation between the original cost  
9 estimates and the more recent ones. I have the advantage  
10 of having been on the original plan committee, so I know a  
11 lot more. But we really do need explanations, people, why  
12 the cost estimates have gone up so much.

13 Third, as to the tunnel, I'm going to just short  
14 circuit this. There's a lot of information out there  
15 about other cities that have done tunnels. And I think it  
16 would be beneficial for us to see what's actually happened  
17 to Chicago and other cities where they've had the tunnel  
18 projects.

19 We are not looking at a vacuum at alternatives.  
20 We need people to understand why the tunnel would be so  
21 expensive and why it's been expensive elsewhere. The  
22 next, the concern about jobs, this would be a significant  
23 loss of jobs if communities were unable to get businesses  
24 to locate here because those businesses saw their water  
25 and sewer rates going up eight to ten percent a year.

1 That would be significant.

2 I'm very concerned about the automation and  
3 personnel issues. And that's a balance which I've  
4 described in my printed remarks. And finally I would like  
5 the County and the City to clarify, after the 2018 lapse  
6 of the original 50-year provision, who is going to be the  
7 owner of the bonds? If there are major bond investments  
8 to be made, as obviously there are, then there's got to be  
9 some clarification of how much the County taxpayers, how  
10 much the County taxpayers are taking on, versus how much  
11 the City is taking on. That's a very important public  
12 finance matter.

13 And for the remainder of it, for lack of time,  
14 I'm going to refer to my printed remarks. Thank you.

15 MR. HURLEY: Thank you.

16 MR. YOUNG: Good afternoon. My name is  
17 Charles Young. I'm the Vice President of the South  
18 Fairmount Community Council. Having spoke -- heard the  
19 comments from my President, I want to add a few things of  
20 my own.

21 As you know I've been involved with this process  
22 for nearly two years now. And I'm merely expressing my  
23 concerns around the economic impact to our community. And  
24 also trying to keep or having you guys keep the cost to  
25 our rate payers at a low rate. I know that's a hard thing

1 to deal with, but that's what we're looking for.

2 Now, as you know, the July 2011 report, had the  
3 Community Council asked the representatives to stand up  
4 for civil society. We've tried to do our best to do that.  
5 And we would like to know is it more important to make the  
6 water clean and safe or are you more concerned about  
7 money? What I mean by that, I'm talking about the bond  
8 ratings that you guys talk about all the time.

9 We would like to present our own community plan  
10 to you as soon as we can. And I know you've probably  
11 heard about that for some time. And it's my personal  
12 opinion that if we can agree the alternative plan that you  
13 present is something that's very commonly welcomed in the  
14 community.

15 I would say this also. If we do anything to  
16 improve things in our community it's better than doing  
17 nothing. And I know that for true, because in 1993 we  
18 tried to do that eight years ago and it failed.

19 President Reagan said once to Mr. Gorbachev, tear  
20 down these walls. This is in Germany. Well, we're asking  
21 you to tear down these walls Mr. County, Mr. City and let  
22 the dialog begin so that we can help our own community  
23 move forward and a new rebirth. Thank you.

24 MR. HURLEY: Thank you.

25 MR. WILLHAM: Good evening. My name is Paul

1 Willham. I've almost 30 years of experience in the field  
2 of historic preservation, neighborhood development. I'm a  
3 retired attorney. I'm also President of the Knox Hill  
4 Neighborhood Association of South Fairmount.

5 Our area would overlook this proposed  
6 alternative. We do not support the alternative as it  
7 would destroy historic fabric. And there is no concrete  
8 redevelopment plan with signed commitments. We support  
9 the proven grey approach that's been used in other cities.

10 In 2011 MSD planned to demolish buildings. A  
11 letter was sent out advising that nine buildings to be  
12 demolished, eight on Queen City, one on Westwood. The  
13 letter stated as additional properties are required more  
14 demolitions will be planned.

15 I immediately contacted the City Urban  
16 Conservative regarding Federal Section 106 Requirements  
17 and he knew nothing about it. Had I not contacted Ms.  
18 Lundgren and advised her about federal requirements  
19 anticipatory demolitions were to be MSD's policy. MSD has  
20 only one plan, a glorified drainage ditch. They have lied  
21 to the residents and business community. Public forums  
22 were held not to receive real input, but to direct that  
23 input in the direction MSD wants to go. And their reports  
24 do not reflect the real position of my neighborhood or  
25 South Fairmount.

1 I can't speak for other neighborhood  
2 organizations, but we intend to file an amicus brief with  
3 the Federal court with jurisdiction over the Consent  
4 Decree. And if the County Commissioners cannot  
5 effectively police MSD activities a complaint with State  
6 Utility Regulatory Commissions.

7 At this time South Fairmount took a vote, this  
8 week. And South Fairmount and Knox Hill are going to  
9 pursue a National Historic Registry nomination for the  
10 South Fairmount Basin. You will not take out historic  
11 assets away from us without consent of the community.

12 Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. CHOLAK: My name is Barry Cholak. I  
15 live in North Fairmount on the edge of South Fairmount. I  
16 would like to recommend that to keep this process open and  
17 more transparent as an ongoing process that there be  
18 established in some sort of oversight committee. Some  
19 sort of steering committee made up of citizens who would  
20 be directly involved in the outcome of this whole process.

21 I'm talking about a citizen-driven steering  
22 committee, oversight committee, which would be made up of  
23 private citizens who would be a part of the community.

24 Oversee the input that would come from the neighborhoods  
25 themselves, environmentalist, community development. All

1 the various assets that makes up this whole total  
2 community. So what I'm talking about is maybe each one of  
3 these watersheds would have its own task force or steering  
4 committee. And it would be staffed by MSW -- or MSD on an  
5 ongoing kind of basis to keep the public internally  
6 informed, keep them aware of what's happening, keep them  
7 involved in the cost. And keep the, keep the process  
8 moving in a positive way. Thank you.

9 MR. HURLEY: Thank you.

10 MR. SMITH: Ladies and Gentlemen, my name is  
11 Dennis Smith. I'm President and Owner of Paper Products  
12 Company in South Fairmount. The oldest continuously  
13 operating business in South Fairmount. I'm also President  
14 of the South Fairmount Business Association.

15 Besides the daylighting of the stream we also are  
16 faced with the possibility of a new viaduct going south of  
17 the present one. And they've also proposed, at some point  
18 in the future, about making Westwood Avenue a boulevard.

19 The impact zone of these three projects  
20 encompasses about 68 million dollars in sales. I  
21 personally have signed an affidavit, I interviewed the  
22 business owners. 68 million in sales reported about 22 of  
23 the 30 businesses in South Fairmount representing about  
24 600 jobs. Myself, personally, I do believe that the  
25 daylighting is a done deal.

1           And I refer to a report that is on the MSD  
2 website and I'm going to quote directly from it with the  
3 USEPA logo right next to it. This is a quote of Bob  
4 Newport of Region 5 EPA in Chicago. He says, USEPA is  
5 focused on the modeling and based on what they have seen  
6 it's a no brainer. Given the land you have already been  
7 able to obtain, etcetera, there is no way that I would see  
8 the USEPA not approving an alternative especially with  
9 Nancy Stoner in Office of Water. Headquarters has been  
10 briefed and they want to make an alternative solution  
11 work. If we had this information at the time of the WWIP  
12 was drafted a tunnel never would have been part of the  
13 solution. Cincinnati's lead with source control makes  
14 sense.

15           To me this says it's a done deal. And I believe  
16 that these meetings and workshops, etcetera, have been  
17 fulfilling a legal formality. They have used -- as an  
18 example, this is a report done by the University of  
19 Cincinnati, which compares Lick Run with an area up in  
20 Kalamazoo, Michigan and Downtown Kalamazoo called the  
21 Arcadia Creek. I have been there personally. I have a  
22 customer there. And trying to compared Arcadia Creek with  
23 Lick Run, is like comparing Lick Run with Mars and Arcadia  
24 Creek is Earth. There just is no comparison and they  
25 actually paid for this report. Thank you very much,

1 Ladies and Gentleman.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. WARMINSKI: Good evening. Margo  
4 Warminski of Cincinnati Preservation Association. The  
5 Lick Run water way is an opportunity-created unique  
6 amenity while addressing a critical environmental problem.  
7 If this is done right it could be transformational for the  
8 neighborhood. But it won't achieve its potential for  
9 placemaking benefits without saving as many of the  
10 historic buildings in the area as possible.

11 The valley, the hills, the creeks, the buildings,  
12 the people who built them all worked together to create a  
13 powerful sense of place that remains in place 'til this  
14 day. Mitigation under the Section 106 process, once that  
15 finally begins, offers opportunities for saving many of  
16 these historic National-Register eligible buildings either  
17 leaving them in place or avoiding or relocating them. But  
18 if these buildings are moved they need to be adopted, they  
19 need to have a reuse plan and funding for renovation as  
20 recommended in the Final Phase I Report and not just left  
21 as orphaned buildings.

22 The planning process also needs to talk about  
23 what is going to happen to these buildings if the green  
24 alternative is rejected or modified for a hybrid plan.  
25 We're afraid that if you do nothing, they will end up

1 being demolished, the neighborhood will end up with  
2 nothing and it deserves better. But regardless of which  
3 plan is chosen we also need to fix the traffic through the  
4 valley to encourage reinvestment. You can't have a  
5 revitalized neighborhood business district unless you  
6 repopulate the neighborhood as a livable, walkable  
7 community. And that is not going to happen while it's  
8 used as a commuter raceway.

9 Just in conclusion, this is a once in a lifetime  
10 opportunity to revitalize a neighborhood that has seen far  
11 too much bad planning in the past. Let's work together  
12 with all the stakeholders to create a real community of  
13 the future. Thank you.

14 MR. HURLEY: Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. METZ: I'm Jo Ann Metz. I'm with the  
17 San Antonio Advisory Council and also President of the  
18 Lick Run Valley Historical Association. It's 20 sum years  
19 in operation down there. I'm a fourth generation South  
20 Fairmount person, been around the world too, out in Oak  
21 Hills and elsewhere.

22 So, I agree that everyone here has their own  
23 interests. And I like to see the American process, it's  
24 good, it's positive. We can work it out. Our experience  
25 at San Antonio has been very good with the MSD oversight.

1 And the group that is designing this, we have been  
2 listened to, counseled with. And everything they  
3 promised us at our church, so far as being a drainage  
4 center, has been complied with. And cheerfully, it can be  
5 worked out, I agree with Margo.

6 So far, as South Fairmount is concerned, we have  
7 had the bad end of the stick for a long long time. I  
8 think it can be worked out, I really do. Thank you.

9 MR. HURLEY: Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. WALL: My name is Marilyn Wall and I  
12 want to add to voices that have already expressed the  
13 desire to get more transparency, to get more information  
14 shared with the public about these projects. It's  
15 particularly frustrating since I've, I've been involved in  
16 this, efforts, with MSD for years and years. And to be  
17 learning new information at the last minute, to hear costs  
18 are increased we have drastically different modeling data  
19 that there are questions about water quality standards and  
20 exactly what is MSD trying to convey?

21 MR. HURLEY: Ma'am, would you tip up your --  
22 I'm afraid you're not being heard by everybody.

23 MS. WALL: Oh, okay. Sorry. But we've  
24 asked for more questions -- we've asked more questions and  
25 asked for more information. And we hope that MSD will

1 make a bigger effort to try to make information available  
2 to people. There's a lot that -- things have changed  
3 recently.

4 For instance, the Kings Run solution is different  
5 than what was presented at the open house, it's different  
6 than what was presented to community members when they  
7 asked MSD to come to the community and explain what was  
8 going on. Yet do they really know that what has been  
9 proposed now is different? You know, the postcards that  
10 went out didn't even mention Kings Run. That people have  
11 really no idea what's, what's, what's coming forward.

12 We would hope that MSD is making every effort to  
13 insure that we do meet water quality standards and that  
14 nothing MSD does causes or contributes to violations of  
15 those standards. What is caused by Butler County is  
16 Butler County's problem and they can certainly do a better  
17 job up there, and hopefully they will. But we really  
18 would like to encourage MSD to keep this project in budget  
19 and to keep it on time and to deliver the benefits that we  
20 really need in this community. Thank you.

21 MR. HURLEY: Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. THOMAN: I'm Joe Thoman and this is my  
24 friend Tippy the Canoe. And I'm playing a little what if.  
25 Thank you. Thanks, Charles. So I'm playing a little what

1 if. Okay. Everything that's going to happen to the  
2 property owners in this location are affected by eminent  
3 domain, potentially eminent domain, and governed by rules  
4 on the books how they're being treated.

5 I feel there's going to be some shortfalls,  
6 possibly not getting all the monies you think your real  
7 estate is worth once you've had the appraisals, once the  
8 attorneys get done with the discussions on both sides  
9 there's going to be a shortfall. And nobody liked the  
10 numbers the other day in the newspaper. Okay. I don't  
11 like the numbers that I see and Tippy is riding right  
12 beside me.

13 We want to know how we can change the laws so it  
14 doesn't cost the property owners personal income. Because  
15 the only thing available out there is monies available  
16 from the City at two percent or whatever, but it's got to  
17 be paid back. So we're going to be relocated if this goes  
18 through and we want to know what kind of law, what kind of  
19 laws can be brought into effect to compensate us for our  
20 expenses.

21 Tippy doesn't like the 600 miles of water that  
22 she saw on the map. And she would love to see some money  
23 and so would everybody else in the neighborhood that's  
24 being transferred. Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 MR. PARROTT: I want to make a -- was it Mr.  
2 Joel? Joel. Who? Thoman. The one thing that I, I  
3 wanted to be able to tell you tonight and any other  
4 industry that's out there. I know that when we talk about  
5 relocation assistance we've talked about us following  
6 the -- a city process and the Uniform Relocation Act. We  
7 have been, this summer, working very diligently with the  
8 City Administration to look at other opportunities and  
9 other resources that would be available for businesses.

10 Most recently the City Manager did approve  
11 administrative regulation that will allow us on a  
12 project-by-project basis to use supplemental resources for  
13 businesses. And we can get into a little more details  
14 about that, but I at least wanted you to know that we  
15 heard you the first time and we've been working since  
16 then. And so we want to, we would like to meet with you  
17 to talk about that. But there's most recently the City  
18 Manager has approved additional supplemental assistance  
19 for businesses that we can share with you.

20 MR. THOMAN: Thank you for the efforts. We  
21 took a poll of business owners in the neighborhood. It  
22 was a number of 30 million. It really wasn't really pie  
23 in the sky. We're only asking for reality and responsible  
24 compensation. So, thank you. Tippy, do you need Tippy?  
25 Sure.

1 (Applause.)

2 (Whereupon, a photo was taken of Mr.  
3 Thoman and Tippy the Canoe.)

4 MR. MILLER: I'm Michael Miller representing  
5 Rivers Unlimited and I'm a member of the Mill Creek  
6 Watershed Council of Communities. The effort you're  
7 putting forth here is directed at cleaning up water. This  
8 is generated by the Clean Water Act as you well know. And  
9 the comments here haven't been directed towards the clean  
10 water implications of this, of this study.

11 The daylighting of streams like the West Fork  
12 Creek and Lick Run that have been cement lined or put  
13 underground I'm a little alarmed at the number of  
14 underground storage tanks that are going to be used.  
15 Anything that is underground does not oxidize organic  
16 material or nutrients. Flowing waters and wetlands and  
17 retention ponds do. In fact, retention ponds and wetlands  
18 are the most effective way at reducing E. coli from water  
19 sources in the series of reports I reviewed this  
20 afternoon.

21 It would be, it would, I would like to see more  
22 inclusion to the surface features in the headwaters  
23 reduction of the water flows into the Mill Creek as a  
24 policy. I just wanted to speak in favor of the  
25 supplemental environmental grants that you've already put

1 out that have generated green ways, park ways and channel  
2 improvements for fish and wildlife in the Mill Creek. And  
3 we hope that those continue. Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. HURLEY: Thank you. Would anyone else  
6 like to speak? I don't want -- I want to make sure  
7 people -- there was a lot, a lot of information and data  
8 presented. I don't want to -- I want to make sure the  
9 public has plenty of time. I -- if that, if that's the  
10 case, first off I want to thank everyone who --

11 MR. LADOW: I have a question.

12 MR. HURLEY: Yes, sir. Well, would you come  
13 up and just say your name? I mean, even if you haven't  
14 filled out a card.

15 MR. LADOW: My name is Dave Ladow and I  
16 don't get up there very easily. Can everybody hear me?

17 MR. HURLEY: Okay, here, I'll tell you what.  
18 We can solve this.

19 MR. LADOW: I've got to -- my wife --

20 MR. HURLEY: No, stay right there. Stay  
21 seated, stay seated.

22 MR. LADOW: Thank you.

23 MR. HURLEY: You're fine.

24 MR. LADOW: My name is Dave Ladow and I'm a  
25 resident of South Fairmount community. First of all I

1 understand the cost will rise. Why -- I guess my first  
2 question is, are the costs of either of these projects  
3 going to be presented to the County in a today-dollar form  
4 rather than a 2006 dollar form, which is much more  
5 realistic?

6 And secondly, Mr. Portune, you and the County  
7 Commissioners, shame on you. Holding a closed meeting of  
8 public institutions. You should know better than that.  
9 I'm done.

10 MR. HURLEY: Okay. Are there any other  
11 comments or questions? Okay. I want to remind people  
12 that there is another meeting next Thursday night. It  
13 will be at the MSD facility on Galbraith. And I left my  
14 invitation card. Does somebody have the address? 225  
15 West Galbraith Road. It's in Hartwell, it's in the  
16 Hartwell area, okay. So I want to also remind people you  
17 have other opportunities to make comments by e-mail, by  
18 telephone, by comments out in the lobby. And we would ask  
19 everyone to fill out an evaluation sheet as you leave.

20 And I want to thank everybody, one, for  
21 attending. This is a tremendous turnout and I think it  
22 shows a lot of interest. I want to thank everyone for the  
23 sort of constructive comments. And, you know, I've done a  
24 lot of these in my life and it's very good to come  
25 together and have people give honest feedback but in a

1 constructive manner. So I thank -- I would like to  
2 congratulate everybody who came this evening and thank you  
3 very much and have a safe trip home.

4 (Applause.)

5

6 (Public hearing concluded at 7:44 P.M.)

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## C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF OHIO )  
 )  
 COUNTY OF BUTLER )

SS:

I, Linda Guinn, a contract court reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the preceding pages were taken down by me stenographically from the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati Town Hall Meeting, and are a true and accurate transcription from my stenographic notes transcribed on Tuesday, August 28, 2012.

I further certify that I am not a relative or employee of any of the parties involved in this action, and have no interest or bias in the outcome of these proceedings.

My commission expires  
 May 7, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Linda Guinn  
 Court Reporter  
 Notary Public - State of Ohio

1

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

EXHIBIT  
10-1/10-12  
8-19-12  
LKS

Name: Elliott Ellis President

Affiliation/Organization: S. Fairmount Comm Council

Address: 1724 Fairmount Ave

Phone: 475-5099

Email: whiccerkare@aol.com

Exb 10-1

2

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Exb. 10-2

Name: Jim O'Reilly

Affiliation/Organization: WYOMING CITY COUNCIL

Address: 24 JEWETT DR. WYO. 45215

Phone: 7619398

Email: JOREILLY@TUSE.NET

3

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Ex. 10-3

Name: Charles Young

Affiliation/Organization: South Fairmount Community Council  
Vice-President

Address: 1535 Knox Street

Phone: 251-2332 / 404-5725

Email: youngcharles@zoomtown.com

4

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Ex. 10-4

Name: Paul William

Affiliation/Organization: Knox Hill Neighborhood Assoc

Address: 1871 Knox Street

Phone: 317-224-5511

Email: victiques@gmail.com

5

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Exh. 10-5

Name: BARRY CHOLAK

Affiliation/Organization: Citizen

Address: 2631 LINCOLN ST N Fairmount

Phone: 513-471-5888

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

6

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Exh. 10-6

Name: DENNIS SMITH

Affiliation/Organization: SOUTH FAIRMOUNT BUSINESS ASSOC.

Address: 1543 QUEEN CITY AVE., CINCINNATI, OH

Phone: 513-921-4717

Email: dennis@paperproductscompany

07

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

EXT. 10-7

Name: Margo Wanciniuski

Affiliation/Organization: Cinti Preservation Ass'n

Address: 342 W 4th St., Cinti OH 45202

Phone: 513 721 4586

Email: Margo@cinipreservation.org

8

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

EXT. 10-8

Name: Jo Ann Metz

Affiliation/Organization: San Antonio Ch. - <sup>President,</sup> Hick Run Valley Historical Ass'n.

Address: 2225 Queen City Ave., Cin Oh 45214

Phone: (513) 662-9934

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

9

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Ext. 10-9

Name: MARILYN WALL

Affiliation/Organization: Sierra Club

Address: 816 Van Ness Dr

Phone: 513-226-9235

Email: marilyn.wall@sierracub.org

10

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Ext. 10-10

Name: JOE THOMAN

Affiliation/Organization: WEIL/THOMAN MOVING & STG. CO

Address: 1617 QUEEN CITY AVE

Phone: 513-519-9654

Email: JOE-THOMAN@HOTMAIL.COM

11

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

ERB  
10-11

Name: Michael C Miller

Affiliation/Organization: Rivers Unlimited, Mill Creek Watershed Council

Address: 3345 Meyer Place

Phone: 556-9751

Email: Mike.miller@ur.edu

12

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

ERB  
10-12

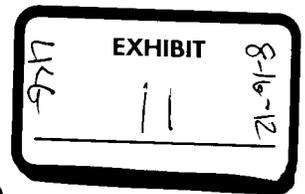
Name: Dave LaDow

Affiliation/Organization: I have his contact info.

Address:

Phone:

Email:



# MSD PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS

Aug. 16, 2012

James T. O'Reilly

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. This is a vitally important point in the history of our local environmental progress, and I want to open by commending the MSD communications staff, Mary Lynn Loder, for coming to visit our First Suburbs Consortium Quarterly Membership Meeting to address us about the public comment period. I may be the only suburban elected official who has read and keeps a copy of the consent decree in my office, and who has studied these options over several years. I served on the Long Term Control Plan Advisory Committee and have been active in the Executive Committee of OKI Regional Council of Governments for many years.

These views are not necessarily those of our city, of OKI or of the Consortium.

1. The large sewer fee cost increases will have a direct impact on regional macro-economic competitiveness as this county competes with Dayton, Louisville, Indianapolis, etc. for high liquid-generating industries and those with liquid-assisted machinery for bulk, consumer packing or industrial uses. Sewerage rates factor into costs of goods produced; and the prospects of 8-10% annual increases will deter a liquids-using industry or a new developer of multi-unit housing opportunities from investments here. Overhead increases like an 8% sewer increase will deter jobs from being located here.
2. Post-2018 uncertainties regarding owner and operator roles for MSD are a cloud over the bond underwriting prospects, a relatively rare circumstance in the municipal bond market, so it cannot be presumed that the bond market will embrace a spike in issuance of long term municipal bonds for the construction of these projects at the desired AAA rating. Every step that can be taken to reduce the District's dependence on very large bond financing placements should be taken now, before the 2018 date enters into the consciousness of bond underwriters who evaluate the credit worthiness of the City and County. Multiple smaller issuances, spreading out time to completion, makes more sense as a fund raising strategy.
3. Many good people work hard for MSD. But the personnel aspects of the additional MSD projects should be controlled by investment in automation wherever possible. The large legacy costs of additional staffing to the city pension plan and post-2018 to PERS for county employees will be a real problem that should be factored into the equation. Make every effort to reduce the workforce needed to operate the new systems, and consider investing in a study of peer comparatives to the costs per comparable task, of the sewer entities in other cities, to determine relative benefits of inside/outsource costs assigned to current and legacy costs of MSD workforce assignments. The weighted cost per employee of a manually operated system in MSD versus another city's automation savings is an important number as we calculate long term operational expense estimates.

4. Please do a better job of explaining the reasons for the variation between 2005, 2010 and 2012 sets of cost estimates. The public rate-payer is slowly awakening to the rising cost curve of projections for the consent decree in 2012 versus the original LTCP. Explain better and more often why costs went up so significantly. Make it clear if you can and the public will better accept the bad news.

5. Our accountability as the local elected officials for communities in the service area requires us to be ready when complaints are made about our billing numbers; may we please have an annual update of the reasons why the costs have gone up this year vs. last and this year vs. 3 years ago? Let us know so we remain credible in answering our residents' legitimate concerns.

6. The Tunnel is the "800-lb. gorilla" which must be squarely addressed in any discussion of the long term plan. As the consent decree gets older, some may forget the original role of the Tunnel was as the "Hammer" element intended to force serious consideration of costly but less difficult options. The LTCP committee members, including me, urged alternatives be offered to US EPA for the approval of the judge. The judge who inherited this case file is a generalist, who is likely to defer to US EPA environmental engineers if they resist the MSD on alternatives to the tunnel. We need to have US EPA concurrence in the non-Tunnel project alternatives if we are to seek Boehner, Portman and Sherrod Brown help with the more visible and marginally less costly alternatives. I recommend that we intensely publicize tunnel storage experiences in other cities both as to the costs of creation (and disposal of rock) and costs of operation (pumps and power usage). Then MSD should position the alternatives as more benign and more rational. I am concerned that MSD may not have offered the public sufficient perspective on the issue of why several alternative rain-event water retention options will be feasible. The public must get that context from facts that MSD and its contractors can publicize. If the Tunnel is the sole choice left standing after smaller surface projects are discarded, there may be a real problem with voter acceptance of the Tunnel, e.g. "why didn't you tell us that A or B were our best alternatives to a Chicago-style tunnel?"

Thank you for considering these comments.

Jim O'Reilly, Wyoming City Council, [joreilly@fuse.net](mailto:joreilly@fuse.net), 708-5601

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 16, 2012**

Written Comment Cards

Name: Kathy LaDow

Affiliation/Organization: South Fairmount Resident

Address: 2501 Knorr Ave. I speak for myself and, un-

Phone: 513-481-2311 officially, for several others

Email: ladow.k@gmail.com in my immediate several

Comments: streets. The loss of a few run-

down/"historical" buildings in a run-down neighborhood  
that is unlikely to enjoy a redevelopment economically  
and residentially should not impede the progress  
toward compliance with the EPA mandate.

Comments: It should not impede the selection of the sustainable alternative remedy to the CSO problem.

By the way, the vote taken by the S.F. Community Council and the Knox Hill (Improvement) person was taken by about 15 people - hardly a representation of the community. The motion presented was vague and my understanding was that the Council would try to initiate further research into getting a certain block as a Historic District and that money might be obtained somewhere to do that. There was no motion or vote to sue anyone.

**MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 16, 2012**

Exit Surveys

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

likely

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

Model Conductivity in the two alternatives, since raw sewage runs high 7/1500 uS  
Mill Creek is often 800-1000, but 11400 - ∴ Creek is now 50% effluent.

3. Additional comments?

Look at reducing E. coli with constructed wetlands, rain gardens, and photo retention ponds. Avoid deep underground storage - no biological/chemical degradation

Name (optional):

Michael C Miller

Email:

mcmiller@uc.edu

Phone:

513-675-0293

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

WOULD LIKE TO SEE A MORE CONCERNED EFFORT (NOT JUST BY MSD) TO ELIMINATE UNFUNDED MANDATES AND REIGN IN THE REGULATORS. I AM AN ENVIRONMENTALIST BUT EPA IS GOING TOO FAR UNCHECKED.

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

---

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

*Hopefully we will create jobs with this solution  
and that area will have a new and different life  
and direction.*

Name (optional):

*Terri Evans*

Email:

*brunhilda@fuse.net*

Phone:

*513-474-3811*

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

*Need more info - ongoing basis*

---

---

Name (optional):

*BO Clark*

Email:

Phone:

---

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

- Good overall comments - Not everyone will be pleased.
- Pursue what is best for community at large.
- Special attention should be paid to what is left behind in community impacted.

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

---

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

*This is an opportunity to improve this area. I have lived in this area and it should be a welcomed improvement for a necessary solution. Excellent job by Brandi Lieberman & Pam Taylor. Good job*

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

*E. Franco*

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

*TP's comments were way too long!*

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Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

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1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

The Mill Creek is not a lost cause, but a valuable regional resource that has improved dramatically from the bad old days of toxic discharges, gassing sewage sludge banks and concrete channelization.

Name (optional):

Bruce Korhler

Email:

bkorhler@oki.org

Phone:

(513) 619-7675

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

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3. Additional comments?

*Always use sustainable solution*

---

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Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

*SCHOFFER@GMAIL.COM*

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- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

VERY GOOD SOLUTION  
CLEAR EXPLANATION

---

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---

Name (optional):

JIM O'ROURKE

Email:

JO.ROURKE@FUSE.NET

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?
- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

Great presentation! Keep up the great work.  
Great participation from the audience.

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

I agree w/ Fairmount Business Association President that its already been determined which alternative MSD has chosen to reduce the amount of storm water flowing into the combined system. To support this answer and as a Northsider much of the hybrid sustainable solution has already been implemented in the West Fork Channel plan. What isn't clear is where is the funding coming from to pay for either model.

Name (optional): Stephanie Sunderland      Email: ssunderland\_2848@fuse.net      Phone: 542.4789 or coming from

exactly when will the community have the opportunity to actually plan how to pro-sapurpose land purchases to naturalize the creek.

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

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3. Additional comments?

THE SUSTAINABLE OPTION IS PREFERABLE AS IT PROVIDES THE HIGHEST POTENTIAL FOR REDEVELOPMENT OF THE LICK RUN BASIN.

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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---

3. Additional comments?

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Name (optional):

David Fiske

Email:

tdfiske@yahoo.com

Phone:

401-4220

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**
- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

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---

3. **Additional comments?**

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**Name (optional):** **Email:** **Phone:**

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1. **Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

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3. **Additional comments?**

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**Name (optional):**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

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3. **Additional comments?**

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**Name (optional):**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

YOU NEED TO LET EVERYONE KNOW THE  
TUNNEL IS NOW TWICE AS LONG AS ORIGINALLY  
PLANNED BECAUSE THE DOUBLING OF THE COST!  
VERY MISLEADING

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

Clearer description of what the first alternative looks like  
and how it impacts the South Farmmount community area

3. Additional comments?

Since the fecal coliform standard cannot be met because  
the level is already too high at the northern border of the district,  
is the central government EPA and Ohio EPA putting requirement on  
the Butler County Area to lower fecal coliform passed on to us?

Name (optional):

John D. Kelly

Email:

john\_kelly\_12443@hotmail.com

Phone:

513-460-2491

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

*Would like to see Life Cycle Cost comparison  
Would like to know if any ENERGY EFFICIENCY  
INCENTIVES ARE CONSIDERED in the PROPOSALS*

Name (optional):

*M. McGowan*

Email:

*MARCIANNE.MCGOWAN  
@DUKE-ENERGY.COM*

Phone:

*513-287-1430*

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2.  GREEN ALTERNATIVE IS BEST. HUMAN ELEMENT IS BEING SERVED.  
If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

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3. Additional comments?

KEEP TRYING - IT WILL WORK OUT.

---

---

Name (optional):

Jo Ann Metz

Email:

-

Phone:

(513) 662-9934

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

*Please post powerpoint presentation on the internet.*

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Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

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- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

*Combination of tunnel w/ some sustainable*

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3. Additional comments?

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Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

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- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
  - Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
  - Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

*FOR THE LAYMAN, CLARIFICATION OF SOME OF THE JARGON WOULD HAVE BEEN HELPFUL.*

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

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**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 23, 2012**

Stenographers Report and Exhibit 10

**In The Matter Of:**

*Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati*

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*August 23, 2012*

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*Absolute Reporting & Video, LLC*

*3414 Edwards Road*

*Cincinnati, OH 45208*

Original File MSD082312.txt

**Min-U-Script® with Word Index**

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METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT OF

GREATER CINCINNATI

- - -

COMMUNITY TOWN HALL MEETING HOSTED BY THE  
METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT OF GREATER CINCINNATI, 225 WEST  
GALBRAITH ROAD, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45216 ON THURSDAY, AUGUST  
23, 2012 AT 7:00 P.M.

- - -

IN THE MATTER OF:

METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT OF GREATER CINCINNATI'S  
PROPOSED SOLUTION ON THE LOWER MILL CREEK PARTIAL REMEDY TO  
ELIMINATE UP TO TWO BILLION GALLONS OF COMBINED SEWER  
OVERFLOWS INTO THE MILL CREEK BY YEAR 2018, DURING PHASE I  
OF THE METROPOLITAN SEWER DISTRICT OF GREATER CINCINNATI'S  
FEDERAL CONSENT DECREE.

- - -

1 APPEARANCES

2 MR. DAN HURLEY, DIRECTOR OF LEADERSHIP FOR CINCINNATI  
3 USA REGIONAL CHAMBER

4 MR. TONY PARROTT, MSD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

5 MS. MARYLYNN LODOR, MSD ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM MANAGER

6 MR. DEAN NIEMEYER, AICP, SENIOR PLANNER, FOR HAMILTON  
7 COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

8 MR. CHRISTIAN SIGMAN, HAMILTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

9 MS. LEISHA PICA, MSD

10 MS. DEB LEONARD, MSD

11 MS. KELLY WALSH, MSD

12 MS. CRYSTAL L. KENDRICK, PRESIDENT, THE VOICE OF YOUR  
13 CUSTOMER

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## E X H I B I T S

| 1  | MARKED  | PAGE |
|----|---|------|
| 2  |   |      |
| 3  | EXHIBIT NUMBER 1  | 5    |
| 4  | Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati, Media Advisory   |      |
| 5  |   |      |
| 6  | EXHIBIT NUMBER 2  | 5    |
| 7  | We Need Your Input... to make our rivers and streams cleaner and healthier.   |      |
| 8  | EXHIBIT NUMBER 3  | 5    |
| 9  | Community Town Hall Meeting August 16, 2012, Sign-in Sheet  |      |
| 10 |   |      |
| 11 | EXHIBIT NUMBER 4  | 14   |
| 12 | Community "Town Hall" Meeting on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy MSD Administration Building - August 16, 2012 Agenda |      |
| 13 |   |      |
| 14 | EXHIBIT NUMBER 5  | 5    |
| 15 |   |      |
| 16 | Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report OVERVIEW                              |      |
| 17 |   |      |
| 18 | EXHIBIT NUMBER 6  | 5    |
| 19 | Lower Mill Creek Watershed Fact Sheet   |      |
| 20 | EXHIBIT NUMBER 7  | 5    |
| 21 | Frequently Asked Questions about the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy.   |      |
| 22 |   |      |
| 23 | EXHIBIT NUMBER 8  | 5    |
| 24 | RECR8 Coming Soon ... (Card)  |      |
| 25 |   |      |

|    |  |      |
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| 1  | MARKED   | PAGE |
| 2  | EXHIBIT NUMBER 9                               | 14   |
| 3  | Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Community      |      |
| 4  | Town Hall Meetings August 16th and 23rd, 2012. |      |
|    | PowerPoint Presentation                        |      |
| 5  | EXHIBIT NUMBER 10-1 through 10-16              | 14   |
| 6  | Sixteen contact information cards offered by   |      |
| 7  | citizens providing verbal comments.            |      |
| 8  | EXHIBIT NUMBER 11                              | 14   |
| 9  | Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Exit Survey    |      |
| 10 | (Card)   |      |

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1 WHEREUPON:

2 (Exhibit Numbers 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8 were  
3 marked for identification.)

4 MR. SIGMAN: Good evening. If we could head  
5 towards our seats we'll get started here in a minute or  
6 so. Thank you. Evening. My name is Christian Sigman.  
7 Welcome to the Metropolitan Sewer District Town Hall  
8 Meeting. Thank you for coming out tonight.

9 I'm the Hamilton County Administrator and we have  
10 a special relationship with MSD because MSD is a City  
11 Department and it runs the County's, the County's sewer  
12 system. And we have a great relationship. We have a  
13 wonderful sewer department. This is an exciting time for  
14 you to hear about a very major decision for this  
15 community. And, as I said at the previous town meeting,  
16 the financial implications of this decision, made by the  
17 County Commissioners, will be bigger than the Stadium.  
18 This is a huge number, it has a long lasting impact on the  
19 community and we want to make sure we get this right.

20 It's my pleasure to introduce Commissioner Todd  
21 Portune who has perhaps been the elected official most  
22 closely aligned with MSD probably going back 20 years. I  
23 don't want to date you. But Todd has the most experience  
24 of any elected official, I think, in the region on this  
25 and is very knowledgeable on it. And he has some

1 introductory comments.

2 COMMISSIONER PORTUNE: Christian, thank you very  
3 much. Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen. I want to  
4 thank all of you for coming out tonight for this community  
5 town meeting that is being hosted by the Metropolitan  
6 Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati. I want to thank the  
7 women and men of MSD and staff from Director Tony Parrott  
8 on down for hosting this event tonight. And I also want  
9 to acknowledge my colleague on the Hamilton County  
10 Commission who, Chris Monzel, who is here this evening.  
11 Chris wants to say hello to everybody and he's here.  
12 Chris. Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 COMMISSIONER PORTUNE: Chris gets the applause  
15 and I'll wait for the darts, but that's okay. Some of you  
16 were probably at the town hall meeting last week, as I  
17 was. And I just wanted to offer a couple of words with  
18 respect to the bigger picture and some of the important  
19 issues that we're wrestling with as a Board in connection  
20 with this very important decision involving, not just the  
21 potential alternative remedy for the Lower Mill Creek, but  
22 the broader issue of the Consent Decree, the Federal  
23 Consent Decree that Hamilton County is under and where  
24 this fits in the context of all of that.

25 We are under a Federal Court order enacted by

1 United States District Court Judge Arthur Spiegel. The  
2 U.S. District Court, that sits in Cincinnati, requiring  
3 Hamilton County, the City of Cincinnati and MSD to do  
4 certain things in two phases over an elongated period.  
5 The estimated price tag on that, in 2006 dollars, and I  
6 know that's a phrase that people are not enamored with.  
7 They want to know, well, what does it really cost today?  
8 And we have to get those numbers for you, but it's roughly  
9 three and a half billion dollars, with a B, Billion  
10 dollars.

11 And this is part of a large nationwide  
12 enforcement action by EPA and the Department of Justice.  
13 Where there are 781 villages, cities, counties'  
14 clean-water districts that are involved nationwide with a  
15 price tag conservatively estimated at over 500 billion  
16 dollars related to Clean Water Act Enforcement and sewer  
17 remediation nationally. So it's a huge issue, it's an  
18 issue of national significance and importance and we're in  
19 the middle of this.

20 Why do I share that with you? I'm sharing that  
21 with you because the Board of County Commissioners  
22 ultimately has the decision to make with respect to the  
23 Lower Mill Creek and the Lick Run alternative remedy what  
24 we are going to do. And we are, under that consent  
25 Decree, required to make that decision by year-end this

1 year.

2 That said, that may not in and of itself end the  
3 question. The reason for that is under the existing  
4 consent Decree we have been afforded the opportunity to  
5 look at alternatives to a deep tunnel, which originally  
6 was put in as the preferred remedy. We are permitted the  
7 opportunity to look at alternatives, but if we do anything  
8 other than the deep tunnel, then it goes under a review  
9 and evaluation and approval process by EPA. And they  
10 ultimately will determine whether we're allowed to do that  
11 or not.

12 And that's how our consent Decree operates and  
13 how current enforcement here and in many other places  
14 across the country is occurring with respect to the Clean  
15 Water Act. As a Board, we have taken action to develop a  
16 national coalition of communities that are affected the  
17 same way as us. And we've done that for the purpose of  
18 trying to get EPA to implement new policy and to approach  
19 this in a different way that will allow us and other  
20 communities greater opportunity to implement integrated  
21 planning, alternative approaches, sustainable approaches.  
22 The bottom line of which are the ability to do things  
23 quicker, cheaper and better.

24 And that's critically important because, as all  
25 of you know, your sewer rates are going up. And they're

1 going up to underwrite the cost of what we're being  
2 required to do under the consent Decree. And we are doing  
3 everything within our power to not only meet the  
4 obligations that we have under the Clean Water Act, but to  
5 do them in ways that are as least expensive to all of us,  
6 who are rate payers in the district, as possible. Because  
7 the bottom line is, if this moves forward without some  
8 alternative approaches that we hear and others elsewhere  
9 in the nation are allowed to do it's not sustainable, from  
10 a cost perspective, not to individual rate payers, not to  
11 businesses. The costs are, are extraordinary.

12 I have twice been asked to testify before  
13 Congressional Committees on this issue on behalf of the  
14 coalition that we've put together. And, just in general  
15 about the issue, because we're on the forefront of this  
16 debate nationally of trying to get permission to do things  
17 that meet our obligations under the Act but meet them in  
18 ways that are less expensive to rate payers and therefore  
19 more affordable to everyone. That work is ongoing. We're  
20 making progress but no final decisions have been made.

21 On the House side there's a lot of interest, on  
22 the Senate side interest is being developed and from an  
23 Administration perspective I think it's fair to say that  
24 there is interest being developed as well. But no final  
25 decisions have been made, no final policies have been

1 presented, it remains a work in progress.

2 From the Board's perspective we're here, I'm  
3 here, Commissioner Monzel is here, County Administration  
4 is here tonight obviously to hear from all of you with  
5 respect to the impact that what is occurring in South  
6 Fairmount and elsewhere throughout Hamilton County is  
7 having on rate payers, on all of you on your businesses,  
8 on your homes. This is very disruptive and we're aware of  
9 that, we're aware of that.

10 We wish we could tell you that we have an answer  
11 as to exactly what's going to be done. But as I said even  
12 if we selected today, the alternative approach, that's not  
13 the final answer to the question. That just simply means  
14 that we've met a timetable and then EPA employs their  
15 evaluation process to determine whether ultimately we're  
16 allowed to do that or not. So, that's the way the consent  
17 Decree is operating, that's the way things work today.  
18 And that's the Federal order that we are operating under.

19 At the end of the day though we're going to have  
20 to meet our obligations as ordered by the Court. At the  
21 end of the day a remedy will be constructed and put into  
22 place. Whether it's the deep tunnel or whether it is an  
23 alternative. Our hope is that we're allowed to do the  
24 most affective thing that costs the less and that is the  
25 most supportive of the interests of the community. So

1 that at the end of the day we not only have met our legal  
2 obligation but we've also done something that produces a  
3 better community in both the short and long run. Done in  
4 such a way and developed in such a manner and partnership  
5 with all of you.

6 So, on behalf of my colleagues I wanted to make  
7 sure that that bigger picture of what we're operating  
8 within and some of the parameters and strictures that we  
9 have imposed upon us were known. I'm not sure that all of  
10 that was necessarily presented at the meeting a week ago.  
11 I wanted to make sure you were aware of that. We're aware  
12 of what we're trying to do in terms of engaging EPA, the  
13 Administration, House and Senate Members to try to get  
14 their interest and oversight in this in ways that will  
15 allow us in Hamilton County and other communities  
16 nationwide to do this in a manner that is affordable and  
17 is sustainable. Because, without that, it's not, it's not  
18 going to be. We need to have that oversight in connection  
19 with all of this.

20 Mr. Monzel, anything else that you want to add to  
21 what's going on? Okay. Great. And I too thank everyone  
22 for coming out here tonight. I look forward to your  
23 comments this evening. Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. KENDRICK: Hello, everyone, and on behalf of

1 the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati I  
2 would like to welcome you to tonight's town hall meeting.  
3 My name is Crystal Kendrick. I am the President of The  
4 Voice of Your Customer. We are a registered small  
5 business with the Metropolitan Sewer District and we've  
6 had the pleasure of working on several community outreach  
7 projects with MSD since 2008.

8 As you know the focus of tonight's discussion is  
9 the Lower Mill Creek remedy. As Commissioner Portune  
10 explained there are many options that we're going to  
11 review tonight. Some are called or referred to as the  
12 grey approach and others are referred to as the  
13 sustainable approach. For those of you who are familiar  
14 with some of the MSD projects this, the proposed Lick Run  
15 project, in South Fairmount, is an example of the  
16 sustainable approach.

17 As we begin tonight's program I would like to  
18 introduce you to the MSD project team. To begin I would  
19 like to introduce you to Mr. Tony Parrott who is the  
20 Executive Director of MSD and he will present to you here  
21 in just a moment. We also have Ms. MaryLynn Lodor who is  
22 the Environmental Program Manager at MSD. Additionally we  
23 have three other people who are assisting with the public  
24 feedback process. That would be Deb Leonard. If she  
25 could raise her hand, in the back. We also have Ms. Linda

1 Guinn who is our stenographer and Dean Niemeyer from  
2 Hamilton County who will be our official time keeper.

3 The goal of this session is to hear from you, the  
4 Residents of Hamilton County. Mr. Parrott will give a  
5 presentation about the remedies that can include the cost  
6 and the performance. Immediately following the  
7 presentation we will open the floor for comments. This is  
8 the same format that was used last week at the  
9 Metropolitan Sewer District Administrative Office with a  
10 different group of people. And we had tremendous  
11 feedback, a lot of very good discussion and some very  
12 valuable feedback that came from the residents. We hope  
13 that we will have the same experience tonight with you.

14 There are many ways to communicate your comments  
15 about this project. If you would like to verbally express  
16 your comments tonight, here at this session, we will ask  
17 that you grab a card from the back table and include your  
18 contact information on the card. Can someone raise their  
19 hand where the comment cards are? Did everyone receive a  
20 comment card when they came in? Okay, great.

21 If you would prefer, you can also write your  
22 comments and leave them in a plastic container that is on  
23 the back table. Last, but certainly not least, you are  
24 also invited to call in or e-mail the MSD office and the  
25 contact information is on your Agenda. To insure that

1 everyone has an opportunity to speak tonight we ask that  
2 each person limit your talk time to two minutes. We  
3 really want to hear from the Residents of Hamilton County  
4 and we hope that you share your ideas with us in whichever  
5 format is most comfortable for you.

6 Before we get started I would like to take care  
7 of a few housekeeping notes. The session is scheduled to  
8 end tonight at 9:00 P.M. Restrooms are located in the  
9 back on the left, to my left. I would also like to remind  
10 you that this is a public forum and therefore our  
11 stenographer will be documenting the minutes from this  
12 session.

13 At this time I would like to turn over the  
14 microphone to Mr. Tony Parrott, our Executive Director,  
15 who will discuss the Lower Mill Creek remedy. Thank you.

16 (Whereupon, Exhibit Numbers 4,5, 10-1 through  
17 10-16 and 11 were marked for identification.)

18 MR. PARROTT: Good evening, everyone. Thank you  
19 all for coming out. As it was noted this is the second of  
20 a town hall process where we're trying to receive feedback  
21 on the Lower Mill Creek partial remedy. The comments that  
22 we received last week both verbal and written will be a  
23 part of a package that we put together as we develop our  
24 submittal to the County Commissioners after the formal  
25 public meeting process that the County will conduct in

1 September. So your feedback is very important.

2 We are here tonight basically to share the  
3 results of all the work that we've done. We are not here  
4 to advocate one way or the other. We just want to really  
5 come and just share the facts and the findings of all the  
6 work that we've done. So, with that, some of you I  
7 recognize faces that were here last week, so you're going  
8 to be very board because you're going to hear the same  
9 stuff that we talked about last week. But for those of  
10 you who are new the Lower Creek partial remedy is a  
11 three-year study that we've been conducting since 2009  
12 that's looking at, as described before, a default or grey  
13 solution or a more sustainable approach to dealing with  
14 the mandate that we have from the Federal Government.

15 So what this presentation is about basically is  
16 to share those findings and results and to provide some  
17 clarity on some specific technical issues relative to  
18 cost, relative to benefits and relative to some risk. And  
19 kind of follow the format that we've been communicating to  
20 the County Commissioners, that we've been communicating to  
21 City Council and that we've been communicating to the  
22 Regulators.

23 And so what you're hearing tonight is what folks  
24 that are at the decision table have heard already. But  
25 this is a transparent process, it's a big decision and

1 it's a decision that is not going to be made in a vacuum.  
2 So thank you all for being here tonight.

3 (Whereupon, Mr. Parrott presented the PowerPoint  
4 presentation off the record and Exhibit Number 9 was  
5 marked for identification.)

6 (Whereupon the PowerPoint presentation  
7 concluded.)

8 MR. PARROTT: -- there will be separate  
9 opportunities for us to have public hearings with City  
10 Council and with the County Commissioners. And once we  
11 get through that process we will be packaging our  
12 recommendation to policy makers. And at that point a  
13 decision will be made and submitted to USEPA by the end of  
14 2012. So that's sort of where we go from here. So while  
15 we're here tonight basically is for you to understand  
16 where we are and what the decisions are, what the analysis  
17 shows, what the facts are so that we can get your  
18 feedback.

19 And, you know, we've been through the details,  
20 we've told you technically where we are. We've told you  
21 from the benefits in a cost perspective where we are. And  
22 so now we want to be able to get your public feedback.  
23 So, with that, Crystal, I will turn it back to you and we  
24 can begin that public input process.

25 (Applause.)

1 MS. KENDRICK: Yeah, how about that. Thank you,  
2 Mr. Parrott, for that outstanding and informative  
3 presentation. I'm sure that everyone now has a better  
4 understanding of what lies ahead for our communities. At  
5 this time we are going to open the floor for comments.  
6 Once again if you would like to verbally address the group  
7 tonight we ask that you write down your contact  
8 information on one of the cards in the back. And then  
9 when you come up we'll ask you to stand in line, we'll ask  
10 you to form a line behind the microphone. As it is your  
11 turn, we will ask you to give your card to Deb, who is  
12 raising her hand. And as a reminder you have two minutes.  
13 Of course we're not going to stop you in the middle of  
14 your sentence but we will remind you that your sentence  
15 needs to come to an end.

16 To insure that everyone is heard -- oh, I'm  
17 sorry, I didn't want to interrupt you. To insure that  
18 everyone is heard we will ask you to go to the microphone  
19 and speak one at a time. Once everyone who wants to speak  
20 has had an opportunity to do so, and if time permits, you  
21 may get back in line to address the group once again.

22 If you prefer not to speak at the microphone you  
23 can also write down your comments and place them in the  
24 plastic container on the back table. You can also e-mail  
25 or call the MSD project team using the contact information

1 on your Agenda. The deadline for submitting written  
2 comments about this project is Monday, September the 3rd.  
3 We really do want to hear from you and we hope that you  
4 will share your comments in a manner that is most  
5 convenient for you. I'll say that we'll begin with the  
6 first question, or we'll invite you to stand at the  
7 microphone.

8 MR. ELLIS: Good evening. My name is Elliott  
9 Ellis. I'm President of the South Fairmount Community  
10 Council. When in 19 -- or 2010 MSD began making public  
11 the need to remove CSOs in a project groundwork they  
12 published the same solutions for Project Groundwork. I  
13 quote from that pamphlet. MSD is currently pursuing  
14 potential opportunities in Carthage and South Fairmount  
15 and will continue to look for new partners.

16 MSD's Vision 2012-2014, pamphlet, MSD's, Our  
17 Promise to You. Promised. And I again quote, engaged in  
18 integrated discussion making. From the very beginning the  
19 South Fairmount Community Council offered to partner with  
20 MSD. From the very beginning MSD have be silent on our  
21 offer to become Project Groundwork Lick Run partner. As a  
22 result, the South Fairmount Community Council formed a  
23 public private partnership with Hargrove Engineering,  
24 L.L.C.

25 We have developed enhancements to Lick Run's --

1 or MSD's Lick Run project to ensure that South Fairmount  
2 would be more than an open ditch. We stand ready to make  
3 these enhancements public and will do so on Tuesday,  
4 August 28th from 6:00 to 8:00 P.M. at Orion Academy,  
5 located at 1798 Queen City Avenue. The South Fairmount  
6 Community Council has repeatedly stated that our  
7 enhancements would truly make the entire Lick Run project  
8 a win win for MSD, South Fairmount and the Lick Run  
9 Watershed.

10 MSD has said all the right words. Has MSD taken  
11 all the right actions? MSD's Project Groundwork Lick Run  
12 can never become a national model for CSO removal without  
13 all having a share in the outcome. South Fairmount  
14 deserves more than open ditch defining our community.  
15 Thank you.

16 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you, Mr. Ellis.

17 MS. MURRAY: My name is Julie Murray and I'm a  
18 Member of the Community Council in CUF, Clifton Heights  
19 University Heights in Fairview. And I have questions  
20 rather than a prepared statement. Several -- well, a  
21 statement, several months ago, all the neighbors in my end  
22 of CUF had fumes coming from our sewer, big time, inside  
23 our homes. We had to evacuate our homes and we were told  
24 afterwards, when the people that were responsible for  
25 checking it out came that night, I'm glad to say so we

1 could return to our homes, that it was the result of one  
2 of the industries dumping gasoline into the water system,  
3 into the sewer system. I was shocked. So, that's one  
4 example.

5 My question is since stormwater services is the  
6 lion's share of my residential water bill, by far, how  
7 much more will either of these projects cost a homeowner?  
8 That's my first question. And the second question is how  
9 is industry and business being prorated for their use of  
10 the same system? So those are the statement and the two  
11 questions. Thank you.

12 MS. KLOECKER: Hi.

13 MS. KENDRICK: Hello.

14 MS. KLOECKER: I'm Cecilia Kloecker and I'm a  
15 resident of Hamilton County and I just have one sentence.  
16 I don't understand and I'm frustrated how MSD is defining  
17 this as a public feedback meeting when Tony Parrott speaks  
18 for 50 minutes and a two-hour meeting that allows only 40  
19 minutes of public input.

20 MR. WILLHAM: Good evening. My name is Paul  
21 Willham. I'm President of the Knox Hill Neighborhood  
22 Association. I've been involved in community turn-around  
23 efforts in several cities as a preservation consultants to  
24 neighborhoods and redevelopment groups. I have extensive  
25 experience in urban planning and effective redevelopment

1 strategies.

2 I would like to address the fuzzy math, MSD's  
3 proposed budgetary projections, and shed light on the real  
4 hidden costs involved in this project. No where in the  
5 MSD alternative projection is factored the loss of  
6 property tax revenue. In short, property acquired by the  
7 County for this project is not going to be taxed. Based  
8 on the property MSD has acquired and the property MSD  
9 needs to acquire for the alternative plan, millions of  
10 dollars in property tax revenue are lost over the 25-year  
11 span in this project.

12 There's no concrete development, redevelopment  
13 plan with this alternative, no budget for redevelopment.  
14 Who would ultimately do the redevelopment? Simply the  
15 idea that we will build this and magically it will happen.  
16 As someone who has a history of redevelopment and new  
17 infill construction the idea that a developer would build  
18 market-rate 250 to \$350,000 infill in a basin centered  
19 around a drainage ditch is laughable.

20 Indianapolis has a similar project called Pogue's  
21 Run. You should go by it. It was built as a wet water  
22 park. You can't go to it because of the mosquitoes and  
23 the smell. Cincinnati has a history of redevelopment. We  
24 saw it with Queens Gate when we knocked -- when we evicted  
25 25,000 people from there. We spent 43 million dollars to

1 clear the neighborhood to build Queens Gate which we  
2 resold to private developers for seven, point, two million  
3 dollars. In urban planning circles the Queens Gate  
4 project is illustrated as to what not to do in urban  
5 renewal. Let's not make the same mistake again.

6 I support the deep tunnel is the only sensible  
7 alternative. The meager savings of the green alternative  
8 is offset by the property tax revenue forever lost by this  
9 proposal. You may save eight cents per unit, but when you  
10 factor in the real property revenue loss this alternative  
11 will cost far more and amount to the architectural rate of  
12 South Fairmount by MSD. Thank you.

13 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

14 MR. MARA: Thank you. My name is Tim Mara and I  
15 don't yet have an opinion as to which alternative is the  
16 best. I came here to learn. But I do feel that whatever  
17 alternative is ultimately chosen that rate payers should  
18 not be stuck paying for aspects of the project that are  
19 more the nature of economic development than addressing  
20 the stormwater overflows. This project, those kind of  
21 projects, should stand on their own feet and be funded  
22 either by agencies whose job is economic development or by  
23 developers who stand to benefit by the money making  
24 opportunities created by these projects and not the  
25 customers of MSD.

1           And this is not the first time that MSD has  
2           created projects that are more for economic development  
3           than to solve a sewer problem. And, Mr. Parrott, I  
4           mentioned to you the Glenview Pump Station project in  
5           Green Township which is to open up land rather than to  
6           solve a CSO problem. So we don't want to see that again.  
7           It's not your job to promote economic development and you  
8           should stick to the sewer issues. I'm also concerned that  
9           the dollar comparison is a narrow way of looking at or  
10          comparing these projects.

11           Dollars are important, but they're not  
12          everything. As I understand it these alternative  
13          projects, one of them, calls for removal of acres of trees  
14          at Mount Airy Forest for stormwater detention basins.  
15          That's a loss of trees and wildlife. You have to put a  
16          dollar value on those losses in order to make a comparison  
17          valid. Just as you need to put a dollar value on the loss  
18          of historic structures along Lick Run in order to make the  
19          dollar comparisons valid.

20           So we need to somehow bondize the loss of  
21          historic properties and the loss of trees and wildlife  
22          habitat in order to make these comparisons valid. Thank  
23          you.

24           MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

25           MR. SMITH: Ladies and Gentlemen, my name is

1 Dennis Smith and I'm President of the South Fairmount  
2 Business Association. You'll notice by what they're  
3 saying here tonight this is an outreach program. Tony  
4 mentioned about the 300 people that attended the  
5 workshops, workshops one, two and three. 21,000  
6 invitations were sent out and only about 300 people showed  
7 up. And of that 300 people most of them were MSD  
8 employees, City employees or consultants. Last week I  
9 attended the South Fairmount or the one over at MSD  
10 headquarters in Lower Price Hill. And the statistics are  
11 there was hundred and 17 people that attended that  
12 meeting, that's similar to this crowd here.

13 Of the hundred and 17 close to 70 were employees  
14 of the MSD, the City, the County or consultants. 20  
15 businesses were represented or probably about 18  
16 businesses. There were some extras there for each  
17 company. And there was a miscellaneous of about 30  
18 people. I suspect this group here tonight also is very  
19 similar in its makeup. I think there's a lot of County,  
20 City employees, MSD employees. And this is part of the  
21 outreach effort. Somehow the MSD is not getting out to  
22 the general public.

23 You'll notice in tonight's presentation that Tony  
24 said nothing about businesses in South Fairmount that will  
25 be affected by this Project Groundwork including the

1 viaduct and possibly Westwood Avenue. Total of about 68  
2 million dollars in sales are representing of about 22 of  
3 the 30 companies that are there. And I have affidavits  
4 from these people who I interviewed representing about 600  
5 jobs. There seems no regard whatsoever for what the  
6 businesses are to do. They say they reach out and they  
7 reach out basically in name only. They do talk to us, he  
8 mentioned here tonight, but he didn't say anything about  
9 what they were going to actually do for us.

10 And also I want to say we've invited the USEPA to  
11 come to our meetings twice and they refused saying they  
12 don't have money in their budget. And we've offered to  
13 pay for their airfare. Thank you.

14 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

15 MR. DRAKE: Good evening. My name is Gregory  
16 Drake and I'm the Redevelopment and Project Coordinator  
17 for Knox Hill Neighborhood Association of South Fairmount.  
18 I support the proven deep tunnel approach for South  
19 Fairmount as I feel it provides the necessary requirements  
20 under Federal consent Decree. But more importantly it  
21 would, it would preserve historic assets which are best,  
22 which are the best chance for rebirth and redevelopment in  
23 South Fairmount.

24 We cannot risk our history and viable  
25 redevelopment based on leveraging historic assets for

1 unknown and untested theory. Nor are there any  
2 redevelopment numbers available for review. This is  
3 nothing more than a 1960's urban renewal scheme repackaged  
4 as a green alternative. It didn't work in 1960s and it  
5 won't work this time. There is nothing green about  
6 placing an extended or existing built, existing-built  
7 structure in a landfill, excavating brownfields and  
8 bringing new soil in, in hopes of development will come.  
9 Thank you.

10 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

11 MR. PATTON: Hello. My name is Michael Earl  
12 Patton. I'm an engineer, I live in Oakley. I wanted to  
13 say that of the two alternatives presented, the deep  
14 tunnel and the sustainable alternative, that I'm very  
15 skeptical of the deep tunnel because I'm concerned about  
16 the ongoing operational costs. As I say, it's not the  
17 cost but the upkeep, you know, to pump all that water  
18 down. Let the water drain down down down to a deep tunnel  
19 and then pump it up again, you know, after every heavy  
20 rain it's just going to be extremely expensive. And I do  
21 not see energy costs getting cheaper over time.

22 So, that's my explanation whether the sustainable  
23 or alternative can't be improved. I did listen to some of  
24 these concerns here, I do think they are legitimate, but  
25 that's what my concern is about the deep tunnel. I do

1 have two questions. Mr. Parrott spoke of the two percent  
2 of the medium income and some kind of indicator as to the  
3 economic burden. He did not say where we are now with  
4 respect to that two percent. I would like to know what  
5 that is? And also this is the consent Decree, and  
6 attachments which I downloaded off of the website. It's  
7 speaks of a one, point, five billion dollar capital cost  
8 after which if we spend that much money in 2006 dollars,  
9 as Mr. Parrott likes to say, you know, we can, you know,  
10 work with the parties to see if we can get a time  
11 extension.

12 I think Mr. Portune mentioned a three and a half  
13 billion dollar cost, but I'm not sure if that's a capital  
14 cost. But I would like to know where we are with respect  
15 to the one, point, five billion dollar capital cost  
16 Section 9 of this consent Decree? Thank you.

17 MS. FRECHETTE: Good evening. My name is Eileen  
18 Frechette and I live in Wooden Shoe Hollow. It's part of  
19 Spring Grove Village Winton Hills area, Kings Run  
20 Watershed.

21 I have a very strong feeling about if our money  
22 is to be spent, at least I'm going to be charged for what  
23 happens. It feels really important to me that you approve  
24 how affective the system will be. And the multiple  
25 modeling process concerns me, 'cause this could go on for

1 a long long time. You can come down to Kings Run which is  
2 daylighted in Wooden Shoe Hollow. You can see what  
3 happens in a normal small rain. And you can think about  
4 what has happened in the past year when we had 70 inches  
5 of rainfall.

6 I don't, in my going through these papers, see a  
7 projection that really covers what is happening with our  
8 rainfall and what is happening with the volume and the  
9 velocity of stormwater. That's not including development  
10 that may occur. But we need to see real models. And our  
11 community offered to be very much a part of showing the  
12 situation, demonstrating what's happening down there. And  
13 we have been waiting for our community design project. I  
14 know one was done in Lick Run.

15 So I would like to know what happened to the  
16 community design project? And also, how affective will  
17 this really be? I don't want to see lots more money spent  
18 modeling for several more years. Thank you.

19 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

20 MR. YOUNG: Good evening. My name is Charles  
21 Young. I'm the Vice President of the South Fairmount  
22 Community Council. Proceeding me, my President, Mr.  
23 Elliott Ellis, laid out for you some of the difficulties  
24 we are having in our community. And trust me, if I was in  
25 South Fairmount right now I probably would have a bunch of

1 eggs thrown at me.

2 But let me say this to you. Those of you who  
3 really don't know me as the Vice President of my community  
4 I'm also an accounting major, economics minor. I have  
5 said on many a times and many occasions that I think this  
6 challenge that the MSD and the County has is a great one.  
7 And I would think that we can champion it with a win win  
8 situation solution. Just as this past week, for the first  
9 time, this community was able to engage the County in a  
10 dialog that can put us forward with that effort.

11 I do want to see a new birth in our community, I  
12 think we can achieve that. But today I'm here to talk  
13 about the cost. Now in my schooling and my training we  
14 would talk about the cost curve, the subsupply and the  
15 demand. Presently I'm trying to figure out how can we pay  
16 for this. Most of us, well, most of you, are not like me  
17 are not rich so you have to pay for, pay for this project.  
18 That means that you have to have a set amount of people to  
19 supply this cost or this payment for this project.

20 So that means that there's not going to be a  
21 decline in our population, or is it? So, who's going to  
22 pay for this? And if we're going to pay for this and you  
23 want us to pay for this why don't you give us something at  
24 the end of the year that we can recapitalize our money  
25 loss through our taxes? Give us a credit, and then I can

1 see my investment in this project being sought in my own  
2 personal business. Because a lot of your businesses I  
3 know pay for it, I mean, you can write it off. But some  
4 of us smaller people can't do that. So I'm asking  
5 possibly, you legislators, give us a tax credit that we  
6 can write off every year to help sustain this project for  
7 you. And as you know the economy is declining. Thank  
8 you.

9 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

10 MR. SLACK: Hi. I'm Steve Slack. I'm a  
11 landowner in Wooden Shoe Hollow in Kings Run which runs  
12 directly, yeah, on my property. I want to put it in the  
13 record that I gave MaryLynn Lodor a thumb drive of a rain  
14 event in December of 2011 of just a simple one-day rain  
15 that filled up Kings Run. That's over the sewer, the  
16 daylighted stream and, you know, it was a foot below  
17 flood.

18 And I was reading about the alternative solution  
19 that I just learned about recently and that there could be  
20 even more stormwater diverted to Kings Run. And it just  
21 simply cannot handle any more capacity than it does right  
22 now. So you have a video of what that rain event looks  
23 like because we see it all the time there in Wooden Shoe  
24 Hollow. I understand that the EHRT that could be install  
25 at 217 would be designed for a one and a half inch rain

1 event. And the way it rains there I don't know if that  
2 would actually help the situation since so often we have  
3 more than one and a half-inch rain events.

4 And so I would like some more information about  
5 the statistics on that sort of thing. And the, of course,  
6 the alternatives are unknown really right now since I  
7 haven't had a chance to talk with people what exactly what  
8 those are. And that's it. Thanks for listening. And I  
9 hope that the sustainable solution is the solution. I  
10 hope it all works out. I don't envy your job at all.

11 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you. Is there anyone else?  
12 Hello. Sorry about that.

13 MS. METZ: Yes. How'd you know. I'm Jo Ann  
14 Metz. I'm with the San Antonio Church. The congregation  
15 sent me. Also, I'm the President on Lick Run Valley  
16 Historical Association. We've been in business about 22  
17 years. I live on the floor of the valley. The people on  
18 the floor of the valley, it should be made clear, feel  
19 very differently than the people that live on the ridges  
20 and on, halfway up the valley.

21 It's kind of amazing. The people that are  
22 speaking for South Fairmount actually live in Central  
23 Fairmount and I thought you should know that. Not that we  
24 have great differences in what they bring up, but probably  
25 is useful to them, but we are really glad that somebody's

1     come and saved us from all the traffic and the sewage that  
2     backs up in our basement. We are perfectly willing to  
3     cooperate in any way we can, and our church has. And I  
4     want to remind you that the EPA has a long proud history  
5     here in Cincinnati. I know it personally for many years,  
6     and was acquainted with an agency. They could always  
7     assign a special group and unit that would see to it that  
8     this is not an open ditch, that it's sustained. And it  
9     would be a feather in our hat and a feather in their hat  
10    to turn something good like that out of Cincinnati. They  
11    have a long history of helping the nation's health system.

12           I wish you would ask for that when you bargain  
13    with them. They're good men and women. Thank you.

14           MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

15           MS. WALL: My name is Marilyn Wall and I'm a  
16    Member of Sierra Club. And I just wanted to touch on a  
17    few topics. One --

18           MS. KENDRICK: May I ask you to lift the  
19    microphone so we can hear you?

20           MS. WALL: Thank you.

21           MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

22           MS. WALL: Thank you. I'm glad to hear Mr.  
23    Parrott say that more information will be made available  
24    on the web. We've been asking for more information and I  
25    think you are hearing that from a number of people

1 tonight. Also, who would like to understand the project  
2 better and understand the implications, the water quality  
3 issues and so on, far better than what they can from the  
4 information that's been made available to date.

5 We -- also glad to hear a little bit different  
6 descriptions of what's going on with water quality and  
7 MSD's goals as far as water quality goes. But the  
8 ultimate goal is not just that did we achieve volumetric  
9 reductions in short term, but to actually achieve water  
10 quality standards in the long run. And that's, that's the  
11 ultimate purpose of the entire effort with the consent  
12 Decree.

13 We're really concerned about whether or not the  
14 right solutions are being picked when they're being aimed  
15 simply at meeting an 85 percent goal as opposed to  
16 ultimately what the benefit is from working toward  
17 achieving water quality and whether or not we're picking  
18 the right solutions at this point. We're looking at  
19 pretty significant changes in the volume of overflows from  
20 just a few years ago. And we have a lot of concerns about  
21 how accurate these are right now and how well this really  
22 represents the impact to water quality within Mill Creek  
23 as well as the other watersheds in -- that MSD is  
24 responsible for.

25 How accurate are they? We know MSD says they're

1 very confident, but we need to see real data and real  
2 validation by actual flow monitors and so on to know both  
3 the flow is right and also what the actual water quality  
4 at the point of overflow is. Whether it is highly  
5 concentrated or contains a lot of storm-water runoff.  
6 We're very concerned about the cost and how much these  
7 have risen since they were first put together in 2009.  
8 And we're also -- there are many aspects of the so-called  
9 green plan than -- finish? Yes, okay. That um -- about  
10 the green plan, they are really not very green. The Kings  
11 Run overflow area is really a grey solution. It's pipes,  
12 it's EHRTs, it's storage, it's retention ponds which were  
13 -- are part of very traditional grey infrastructure as are  
14 many of the conveyances that are being talked about. The  
15 box channel under Lick Run.

16 We'd like to see a really green plan and we hope  
17 that MSD can produce one. Thank you.

18 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

19 MR. MILLER: I'm Michael Miller. I'm speaking  
20 for Rivers Unlimited and I'm on the Water Quality Subgroup  
21 of the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities. We're  
22 interested in water quality attainment in the Mill Creek.  
23 That's what this is all about. Chris Yoder has just done  
24 a massive job for you as you're well aware. And the TMDL  
25 for the Lower Great Miami is also out. So, we're, we're

1 very attuned to what the water quality ought to be.

2 One of the aspects of the, of the plan is to  
3 reduce volume and we think it ought to reduce overflows.  
4 I don't want to see an 85 percent reduction in volume. I  
5 want to see a reduction of 85 percent of the number of  
6 overflows. The overflows bring in the first flush. That  
7 contains most of the toxins, the oil, the brake linings,  
8 the road salt. That is the lethal part to the water  
9 quality of the stream.

10 In Ohio it is macroinvertebrates and fish that  
11 determine our water quality. And water quality standards  
12 are used in -- as in support of the biological water  
13 quality or biocriteria. We hate to see underground  
14 structures. There's no, there's no purification that  
15 occurs in underground structures. In fact, they are  
16 biofilms that create places for nanobacteria to grow and  
17 perpetrate and slough off. It's the sunshine shallow  
18 waters, bubbling creeks, small retention ponds, rain  
19 gardens that are going to be the solution.

20 We would like to see you move up into the uplands  
21 and do more retention on site with the evaporation  
22 infiltration and retention. Thank you.

23 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. KENDRICK: Ma'am.

1 MS. CHISCHILLIE: So I'm going to come up here  
2 and talk, not with credentials. Although at one point in  
3 my life I was a chemical engineer. I don't have  
4 credentials on water quality. I'm going to talk about  
5 being a lifetime resident of South Fairmount. And you  
6 talk about taxes going away from South Fairmount. Ladies  
7 and Gentlemen, our property values can't get any lower in  
8 South Fairmount than they are right now.

9 So if the MSD can bring a project that's going to  
10 be beneficial for the environment as well as economically  
11 beneficial to the neighborhood, then there's a strong  
12 following of South Fairmount residents who are behind you  
13 and want to see this daylighted. And, with Jo Ann, I'm on  
14 the floor, so when it rains I have a river running through  
15 my basement not my front yard. Thank you.

16 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you.

17 (Whereupon, the court reporter requested that Ms.  
18 Chischillie state her name for the record.)

19 MS. CHISCHILLIE: Oh, I'm sorry. It's Jackie  
20 Chischillie.

21 MS. KENDRICK: We have a few more minutes left.  
22 Do we have anyone else? Just as a quick reminder you do  
23 also have the option to write your comments and place them  
24 in the plastic bin behind you or on the back desk. Also,  
25 you have opportunities to call into MSD or to e-mail your

1 comments into MSD and that information is available on the  
2 Agenda that was listed. I know there's a lot of people  
3 and a lot of information that was presented today. Before  
4 we come to a conclusion -- oh, we have one more.

5 MR. DANIELS: My name is Hershel Daniels. I'm  
6 with Hargrove Engineering, I'm an oceanographic tech, and  
7 we're the partners of the South Fairmount Community  
8 Council. I've written out the questions, and I invite all  
9 of you to come out next Tuesday at 6:00 to 8:00 at Orion  
10 Academy in South Fairmount. And come out with questions.  
11 What we're going to be releasing -- we've released a draft  
12 in April, but we're going to be releasing our work  
13 product. And it includes a lot of what has been from the  
14 water quality and from the biological from the flow that  
15 is addressing the sustainability of the community.

16 We have written questions for the MSD. But come  
17 on out next Tuesday 6:00 to 8:00 and we'll answer your  
18 questions.

19 MS. KENDRICK: Thank you. Last call. Okay.  
20 Once again on behalf of the Metropolitan Sewer District of  
21 Greater Cincinnati I would like to thank you for coming  
22 out tonight. As Mr. Parrott mentioned, this information,  
23 this PowerPoint presentation and quite a bit of  
24 information about the entire Project Groundwork is  
25 available on Project Groundwork, dot, org. So I invite

1 you to go there and take a look.

2 I just also want to remind you that the minutes  
3 from this meeting as well as all of the comments that we  
4 receive will be documented and presented to the County,  
5 the City and the Regulators. Again, your comments need to  
6 be submitted by September the 3rd. And before you leave  
7 today, we will ask you to complete an exit survey. Debra,  
8 can everyone get the copy of the survey? Oh, the  
9 registration table has the surveys. If you don't mind to  
10 provide us your feedback.

11 Once again thank you, good night and be safe.

12 (Public meeting concluded at 8:50 P.M.)  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25



1

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

EXHIBIT  
8-23-17  
10-1/10-26  
LKG

Name: Elliott Ellis

Affiliation/Organization: S Fairmount CC

Address: 1724 Fairmount Ave Cin OH 45214

Phone: 476-5099

Email: wherever @ aol.com

Exb. 10-1

2

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Julie M. Murray

Affiliation/Organization: CUFNA (Clermont Heights University Fairview Neighborhood Association)

Address: 147 PARKER ST Cincinnati, 45219

Phone: (513) 721-7843

Email: juliemurray@aol.com

Exb. 10-2

3

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:

Miss. Cecilia M. Kloecker  
9485 Wynnecrest Dr  
Blue Ash OH 45242-6940

Affiliation/Organization:

Address:

Phone:

513-745-9062

Email:

kloecker@fuse.net

Exb. 10-3

4

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:

Prnc WILLHAM

Affiliation/Organization:

KNOX HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC

Address:

1871 KNOX ST

Phone:

317-224-5511

Email:

VICTOROUS@BMAAC.COM

Exb. 10-4

5

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:

TIM MARA

Affiliation/Organization:

Address:

1417 PLEASANT ST. 45202

Phone:

246-4236

Email:

tmara4570@aol.com

EXB. 10-5

6

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:

DENNIS SMITH

Affiliation/Organization:

PAPER PRODUCTS COMPANY

Address:

1543 QUEEN CITY AVE., CINCINNATI, OHIO 45214

Phone:

513-921-4717

Email:

dennis@paperproductscompany.com

EXB. 10-6

7

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Gregory Drake

Affiliation/Organization: Knox Hill Neighborhood Assoc.

Address: 1871 Knox ST.

Phone: 317-847-2858

Email: G.d.victorues@gmail.com

Exb. 10-7

8

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Michael Patton

Affiliation/Organization: citizen

Address: 3767 Millsbrae Avenue

Phone: Cincinnati, Oh. 45209

Email: michael.patton@yahoo.com

Exb. 10-8

9

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Eileen Frechette

Affiliation/Organization: Wooden Shoe Hollow Neighborhood Association

Address: 5081 Wooden Shoe Hollow, 45232

Phone: 513-542-2055

Email: efwoodenshoe@fuse.net

Exb. 10-9

10

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Charles Young - Vice President

Affiliation/Organization: South Fairmount Community Council

Address: 1535 Knox street - Cinti Ohio 45214

Phone: 513-251-2332 / 404-5725

Email: youngcharles@zoomtown.com

Exb. 10-10

11

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Steve Slack

Affiliation/Organization: Land/Home Owner on Kings Run

Address: 5045 Wooden Shoe Hollow

Phone: 913 403 0577

Email: slack @ fuse.net

Exb. 10-11

12

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Jo Ann Metz

Affiliation/Organization: San Antonio Ch + Lick Run Valley Historical Assn

Address: 2225 Queen City Ave. 45214

Phone: 662-9934

Email: —

Exb. 10-12

13

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Marilyn Wall

Affiliation/Organization: Sierra Club

Address: 816 Van Ness, 45246

Phone: 226-9235

Email: marilyn.wall@sierraclub.org

Exb. 10-13

14

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Michael C. Miller

Affiliation/Organization: Rivers Unlimited  
Water Quality Committee MC Watershed Council of Communities

Address: 3348 Meyer Place

Phone: 513-675-0293

Email: Mike.miller@uc.edu

Exb. 10-14

15

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: Jacquelyn Chischillie

Affiliation/Organization: Resident, South Fairmount

Address: 1692 Harrison Ave.

Phone: 513-623-0615

Email: jac.3sisters@hotmail.com

Exb. 10-15

There is a strong following of South Farmmount residents who are excited to see positive change in our community. <sup>Therefore we</sup> and support the sustainable solution to the combined sewer problem.

We have witnessed South Farmmount diminish from a community to a blighted neighborhood. Although the objective of the project is to reduce the volume of water being treated, the side effect of the project is improved quality of life for the residents of South Farmmount. We have been waiting for something like this for a long time.

16

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: HER shel Daniels.

Affiliation/Organization: Hargrove Engineering

Address: 2 Garfield Suite 300 Cw Ohio 45205

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: hershel@hargroveengineering.com  
hershel@hargroveengineering.com

Exb 10.10

You will Make Your  
Model - Data Avail  
Will U Sure Into P3

LET ME BE CLEAR THE  
FIGURES QUOTED ARE  
2006 COSTS THAT LOST  
2012

How Much Money  
Have you Spent In  
The Design Phase  
So Far? In The Future?

WHAT IS YOUR SBA  
AUFEEEMWT SLIPE?

WHAT DO YOU THINK  
BY SUSTAINABILITY  
IN TERMS OF ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

DOES YOUR COSTS  
INCLUDE MAINTENANCE  
YOU ARE BUILDING  
FOR ~~THE~~ HOW LONG

**MSD Community "Town Hall" on August 23, 2012**

Written Comment Cards

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Comments: That the alternative to the Tunnel has advanced to this stage is a testament to the hard work, talent and strength of our civil servants. This ~~is a~~ <sup>alternative</sup> ~~project~~ is enormously complex and will not only benefit the environment, it will provide significant benefits for the community. We may disagree about which alternative to select, but we should be grateful for ~~had~~ our dedicated civil servants.

- 1.) What is the average rain event design for Gray Rd. landfill retention? \*
- 2.) Are there plans for impervious roadway replacement in College Hill?
- 3.) Since the coliform spike is at CSO 217 how come there is not more investment or attention to mitigating this?
- 4.) Will there be <sup>MSD</sup> ~~public~~ answers to the written questions on line?



PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name:

Couper Gardiner

Affiliation/Organization:

m. Arch , AIA Urban Design Committee

Address:

3547 Mooney Ave. Cincinnati OH 45208

Phone:

513 / 310-3098

Email:

cgardiner@unitingArch.org

questions / comments on back ↴

1. Do you anticipate people leaving the district as a result of higher rates?
2. The sustainable illustration for Phase I accomplishes more benefits for lower cost. Could still lower cost be possible and achieve adequate benefits, including the 2B gallon reduction?
3. With lessons from past cost estimates where contingencies were insufficient to cover each next iteration, has the percentage for contingencies been increased so that decisions are based on a better estimate of total cost?
4. Are external costs similar for the grey and sustainable solution illustrations, e.g., adjacent land owner watershed maintenance of infiltration rates in their property?



PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: MARVIN KRAUS

Affiliation/Organization: FCO

Address: 415 BOND P. #4C, CINCINNATI, OH 45206

Phone: 513-861-3939

Email:

HOW MUCH WILL RALPH PLAN COST  
A HAMILTON COUNTY HOMEOWNER ANNUALLY  
AND FOR HOW LONG?

WHAT WILL A HAMILTON COUNTY HOMEOWNER  
GET IN RETURN?

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Name: MICHAEL D. WEINSTEIN

Affiliation/Organization: Partners ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC.

Address: 11427 REED Hartman Highway Cn. OH 45241

Phone: 513-618-6490

Email: mwein@PARTNERSEIN.COM

Comments: please provide me a link to tonight's Power point or

Provide instruction on how to obtain one. Thank you.

**Name:** Bruce Koehler

**Affiliation/Organization:** Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities &  
OKI Regional Council of Governments

**Address:** 720 East Pete Rose Way, Suite 420 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

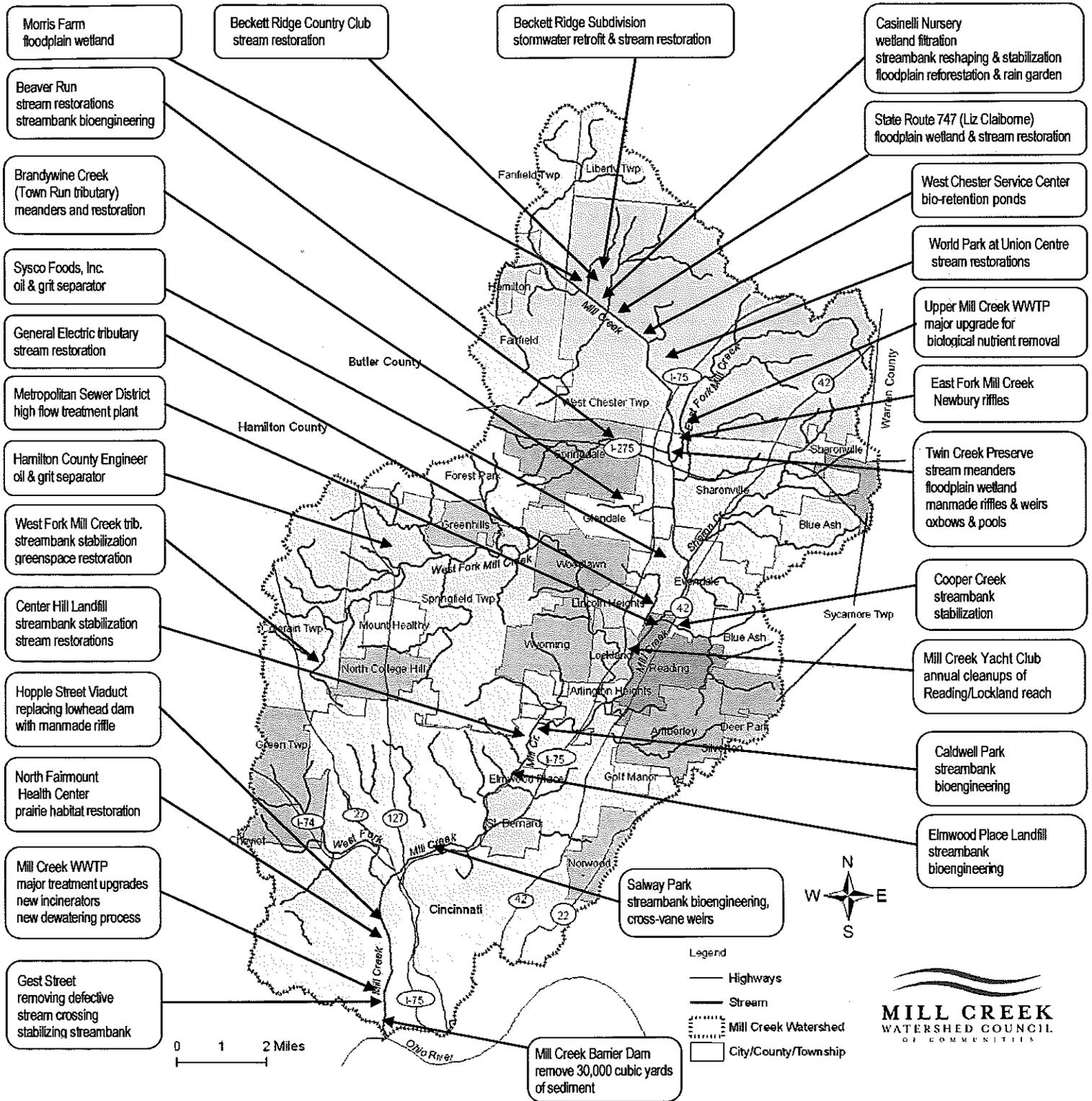
**Phone:** (513) 619-7675 (work) (513) 828-3578 (cell)

**Email:** bkoehler@oki.org

**Comments:** See other side and attached maps.

**Comments:** The Mill Creek is not an open sewer, but a narrow green ribbon through an urban landscape starving for healthy streams. The Mill Creek is not a lost cause, but a valuable regional resource that already has improved dramatically from the bad old days of toxic discharges, and gassing sewage sludge banks. Please see the attached maps to support my statement that the Mill Creek is not a lost cause.

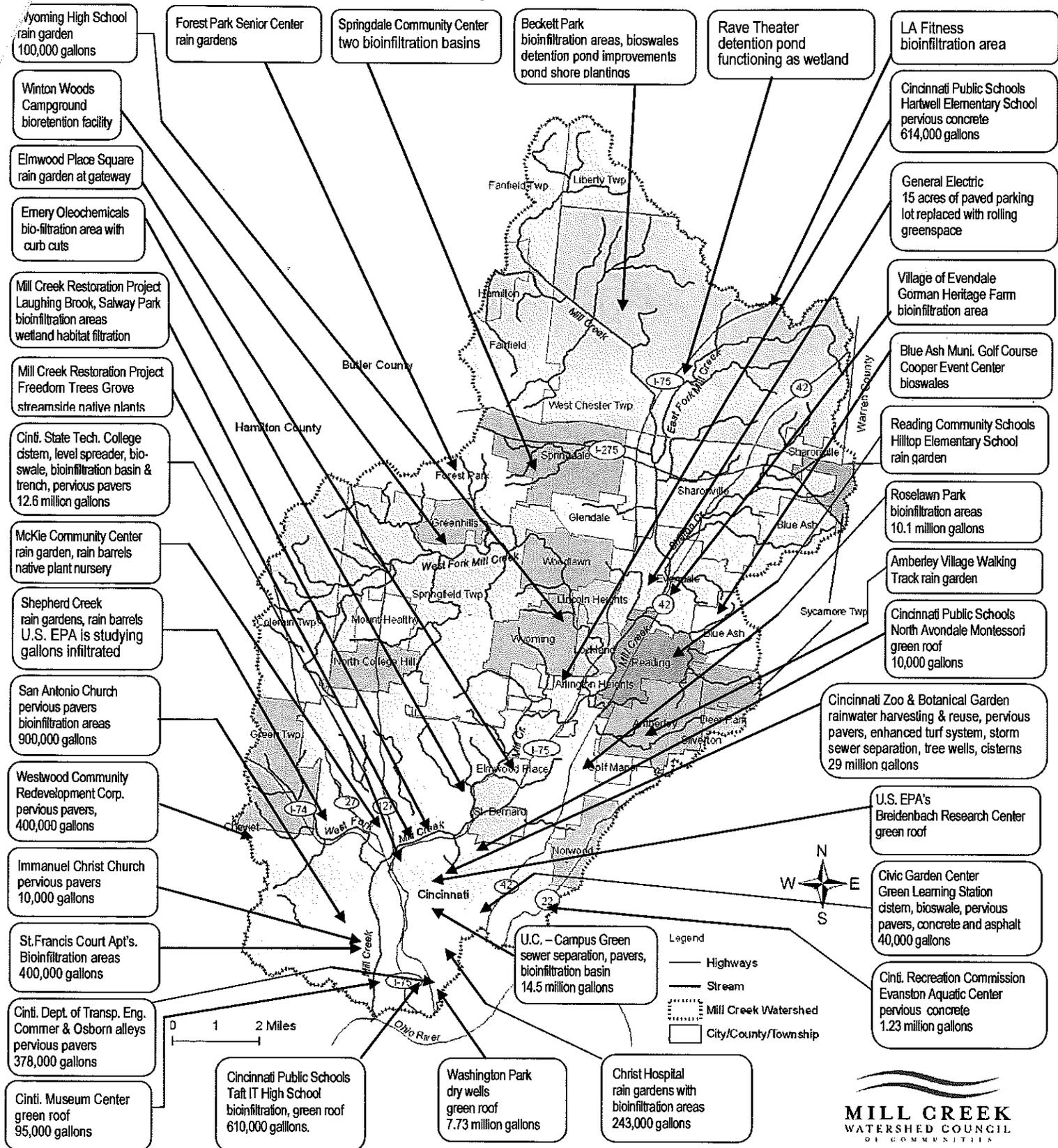
# Stream Corridor Restoration Projects in the Mill Creek Watershed



The purpose of this map is to list and locate stream corridor restoration projects that have occurred throughout the Mill Creek watershed since 1999. The brief project descriptions concentrate on key best management practices. A variety of non-profit organizations, public agencies and local governments relied on local, state and federal funding to sponsor these projects. For lack of space, this map does not show greenways, rain gardens, stormwater management projects or sewer line improvements. Please report new stream corridor restoration projects to Bruce Koehler ([bkoehler@oki.org](mailto:bkoehler@oki.org)) or Jen Eismeier ([jeismeier@millcreekwatershed.org](mailto:jeismeier@millcreekwatershed.org)).



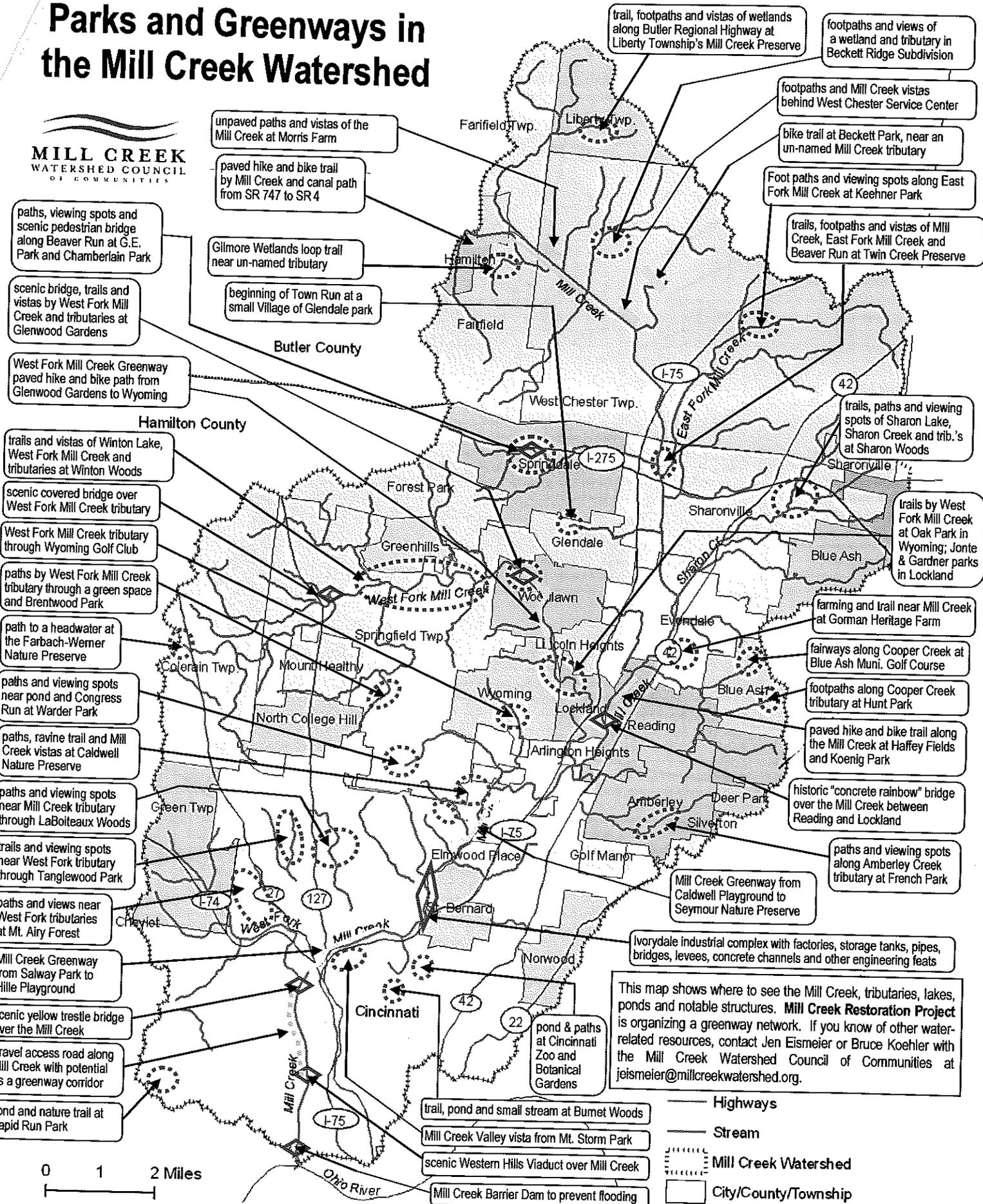
# Green Demonstration Projects in the Mill Creek Watershed



**MILL CREEK**  
WATERSHED COUNCIL  
OF COMMUNITIES

The purpose of this map is to list and locate green demonstration projects that have occurred throughout the Mill Creek watershed since 1999. Project descriptions focus on stormwater management practices (BMPs). Most descriptions estimate the gallons of stormwater captured per year by the BMPs. For lack of space, this map does not show greenways, small projects or sewer line improvements. Stream corridor restoration projects are shown on a separate map. Please report new projects to Bruce Koehler (bkoehler@oki.org) or Jen Eismeier (jeismeier@millcreekwatershed.org).

# Parks and Greenways in the Mill Creek Watershed



paths, viewing spots and scenic pedestrian bridge along Beaver Run at G.E. Park and Chamberlain Park

scenic bridge, trails and vistas by West Fork Mill Creek and tributaries at Glenwood Gardens

West Fork Mill Creek Greenway paved hike and bike path from Glenwood Gardens to Wyoming

trails and vistas of Winton Lake, West Fork Mill Creek and tributaries at Winton Woods

scenic covered bridge over West Fork Mill Creek tributary

West Fork Mill Creek tributary through Wyoming Golf Club

paths by West Fork Mill Creek tributary through a green space and Brentwood Park

path to a headwater at the Farbach-Werner Nature Preserve

paths and viewing spots near pond and Congress Run at Warder Park

paths, ravine trail and Mill Creek vistas at Caldwell Nature Preserve

paths and viewing spots near Mill Creek tributary through LaBoiteaux Woods

trails and viewing spots near West Fork tributary through Tanglewood Park

paths and views near West Fork tributaries at Mt. Airy Forest

Mill Creek Greenway from Salway Park to Hille Playground

scenic yellow trestle bridge over the Mill Creek

gravel access road along Mill Creek with potential as a greenway corridor

pond and nature trail at Rapid Run Park

unpaved paths and vistas of the Mill Creek at Morris Farm

paved hike and bike trail by Mill Creek and canal path from SR 747 to SR 4

Gilmore Wetlands loop trail near un-named tributary

beginning of Town Run at a small Village of Glendale park

trail, footpaths and vistas of wetlands along Butler Regional Highway at Liberty Township's Mill Creek Preserve

footpaths and views of a wetland and tributary in Beckett Ridge Subdivision

footpaths and Mill Creek vistas behind West Chester Service Center

bike trail at Beckett Park, near an un-named Mill Creek tributary

Foot paths and viewing spots along East Fork Mill Creek at Keehner Park

trails, footpaths and vistas of Mill Creek, East Fork Mill Creek and Beaver Run at Twin Creek Preserve

trails, paths and viewing spots of Sharon Lake, Sharon Creek and trib.'s at Sharon Woods

trails by West Fork Mill Creek at Oak Park in Wyoming; Jonte & Gardner parks in Lockland

farming and trail near Mill Creek at Gorman Heritage Farm

fairways along Cooper Creek at Blue Ash Muni. Golf Course

footpaths along Cooper Creek tributary at Hunt Park

paved hike and bike trail along the Mill Creek at Haffey Fields and Koening Park

historic "concrete rainbow" bridge over the Mill Creek between Reading and Lockland

paths and viewing spots along Amberley Creek tributary at French Park

Mill Creek Greenway from Caldwell Playground to Seymour Nature Preserve

Ivorydale industrial complex with factories, storage tanks, pipes, bridges, levees, concrete channels and other engineering feats

This map shows where to see the Mill Creek, tributaries, lakes, ponds and notable structures. **Mill Creek Restoration Project** is organizing a greenway network. If you know of other water-related resources, contact Jen Eismeier or Bruce Koehler with the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities at [jeismeier@millcreekwatershed.org](mailto:jeismeier@millcreekwatershed.org).

trail, pond and small stream at Bumet Woods

Mill Creek Valley vista from Mt. Storm Park

scenic Western Hills Viaduct over Mill Creek

Mill Creek Barrier Dam to prevent flooding

- Highways
- Stream
- ..... Mill Creek Watershed
- City/County/Township



**MSD Community “Town Hall” on August 23, 2012**

Exit Surveys

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?



Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers



Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs



Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

3. Additional comments?

How will land use changes require future commercial developments be responsible for their water impacts?

Name (optional):

Ed Schultz

Email:

egnt@ground @fuse.net

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

~~DATA~~  
~~high flows~~ > 1.5" events

3. Additional comments?

\$0.5 Billion for 10% improvement  
RETURN?

We are an MWS - looking for water

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

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- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

Use more than 25 years for cost projection

---

---

Name (optional):

Warren High

Email:

warren2022\_high@amec.com

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

THERE WERE SEVERAL GOOD QUESTIONS ASKED IN  
THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE  
ANSWERS PUBLISHED ON MSD WEB SITE.

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

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- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

---

---

---

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

JEFF AGRICOLA

JAGRICOLA@SPRINGDALE.ORG

513-346-5520

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

Who will bear WHAT percentage of the huge costs - initially & long term of this project - WHAT % of residential customers carry? Who are the developers that this will benefit & WHAT will they pay? And WHAT % will be picked up by industrial use in the region?

Name (optional):

Email:

John Keegan

Julimurray@  
275 AOL.com

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

Please use The EPA's "local" expertise - They will give you strength in combating "new"

3. Additional comments?

Substandard plans from Wargreave Engrg.  
I'm praying for you all - as are our parish!

Name (optional):

Jo Ann Metz

Email:

276

Phone:

662-9934

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

First time getting involved with these. More  
comprised now than I was before meeting

3. Additional comments?

would like to see an EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
for each proposal

Name (optional):

William Döring

Email:

WDORING@CINCINNATI.RR.COM

Phone:

513-781-2770

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

3. Additional comments?

*I appreciate that this is an extremely complex problem.*

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

*I need to take small bites and digest the info as I go. Way to much info was presented in order to make a decision.*

3. Additional comments?

*My community will be involved in a later phase I assume.*

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

---

---

3. **Additional comments?**

---

---

---

**Name (optional):**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

---

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

---

---

3. Additional comments?

I have a professional interest in both solutions but believe the greener, sustainable approach is best for the communities involved.

Name (optional):

David Rich

Email:

Drich@buildingvalue.com

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

More specific assurance on community impacts for daylighting projects; city & developer commitments.

3. Additional comments?

As a community organizer & planner, I hope to be able to work with your team and various neighborhood leaders to achieve shared victory.

Name (optional):

Samantha Brockfield

Email:

sbrockfield@wincincy.org

Phone:

(513) 541-4109 x124

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

---

---

3. **Additional comments?**

---

---

---

**Name (optional):**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

---

---

3. **Additional comments?**

*Very well presented. Enough of the modeling and lets fix the CSO problem!*

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

3. Additional comments?

TDO MUCH SMOKE AND MIRRORS  
NOT ENOUGH FACTS + TRUTH

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

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2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

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Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

JAMES SMITH

821-8627

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

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- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

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Name (optional):

Michael Keller

Email:

mkeller@embt.com

Phone:

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- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

Please let us know who to contact at OEPA + USEPA to provide feedback to those agencies

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Name (optional):

Kendra Schroer

Email:

Phone:

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

As a part of the S. Fairmount Community public/private partnership we have <sup>become</sup> very familiar w/ 2 solutions & have attempted to present a third alternative, but failed to be given an opportunity to <sup>dialogue</sup> w/ MSO & their consultants as to potential of it to address many of the community concerns, as well to potential cost-savings it offers

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

Thomas Hesley, Architect in partnership w/ StarArc Engineering hrarchitects30@yahoo.com 383-8134

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?



Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers



Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs



Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

PLEASE MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION ABOUT  
THIS MONUMENTAL INVESTMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY.  
I SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE.

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

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- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

MSD staff deserves our gratitude for taking a balanced approach to a difficult situation. The Sustainable Alternative would serve as a demonstration project for the entire watershed.

Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

Bruce Koehler      bkoehl@okwi.org      (513) 619-7675

1. Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?

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3. Additional comments?

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Name (optional):

Email:

Phone:

Jacquie Chischille

jac.3sisters@hotmail.com  
292

1. **Given what you know at this time regarding cost and performance, what is your preferred solution for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy?**

- Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative - primarily sustainable stormwater solutions that seek to control combined sewer overflows (CSOs) by reducing the amount of stormwater entering combined sewers
- Grey Alternative - deep tunnel and enhanced high-rate treatment facility (EHRT) to capture/treat CSOs
- Do not have enough information to make an informed decision

2. **If you cannot select a preferred solution at this time, what additional information do you need?**

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3. **Additional comments?**

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**Name (optional):**

**Email:**

**Phone:**

Emails

 You forwarded this message on 8/22/2012 6:52 PM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** Paul W [victiques@gmail.com] **Sent:** Thu 8/2/2012 10:50 AM  
**To:** MSD Communications; Lodor, MaryLynn  
**Cc:** Mallory, Mayor; Qualls, Roxanne; May, Lucy - bizjournals; Coolidge, Sherry; denisedriehaus; dennis; whccerlene@aol.com; jcook; Harris, Larry; Kevin LeMaster; Rhodes, Dusty  
**Subject:** Lick Run MSD Comments  
**Attachments:**

My name is Paul Willham and I represent the Knox Hill Neighborhood Association and area of approximately 224 homes in the area overlooking this proposed project.

The Knox Hill Neighborhood Association is in favor of the deep tunnel approach to resolve the storm water separation issue for Mill Creek. This is a proven, tested solution that will resolve the issue and most importantly preserve historic South Fairmount.

We are OPPOSED to the alternative which would destroy significant historic architecture, dislocate businesses that employ local residents and forever destroy the history of the City of Cincinnati.

There is nothing 'green' about the demolition of existing structures and placing them in a landfill, the removal of millions of tons of soil, the trucking in of soil to replace a brownfield all to 'recreate' a stream that was essentially used as an open sewer when it originally existed.

We question the 'openness' of this entire process, when section 106 review was only considered after our neighborhood association raised the issue when the county was ready to begin demolition. We question the 'openness' of property acquisition. Most importantly we question the openness of the process when it was made apparent to EPA, long before this alternative was presented to the public that this was the proposed plan that would essentially result in the destruction of the South Fairmount for yet another "urban renewal scheme" which Cincinnati is famous for.

In the 1960's we demolished another neighborhood called Kenyan Barr for the construction of Queensgate Industrial Park. 25000 people, mostly poor African Americans were dislocated to Avondale, Walnut Hills and other parts of the city which prompted 'white flight' and forever changed the character of this city and in the minds of many urban planners, hastened its decline. Kenyan Barr now only exists in many urban planning textbooks as a classic case of what not to do in responsible urban planning, and Queensgate never reached a level of success it was projected to do.

If MSD has its way with this alternative plan, a glorified drainage ditch, we are doomed to repeat the mistake of Kenyan Barr and further ruin the 'preservation image' of Cincinnati.

For Knox Hill we see this process as a farce. The community was never engaged but directed in a carefully controlled process. We will bring

our position directly to EPA, our Congressman, Senators, the Governor, and the federal court via an amicus brief we will submit directly to the court.

South Fairmount is a viable community which can be redeveloped by leveraging its historic assets, creation of a national historic district, creation of a main street development program and turn itself around without its destruction as MSD, and this city's mayor proposes.

We will never support a "boondoggle" that will result in the destruction of South Fairmount, because MSD and the city is worried about its Moody's bond rating more than the citizens of this city.

Paul Willham, president  
Knox Hill Neighborhood Association

You replied on 8/23/2012 4:13 PM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** Lucas Bentley [bentleylucas@gmail.com] **Sent:** Fri 8/17/2012 10:00 AM  
**To:** MSD Communications  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Comment/Question for City Council/HC Commissioners and MSD  
**Attachments:**

To all parties this concerns:

Below is taken directly from MSD's website: [http://www.msdc.org/about\\_msdc/msdc\\_mission/index.html](http://www.msdc.org/about_msdc/msdc_mission/index.html)

### Mission:

To protect public health and the environment through water reclamation and watershed management.

Vision: Our diverse and inspired workforce is recognized regionally for exceptional service and commitment to our community and is a global leader in water reclamation, environmental services and organizational excellence.

Values: We commit to serve as professionals with honesty, integrity, accountability, and respect

First off, MSD needs to heed to their values of honesty, integrity, and accountability and respect the public in which they serve by honoring their mission statement. Second, to say, "complying with the consent decree doesn't mean the water has to be clean (Mary Lynn Loder, The Enquirer 08/17/12)" seems to go entirely against MSD's mission to protect public health and the environment through water reclamation (*Water reclamation is a process by which wastewater from homes and businesses is cleaned using biological and chemical treatment so that the water can be returned to the environment safely to augment the natural systems from which it came. It is used today as both an aquifer and stream enhancement strategy. Water reclamation helps decrease diverging water from sensitive eco-systems which depend greatly on the flow to improve the quality of the water. Water reclamation also decreases the pollution to bodies of water, such as oceans and rivers, by diverting the wastewater*) and watershed management (*Watershed management is the study of the relevant characteristics of a watershed aimed at the sustainable distribution of its resources and the process of creating and implementing plans, programs, and projects to sustain and enhance watershed functions that affect the plant, animal, and human communities within a watershed boundary. **Features of a watershed that agencies seek to manage include water supply, water quality, drainage, stormwater runoff, water rights, and the overall planning and utilization of watersheds.** Landowners, land use agencies, stormwater management experts, environmental specialists, water use surveyors and communities all play an integral part in the management of a watershed).*

How can projects such as the Lick Run Project be estimated at a cost of over \$3 billion and, in paraphrasing Ms. Mary Lynn Loder, the water quality standards will still not be met? How is this protecting the environment and public health? How is meeting water quality standards not the main objective behind any of these repairs and updates within MSD's sewer system and the impact it has on our waterways?

--

Lucas Bentley

 You forwarded this message on 8/23/2012 3:14 PM.

**MSD Communications**

**From:** kymahern@aol.com [kymahern@aol.com]

**Sent:** Thu 8/23/2012 12:16 PM

**To:** MSD Communications

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Proposed sewer line through Fairmount

**Attachments:**

With the ongoing and expensive sewer updates throughout the county, my biggest concern is that the utility bill does not follow the person actually using the service. Unlike Duke Energy bills where the usage is always tied to the user, the water/sewage bills fall back on the landlords. With only a 40% home ownership rate in the city, the cost to landlords is becoming exorbitant. Almost every time a tenant leaves one of our houses, we are stuck with at least a \$300-500 unpaid water bill. We cannot file a small claims suit to collect this money because the tenants are not leaving a forward address. I would imagine in the last 20 years, we have paid out hundreds of THOUSANDS of dollars for deadbeats who don't pay their own bills.

This policy must be changed to hold people accountable and to lessen the burden on the landlords. There also should be a change to bill everyone monthly and not quarterly. The quarterly bills are too expensive for many people to manage considering that 60% of the bill is for sewer projects.

Sincerely,  
Kym Ahern

 You replied on 8/24/2012 2:46 PM.

Attachments can contain viruses that may harm your computer. Attachments may not display correctly.

### MSD Communications

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**From:** TMara4570@aol.com [TMara4570@aol.com]

**Sent:** Fri 8/24/2012 9:40 AM

**To:** MSD Communications

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

**Attachments:**  [MSD comments re LMC.docx\(17KB\)](#)

Attached are my comments which are more detailed than I was able to make in the 2 minutes available to me last night.

Timothy G. Mara

Timothy G. Mara  
1417 Pleasant Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-6916  
(513) 246-4236 (H)  
(513) 484-8773 (cell)

August 24, 2012

To: Metropolitan Sewer District

In re: Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

In response to your request for comments, I submit the following additional comments beyond those which I made at the town hall meeting on August 23.

I came to the meeting to learn about the alternatives being considered and to hear what my fellow citizens had to say about the alternatives. I appreciate Mr. Parrott's presentation, but as someone else noted at the meeting, the presentation began late and was too long. By the time Mr. Parrott finished, many in attendance were ready to leave. In the future, I strongly suggest that no more than 30 minutes be devoted to presentations so that we can get right to public comments before the audience becomes restless.

Although I have not yet come to a firm opinion about which alternative I should support, I do feel that whatever alternative is ultimately chosen, the ratepayers should not be stuck paying for aspects of the chosen alternative which are not directly attributable to reducing the overflows. Specifically, I note that there are a substantial number of projects which appear to have been modified to spur additional economic development and revitalization. While it is commendable that MSD be amenable to such modifications to achieve positive impacts beyond eliminating combined sewer overflows, any additional costs incurred should be funded by agencies responsible for economic development or by developers themselves who would benefit from the money-making opportunities created, not the MSD ratepayers.

I am also concerned that the additional costs incurred by making modifications to projects in order to accommodate economic development opportunities may push the total project cost so high as to put into play opportunities to revisit the obligations and timetables found in the consent decree. To the extent that the increased costs are not directly attributable to the overflow aspects of the projects, this could create a false impression that the cost of compliance has risen so high as to be unacceptable.

The phenomena of MSD going beyond its mandate to eliminate combined sewer overflows to create economic development opportunities is not new. In Green Township, MSD staff has proposed to extend the Wesselman Sewer to eliminate the Glenview Pump Station when a less expensive update of the pump station would prevent future overflows. The apparent justification for spending more of the ratepayers' money is to open up land for development. The additional money could be better spent on fixing other cso's. Raising sewer rates to fund

economic development amounts to an unvoted tax increase in order to enhance the land values of a few.

Lastly, I am concerned that MSD is comparing the alternatives based solely on cost of construction. Operation and maintenance expenses should also be considered. Additionally, it does not appear that the comparative analysis of the alternatives considers non-monetary costs, such as loss of woods where stormwater retention basins are proposed for the loss of historic structures in the Lick Run basin. Some effort should be made to monetize or otherwise compare the alternatives in those respects.

Sincerely,

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy G. Mara, JD, AICP

 You forwarded this message on 9/4/2012 11:56 AM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** Lodor, MaryLynn **Sent:** Fri 8/24/2012 5:59 PM  
**To:** mimiyoga1@yahoo.com  
**Cc:** MSD Communications; Deb Leonard  
**Subject:** Fwd: Sorry to miss your community forums  
**Attachments:**

Mary

Thank you so much for the email in the comments. We are actually taking written comments via the email on our website which I'm copying here is well. These comments will be entered into the record unless you like to make a more formal written comments.

Every voice is important to be heard at this point and we appreciate the time and effort you have put into helping to identify solutions that could work in your community today as well as the future.

If Camp Washington or you would like a hard copy of the LMC analysis or the Lick Run MasterPlan, Deb Leonard will get you a copy.

Comments are being accepted through September 3. These comments will be provided to city Council as well as the Board of commissioners. Please feel free to provide more detailed comments through our website or once again I could forward them if you send them directly to me.

Thanks for the note and have a good weekend.

Thank you,

MaryLynn Lodor  
 Environmental Programs Manager, MSDGC  
 1600 Gest Street  
 Cincinnati, Ohio  
 513.244.5535  
 513.562.7220 cell

[www.projectgroundwork.org](http://www.projectgroundwork.org)

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** mary rook <mimiyoga1@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** August 24, 2012 5:35:31 PM EDT  
**To:** Mary Lynn Loder <MaryLynn.Lodor@cincinnati-oh.gov>  
**Subject:** **Sorry to miss your community forums**

Hi Mary Lynn,

I really wanted to make one of your meetings, but we are down to one car and my husband does not get home from work until between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. I fully support your daylighting initiative. After the summer we have had and all the suffering plants and trees and animals, your initiatives become ever more important to the region's health and well-being.

I hope the community realizes how important the right decision is. Business as it has been done before won't work! I am so sorry I could not add my voice to that discussion the last 2 weeks.

Mimi Rook

 You replied on 8/29/2012 12:37 PM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** Jill Keith [jilki@aol.com] **Sent:** Wed 8/29/2012 11:06 AM  
**To:** moorel@gcfdn.org; jchischillie@projetech.com; Sigman, Christian; MSD Communications  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** MSD / South Fairmount  
**Attachments:**

To Whom it may concern,

Last evening I attended a very disturbing meeting about the MSD project proposed for South Fairmount!

MSD is proposing a landscaped, daylighted waterway to carry rainwater runoff from the western part of Cincinnati to their treatment plants. Since this proposal I have noted an increase in homes being repaired and some properties being purchased near the proposed site. I believe this is in hope of a better future for the area related to the MSD project. This area of South Fairmount is consumed with litter, blight, drugs and crime. (I know I live right in the center of it).

There are several people who are opposed to this idea for varying reasons (mostly fear of losing the few small businesses in the area). They have proposed a different idea on how this runoff should be handled.

This group of people (none of them residents of the immediate South Fairmount area) believe it would be better to clear cut over 20 acres of trees from the hillsides overlooking Cincinnati (creating even more water runoff) and build a waste treatment plant to welcome people to South Fairmount! I have been a lifelong resident of South Fairmount. The only beautiful thing about our neighborhood at this time is the tree covered hillsides surrounding the valley! If you drive over here from downtown (especially over the next few months-autumn) you will see an almost Smoky mountain looking welcome to the neighborhood. Once in the immediate area it is a lost cause. The neighborhood is a collection of run down properties and litter.

If we trade MSD's proposed plan for this treatment plant South Fairmount will be the laughing stock of Cincinnati. When the East side is taking advantage of their waterway (the Ohio river) by building expensive homes and nice restaurants why should the west side settle for continued blight topped with a waste treatment plant.

I believe the MSD's project is a catalyst needed to improve this area and hope that the businesses affected by the project can work with MSD to improve the area for the residents that are here 24/7!  
 Jill Keith

no one made a greater mistake then he who did nothing because he could only do a little--Burke

**MSD Communications**

**From:** KDMLD LaDow [ladow.k@gmail.com] **Sent:** Wed 8/29/2012 5:17 PM  
**To:** hershel@hargroveengineering.com; youngcharles@zoomtown.com; whccerlene@aol.com  
**Cc:** LaToya Moore; christian.sigman@hamilton-co.org; Hartmann, Greg; Monzel, Chris; Portune, Todd; MSD Communications  
**Subject:** South Fairmount  
**Attachments:**

I apologize if you have received this twice. It was human error rather than technical!  
 We were out-of-town and had no access to the internet, therefore we could not respond to the email we received on August 26, 2012 from Hershel Daniels of Hargrove Engineering (HE) until now:

Re: South Fairmount

Inboxx

Hershel Daniels [hershel@hargroveengineering.com](mailto:hershel@hargroveengineering.com) via [yahoo.com](http://yahoo.com)

Aug 26 (3 days ago)

to Tony, Greg, Chris, Todd, Jeff, me, youngcharles, Whccerlene, Diana, Dorothy, Jacquie, Jill, Jim, me, LaToya, Lavina, Maureen, Michael, Pam, Ray, rob, dennis, Lea, cincinnati, Yvette.Simpson

<http://southfairmount.blogspot.com/>

This is the site for all public announcements related to the public private partnership established between the South Fairmount Community Council [SFCC] and Hargrove Engineering, LLC. This agreement was agreed upon by actions of the SFCC board in October 2011 which instructed the SFCC President and Vice President to be the day to day point persons in the agreement.

Hargrove Engineering, LLC, is a established minority owned small business enterprise whose President is Fred Hargrove, Sr. PE, MBA, CCM. The business was started in 1986 and is majority owned by Fred.

Our core competencies are focused on systems engineering and integration services [SE&I]; architecture, engineering and construction management [AEC], HVAC and plumbing solutions; technical engineering services [TES]; information and communications technology services [ICT]; environmental and energy services (ESG), and; Research & Development (R&D).

At Hargrove Engineering AEC we know that Diversity of Talent and a Passion to do great work assures success. That is why we are in the process of bring together over 50 other firms from around the world into a partnership to support clients from around the globe from our new headquarters in South Fairmount.

Regards,

/s/ hershel daniels junior

HERSHEL DANIELS, JUNIOR

- \* President, Friends of the African Union
- \* Business Development Director at Hargrove Engineering, LLC [MBE AEC/GC ICT Consultant]

This transmission is intended for the sole use of the individual and entity to whom it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. You are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or duplication of this transmission by someone other than the intended addressee or its designated agent is strictly prohibited. If your receipt of this transmission is in error, please notify Hershel Daniels, Junior c/o Hargrove Engineering at [hershel@hargroveengineering.com](mailto:hershel@hargroveengineering.com)

10 attachments — [Download all attachments](#) [View all images](#)

sfcc\_hargrove\_Ham\_admin\_\_03.jpg

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Town\_Meeting.jpg

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Hargrove\_SFS\_Ver\_076\_public form.pdf

832K [View](#) [Download](#)

The 9 pages that were attached to the email contained no explanation of what the company would actually be doing to accomplish the needs and wants listed on page 4 of the document.

To establish competency, we would like to see written documentation of the projects HE has completed with regard to any

municipal/county projects they say they have been involved in. Was HE involved in an engineering consultation role?

Mr. Daniels has spoken of talks with representatives of African nations. Would HE provide documentation of these talks and their outcomes?

Would HE disclose the identification of the private entities who have been contacted for financial backing? What are the expected results?

The existence of the [southfairmount.blogspot.com](http://southfairmount.blogspot.com) website has never been mentioned as a source of information at any South Fairmount Community Council meetings where I have asked that members be contacted by email for information about meetings and proposed plans.

I suggest that HE hires an editor to review and correct the spelling, punctuation and grammar errors in the documents it publishes. The many errors discredit its professionalism.

Dave LaDow

Kathy LaDow

You forwarded this message on 9/4/2012 11:51 AM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** KDMLD LaDow [ladow.k@gmail.com] **Sent:** Wed 8/29/2012 6:09 PM  
**To:** Sigman, Christian  
**Cc:** Hartmann, Greg; Monzel, Chris; Portune, Todd; MSD Communications; LaToya Moore; whccerlene@aol.com; youngcharles@zoomtown.com  
**Subject:** Re: MSD / South Fairmount

### Attachments:

Dear Mr. Sigman.

I was not able to attend last night's South Fairmount Town Meeting presented by the South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC) President and Vice-President along with the Hargrove Engineering (HE) firm representatives. I was out-of-town until late last night.

In the following messages, Ms. Moore and Ms. Keith have described my viewpoint about the SFCC and HE Lick Run CSO proposals and actions as well as I can. This email is to reaffirm what I've said in previous emails I've written or copied to you about the lack of SFCC true representation of its members and the community.

I acknowledge the time Mr. Elliot and Mr. Young spend as officers; it's a shame that their efforts are so closely aligned with what seem to me to be the self-serving involvement of HE.

I hope as the decisions about the submission of plans to, ultimately, the EPA are finalized, HE (I assume it'll still be around even if its plan is determined to have no merit.) and the officers of the SFCC will work to address the other problems in the whole community (crime, drug dealing, blight, community involvement, attraction of new business, residential housing, etc.).

Kathy LaDow  
 Dave LaDow

On Wed, Aug 29, 2012 at 11:41 AM, LaToya Moore <[moorel@qcfndn.org](mailto:moorel@qcfndn.org)> wrote:

Dear Mr. Sigman,

I and many other South Fairmount (SF) residents echo Ms. Keith's sentiments in the note below. The notion of putting a "120 million GPD treatment facility in the community" has not been examined by a significant portion of South Fairmount residents (or anyone else for that matter). In fact, Elliott Ellis and Charles Young (South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC) president and vice president, respectively) have essentially worked on this project alone and much to exclusion of the SFCC membership. This exclusion concerns me a great deal, not only because Charles and Elliott are falsely purporting that they "represent the perspective of the community" but also because the development of a treatment facility will undoubtedly have a number of negative externalities that have yet to be thoughtfully considered.

Furthermore, I feel rather strongly that the community would like to move forward with the implementation of MSD's Lick Run alternative plan (provided that appropriate measures are in place for routine upkeep and maintenance). And while I do not want to suggest that the estimated cost of Hargrove's alternative plan is baseless; I do believe that it is unreliable and therefore should not warrant serious consideration until they are able to develop a more realistic cost estimate.

MSD has invested a tremendous amount of resources over the past two years to investigate alternative solutions to addressing overflow issues as mandated by the EPA. And as you know, this has included a

significant amount of community and stakeholder engagement. Unfortunately, the SFCC/Hargrove team has not benefited from such rich feedback. So, while I do not oppose having a second option to the MSD alternative plan, I think full consideration of any alternative would require a significant investment of time and money and I'm not sure this one is worth it.

If warranted, I am happy to have a more in depth discussion about these issues.

Thank you,

LaToya Moore

South Fairmount Resident/ Former Trustee, SFCC/ Current SFCC Member

---

LaToya L. Moore, MCP | Community Investments Program Officer

The Greater Cincinnati Foundation

200 West Fourth Street | Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2775

tel: [513-768-6109](tel:513-768-6109) | fax: [513-768-6122](tel:513-768-6122) | [www.gcfdn.org](http://www.gcfdn.org)

Follow us: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

**From:** Jill Keith [mailto:[jilki@aol.com](mailto:jilki@aol.com)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 29, 2012 11:07 AM

**To:** LaToya Moore; [jchischillie@projetechn.com](mailto:jchischillie@projetechn.com); [christian.sigman@hamilton-co.org](mailto:christian.sigman@hamilton-co.org); [msd.communications@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:msd.communications@cincinnati-oh.gov)

**Subject:** MSD / South Fairmount

To Whom it may concern,

Last evening I attended a very disturbing meeting about the MSD project proposed for South Fairmount!

MSD is proposing a landscaped, daylighted waterway to carry rainwater runoff from the western part of

cincinnati to their treatment plants. Since this proposal i have noted an increase in homes being repaired and some properties being purchased near the proposed site. I believe this is in hope of a better future for the area related to the MSD project. This area of South fairmount is consumed with litter, blight, drugs and crime. (I know I live right in the center of it).

There are several people who are opposed to this idea for varing reasons (mostly fear of loosing the few small businesses in the area). They have proposed a different idea on how this runoff should be handled.

This group of people (none of them residents of the immediate South Fairmount area) believe it would be better to clear cut over 20 acres of trees from the hillsides overlooking Cincinnati (creating even more water runoff) and build a waste treatment plant to welcome people to South Fairmount! I have been a lifelong resident of South Fairmount. The only beautiful thing about our neighborhood at this time is the tree covered hillsides surrounding the valley! If you drive over here from downtown (especially over the next few months-autumn) you will see an almost Smoky mountain looking welcome to the neighborhood. Once in the immediate area it is a lost cause. The neighborhood is a collection of run down properties and litter.

If we trade MSD's proposed plan for this treatment plant South Fairmount will be the laughing stock of Cincinnati. When the East side is taking advantage of their waterway (the Ohio river) by building expensive homes and nice restaurants why should the west side settle for continued blight topped with a waste treatment plant.

I believe the MSD's project is a catalyst needed to improve this area and hope that the businesses affected by the project can work with MSD to improve the area for the residents that are here 24/7!

Jill Keith

no one made a greater mistake then he who did nothing because he could only do a little--Burke

 You replied on 8/29/2012 12:41 PM.  
This message was sent with high importance.

### MSD Communications

**From:** LaToya Moore [moorel@gcfdn.org] **Sent:** Wed 8/29/2012 11:41 AM  
**To:** 'christian.sigman@hamilton-co.org'  
**Cc:** Hartmann, Greg; Monzel, Chris; Portune, Todd; MSD Communications  
**Subject:** MSD / South Fairmount  
**Attachments:**

Dear Mr. Sigman,

I and many other South Fairmount (SF) residents echo Ms. Keith's sentiments in the note below. The notion of putting a "120 million GPD treatment facility in the community" has not been examined by a significant portion of South Fairmount residents (or anyone else for that matter). In fact, Elliott Ellis and Charles Young (South Fairmount Community Council (SFCC) president and vice president, respectively) have essentially worked on this project alone and much to exclusion of the SFCC membership. This exclusion concerns me a great deal, not only because Charles and Elliott are falsely purporting that they "represent the perspective of the community" but also because the development of a treatment facility will undoubtedly have a number of negative externalities that have yet to be thoughtfully considered.

Furthermore, I feel rather strongly that the community would like to move forward with the implementation of MSD's Lick Run alternative plan (provided that appropriate measures are in place for routine upkeep and maintenance). And while I do not want to suggest that the estimated cost of Hargrove's alternative plan is baseless; I do believe that it is unreliable and therefore should not warrant serious consideration until they are able to develop a more realistic cost estimate.

MSD has invested a tremendous amount of resources over the past two years to investigate alternative solutions to addressing overflow issues as mandated by the EPA. And as you know, this has included a significant amount of community and stakeholder engagement. Unfortunately, the SFCC/Hargrove team has not benefited from such rich feedback. So, while I do not oppose having a second option to the MSD alternative plan, I think full consideration of any alternative would require a significant investment of time and money and I'm not sure this one is worth it.

If warranted, I am happy to have a more in depth discussion about these issues.

Thank you,

LaToya Moore

South Fairmount Resident/ Former Trustee, SFCC/ Current SFCC Member

---

LaToya L. Moore, MCP | Community Investments Program Officer

The Greater Cincinnati Foundation

200 West Fourth Street | Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2775

tel: 513-768-6109 | fax: 513-768-6122 | [www.gcfdn.org](http://www.gcfdn.org)

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**From:** Jill Keith [mailto:jilki@aol.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 29, 2012 11:07 AM

**To:** LaToya Moore; jchischillie@projetech.com; christian.sigman@hamilton-co.org;  
msd.communications@cincinnati-oh.gov

**Subject:** MSD / South Fairmount

To Whom it may concern,

Last evening I attended a very disturbing meeting about the MSD project proposed for South Fairmount!

MSD is proposing a landscaped, daylighted waterway to carry rainwater runoff from the western part of Cincinnati to their treatment plants. Since this proposal I have noted an increase in homes being repaired and some properties being purchased near the proposed site. I believe this is in hope of a better future for the area related to the MSD project. This area of South Fairmount is consumed with litter, blight, drugs and crime. (I know I live right in the center of it).

There are several people who are opposed to this idea for varying reasons (mostly fear of losing the few small businesses in the area). They have proposed a different idea on how this runoff should be handled.

This group of people (none of them residents of the immediate South Fairmount area) believe it would be better to clear cut over 20 acres of trees from the hillsides overlooking Cincinnati (creating even more water runoff) and build a waste treatment plant to welcome people to South Fairmount! I have been a lifelong resident of South Fairmount. The only beautiful thing about our neighborhood at this time is the tree covered hillsides surrounding the valley! If you drive over here from downtown (especially over the next few months-autumn) you will see an almost Smoky mountain looking welcome to the neighborhood. Once in the immediate area it is a lost cause. The neighborhood is a collection of run down properties and litter.

If we trade MSD's proposed plan for this treatment plant South Fairmount will be the laughing stock of Cincinnati. When the East side is taking advantage of their waterway (the Ohio river) by building expensive homes and nice restaurants why should the west side settle for continued blight topped with a waste treatment plant.

I believe the MSD's project is a catalyst needed to improve this area and hope that the businesses affected by the project can work with MSD to improve the area for the residents that are here 24/7!

Jill Keith

no one made a greater mistake then he who did nothing because he could only do a little--Burke

 You replied on 8/29/2012 2:38 PM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** Ray West [lbb@fuse.net] **Sent:** Wed 8/29/2012 2:09 PM  
**To:** christian.sigman@hamilton-co.org  
**Cc:** roxanne.qualls@gmail.com; MSD Communications  
**Subject:** South Fairmount  
**Attachments:**

Mr. Sigman:

I wish to add my voice to the chorus of South Fairmount residents stating that the president and vice president of the South Fairmount Community Council do not speak for us. I write as a longtime resident and property owner in South Fairmount.

The announcement that the South Fairmount Community Council is advocating for a sewer treatment plant in the neighborhood was news to me. This was not made known to the community until after the SFCC officers had presented the concept to you. There was no public awareness or consideration of this prior to their presentation to you. There was certainly no vote of South Fairmount residents, property owners and/or businesses on this proposal prior to the SFCC officers presentation of it to you.

The neighborhood also learned last night that Hargrove Engineering has presumably been signing letters of intent with various parties outside the city for implementation of elements of their plan. This too has had no proper oversight from the community. The legality of this is certainly open for questioning.

While the neighborhood has quietly allowed the president and vice president of the South Fairmount Community Council to speak for the neighborhood for many years now, that period of our history may fast be drawing to a close.

The level of input which the Metropolitan Sewer District solicited from the neighborhood throughout this process was far greater than anything the neighborhood had experienced for decades. While there are undoubtedly some questions still to be worked out, overall the MSD is definitely to be complimented on its very professional work on this project.

Thank you for your consideration. I do hope in the coming months South Fairmount will have more positive news to report.

Ray West

Ray West

Executive Director

Interfaith Business Builders

1707 Westwood Avenue

Cincinnati, OH 45214

[ibb@fuse.net](mailto:ibb@fuse.net)

[www.interfaithbusinessbuilders.org](http://www.interfaithbusinessbuilders.org)

(w) 513-557-3600

(f) 513-557-3601

 You forwarded this message on 8/31/2012 1:03 PM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** Margo Warminski [margo@cincinnati-preservation.org] **Sent:** Thu 8/30/2012 3:30 PM  
**To:** MSD Communications  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** comments: Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy  
**Attachments:**

Comments: Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

The Lick Run Alternative offers an opportunity to create a unique amenity while solving a critical environmental problem, and could be transformational for the neighborhood. CPA is pleased to see the plan calls for saving historic buildings when feasible. These resources add value to the project and create a unique sense of place. We encourage MSD to save as many historic buildings as possible, by avoidance or relocation: for example, selected National Register-eligible properties could be moved and reused. We would be happy to work with MSD to seek funding to help make this happen.

Regardless of which plan is chosen, the heavy volume of high-speed traffic through the valley will need to be addressed to encourage reinvestment. The neighborhood will not be repopulated as a livable, walkable community with a revitalized business district unless residents feel comfortable living there and walking the streets.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important project.

--

Margo Warminski  
 Preservation Director  
 Cincinnati Preservation Association  
 Field Representative, National Trust for Historic Preservation  
 342 West Fourth Street  
 Cincinnati, OH 45202  
 Phone 513-721-4506  
 Fax 513-721-6832  
[www.cincinnati-preservation.org](http://www.cincinnati-preservation.org)  
[margo@cincinnati-preservation.org](mailto:margo@cincinnati-preservation.org)

Preservation field services provided by Cincinnati Preservation Association are assisted by a Partners in the Field challenge grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

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**MSD Communications**

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**From:** Tom Carroll [tcarroll@lovelandoh.com] **Sent:** Fri 8/31/2012 2:52 PM  
**To:** MSD Communications  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** City of Loveland Comments on Lower Mill Creek Involvement  
**Attachments:**  [Tony Parrott, 8-31-2012.pdf\(727KB\)](#)

Please find attached our letter.

Please also note that the due date of September 3, 2012 is a legal holiday. More care and consideration should be given to selecting due dates for public comment which are not set aside to honor the labors and sacrifices of hard working Americans.

Tom Carroll  
City Manager



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City of Loveland

August 31, 2012

James A. Parrott  
Executive Director  
Metropolitan Sewer District  
1600 Gest Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45204

Re: Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

Dear Mr. Parrott:

As a stakeholder and the owner of certain sewer assets in the Polk Run Wastewater system, including the Polk Run Wastewater Treatment Plant, the City of Loveland is concerned about recent developments related to Metropolitan Sewer District's implementation of the Consent Decree as it relates to the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy.

Having reviewed MSD's presentation related to the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy, the City of Loveland wants to ensure that MSD pursues the most expeditious and cost effective solution to implementing the federal mandates contained in the Consent Decree. MSD should be implementing projects to comply with the Consent Decree in accordance with the time parameters stated therein, and preferably sooner. Any alternatives which do not comply with the Consent Decree obligations, which are more costly because the solutions accomplish policy objectives outside of the Consent Decree, and that do not expedite the completion date for the Consent Decree, are opposed by the City of Loveland.

I trust this comment will be helpful as you pursue submitting a solution to federal and state regulators by the end of 2012. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (513) 683-0150 or by Email at [TCarroll@lovelandoh.com](mailto:TCarroll@lovelandoh.com)

Sincerely,

Tom Carroll  
City Manager

 You replied on 8/31/2012 2:39 PM.

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**MSD Communications**

**From:** Tom Ewing [Tewing@cincinnati-chamber.com]

**Sent:** Fri 8/31/2012 2:27 PM

**To:** MSD Communications

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Comments: Project Groundwork

**Attachments:**  [CinUSACmntsPrjctGrndwrk083112.pdf\(96KB\)](#)

MSD Communications:

Please add the attached comments from the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber to the formal docket pertaining to Project Groundwork and the Consent Decree.

Thank you.

Tom Ewing  
"reply" or  
513-579-3176

August 31, 2012

James A. Parrott  
Executive Director  
Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati  
1600 Gest Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45204

Dear Director Parrott:

Congratulations to you and your team as MSD and its partners start the final phase of Project Groundwork. The decisions and policies that emanate from Project Groundwork will affect our city and region for decades to come. It's our assessment that Project Groundwork is a strong research and evaluation project and that it can serve as a strong foundation for critical decisions regarding stormwater control in Greater Cincinnati.

At the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, I asked our Government Affairs team, in conjunction with the Chamber's Environment Committee, to review Project Groundwork. That review has prompted the following comments and suggestions. I hope that you and the Hamilton County Commissioners find these suggestions helpful and that they will become part of your final review process as you and your team move towards a Phase 1 decision, due by the end of December, 2012.

A central element, perhaps the central element within Project Groundwork is which path to choose regarding a set of multi-million dollar projects, projects that must keep two billion gallons of stormwater out of MSD's combined system. MSD has concluded that there are two viable pathways to reach the 2 billion gallon goal. MSD refers to the two pathways as the Grey Alternative and the Sustainable Alternative, or the Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative. On behalf of the Chamber's review team, I appreciate the chance to offer comments on these Alternatives.

Our top concern is that the selected alternative meets all of the Consent Decree mandates. In addition, that compliance is met in the most cost effective ways and provides a level of assurance that this set of stormwater problems is behind us. The selected Alternative *must* provide a *permanent* solution, not something that requires constant attention and investment.

Prior to any decision, there are a number of outstanding issues that need further resolution. These issues are expanded upon below.

#### Impacts on Ratepayers.

In MSD's June 2012 "Refined & Updated Report" (hereafter, the Report) rates are only briefly dealt with (see page 112). It appears that either Alternative will require an increase in revenue of 8% each year between 2013 and 2016, with a decline in increases between 2016 and 2018. We

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441 Vine Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-2812  
phone 513.579.3100  
fax 513.579.3101

seek greater clarity and detail regarding the projected increases. We think the following information needs to be presented and evaluated:

1. Does the 8% increase reflect revenue needed *just* for the Consent Decree projects or does the increase include revenue for *all* of MSD's upcoming infrastructure and operational costs between now and 2030? MSD staff has indicated that the 8% increase will cover all costs, that it is not just the marginal increase required for either Alternative. We think the Report needs to confirm, through a much more expansive rate presentation, that the 8% increase reflects the *entirety* of MSD's revenue requirements.
2. Does the 8% estimate include an inflationary factor? If so, what is that factor?
3. One particular concern with rates stems from the fact that specific projects and decisions in Phase 2, starting in 2019, are not as well-defined as plans for Phase 1. This could set up a rather open-ended set of conditions and choices, with impacts on rates. How likely is it that the 8% projected rate increase for Phase 1 will continue into Phase 2? What is the likelihood that the rate increase will be higher or lower?
4. We are concerned that MSD rates will reach a tipping point for private investors, that rate levels will present a business cost judged to be too high and that new investments and facility expansions will move out of Hamilton County. Surely, this is a worst-case scenario but an expanded attention to rates, within the Project Groundwork analysis, would provide further insight and clarity on this critical issue.

#### Partnerships.

Throughout MSD's extensive reporting, the Sustainable Alternative appears to require many partnerships with agencies under the purview of the City of Cincinnati, including, for example, the Parks Department, Recreation, and Transportation and Engineering. From discussions with MSD staff, these partnerships are not critical for meeting the goals required in Phase 1. But we are not as clear regarding the need in Phase 2. MSD writes that Phase 1 is "not predicated on a well-defined plan for future Phase 2 requirements." That flexibility can be good and, true, MSD may be able to easily and readily move into Phase 2. However, Phase 2 could also present additional, unforeseen difficulties – technically and economically. We think the following information needs to be made available and evaluated prior to the December 31 decision:

1. How formal do possible partnerships need to be? It is not clear, for example, how money and resources will be handled across or between agencies and how regulators may view enforcement and responsibilities for project performance and maintenance. It's critical to note that the Consent Decree and on-the-ground results are mandatory and enforceable. The stormwater reduction has to occur and be maintained in perpetuity.
2. Consider, for example, the following scenario: The Parks Department becomes newly responsible for 50 or 100 acres of new greenspace declared to be an integral component for redirecting surface runoff. If the performance of that component degrades, or does not work as planned, what are the ramifications and choices and possible impacts for the City, the County and ratepayers regarding fines and mandatory redirection of resources? Is it possible, for example, that instead of spending money on Krohn Conservatory the Parks Department would have to use that money for Consent Decree requirements? Has the Parks Department agreed to do that?

#### Timing:

In its June, 2012, "Alternatives Evaluations Preliminary Findings Report" MSD references the still developing relationship between Phase 1 and Phase 2:

The definition of longer-term compliance will be determined at some point in the future when MSD submits a Phase 2 plan for USEPA consideration. As previously stated, the decision for the LMCPR is not predicated on a well-defined plan for future Phase 2 Improvements. Rather, it needs to be demonstrated that the selected LMCPR is viable and fits into a conceptual Phase 2 solution.

The inherent flexibility presented here can be an advantageous feature. It's our assessment that the Sustainable Alternative, on its face, seems viable. Nevertheless, in order to strengthen the decision making process we suggest further development of a "confidence level", if you will, regarding the "viability" and "fit" between either Phase 1 Alternative and subsequent demands in a Phase 2 solution. After all, Phase 2 is not that far away – It starts in 2019, just six years after the December, 2012 decision. What is the peer reviewed professional standard that should apply to projects of this magnitude with similar regulatory mandates? Either alternative must provide the greatest degree of certainty that these critical investments will meet the mandates of the Consent Decree.

In a summary cost table (Report, page 13) MSD calculates that the Grey Alternative would cost \$537.4 million. The Sustainable Alternative would be quite a bit less: \$317.4 million. That cost delta surely supports the Sustainable choice.

However, the total final remedy, after Phase 2, for the Grey Alternative is \$1.18 billion. The total cost for what becomes known as the "Hybrid Option" – apparently because it includes projects from both the Grey and Alternative choices – is \$1.24 billion – a \$60 million difference. The possibility exists that MSD could start with the Sustainable option and complete it in Phase 1. But there is the likelihood that those Sustainable results will not be acceptable and require costly variations in Phase 2. True, there is also the likelihood that the Phase 1 Sustainable investments will develop and function as predicted and MSD can continue with a Sustainable option for Phase 2 and complete the second Phase at a much lower cost: \$629.9 million.

Again, we think that the decision-making process would be strengthened and draw broader support if the confidence levels among these expensive choices were more fully developed and clearly presented.

Another issue related to cost and expense is the possibility of "LMCPR Schedule Extensions" referenced in the November, 2009, "Final Wet Weather Improvement Program." This text (see page 3, WWIP) seems to allow an extended schedule if project costs exceed the original estimate of \$244 million, which is surely the case now. We seek clarity on the meaning of these possible extensions and whether they set a policy option that could be helpful at this critical point in Project Groundwork.

#### Business Relocation:

For either Alternative, businesses in South Fairmount will be impacted. These impacts present issues beyond the engineering and environmental nature of the June Report. Still, a review process regarding either preferred Alternative must include economic impacts for current business operations. To the extent that businesses must be relocated we urge the City and County to do everything possible to help businesses stay close to their customers, employees and suppliers within the South Fairmount area.

**City-County Control of MSD:**

The City-County 50-year MSD ownership and operating agreement is due to expire in 2018. The timeline for Project Groundwork runs well past that important date. To the extent the issues of ownership, management and public finance could or will impact Project Groundwork, we believe that those, too, are issues that need to be brought into the discussion of an Alternative. What might a change in utility ownership and management mean for Project Groundwork's contractual and financial obligations and commitments? Hopefully, a future managerial and operational transition for MSD can be smoothly accomplished. But to the extent those imminent decisions affect Project Groundwork's demands, we believe it would be wise to begin to address such issues earlier, not later.

**Conclusion:**

The direction set by the decision due on December 31, 2012, will impact Greater Cincinnati for decades to come. Because of mandates and enforcement provisions we need a decision that reduces, to the greatest degree, the likelihood that agency and political leadership will have to constantly focus on the many complex and expensive issues inherent in the Consent Decree.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments. Please contact me if you have any questions or seek additional information about the concerns or the issues we have raised here.

Regards,



Matt Davis, Vice President  
Government Affairs  
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber  
513-579-3143  
mdavis@cincinnatiachamber.com

 You replied on 8/31/2012 4:31 PM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** kendra@fuse.net [kendra@fuse.net] **Sent:** Fri 8/31/2012 3:08 PM  
**To:** Sigman, Christian; Portune, Todd; Monzel, Chris; Hartmann, Greg; Mallory, Mayor; Quinlivan, Laure; Young, Wendell; Winburn, Charlie; Seelbach, Chris; Simpson, Yvette; Sittenfeld, P.G.; Qualls, Roxanne; Thomas, Cecil; Smitherman, Christopher; newport.bob@epa.gov  
**Cc:** MSD Communications  
**Subject:** Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy- Lick Run  
**Attachments:**

August 31, 2012

Dear Decision Maker,

This letter is being sent to show support for the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy for the Lick Run watershed. While, a tunnel may move storm water quickly, thus meeting the quantity specified to be removed in the US EPA Consent Decree, it doesn't have the same ability to improve storm water quality or impact the surrounding area.

The community in question, South Fairmount, is economically disadvantaged, and needs a jump start to return the area to a more prosperous time. If money is going to be spent, it seems best to maximize every dollar to ensure we get the most for rate payer money. Not only is the tunnel more expensive, it does little to create a positive economic impact for the host community.

The appealing factor with the "day-lighting" option is it creates more green areas and natural spaces that will become inviting destinations for the thousands of commuters that pass by daily. With new interest points, existing business will thrive, and attract more investment. Whereas, a tunnel will simply convey or hold water.

Another aspect that has to be considered is how the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy plan cultivates other opportunities in addition to economic growth, namely, health and recreation. With the emergence of this plan, other off shoots will grow. For example, walking trails, hike-bike paths, community gardens, rain gardens, educational opportunities, and natural areas are all possible with this option.

The LM CPR will also appeal to surrounding communities. Right now there is little interaction between neighborhoods, and this project could launch projects in surrounding communities to improve connectivity and capitalize on the new interest in South Fairmount.

Another important aspect to the LM CPR plan is it will substantially improve the quality of our storm water by physically separating it from sanitary flow. Not only is this more effective management of our resources, but it also reduces operating costs at MSD plants because they will be treating less water. Plus the natural effect of the water flow being controlled and tempered will help reduce erosion and sedimentary fill-in. The action of water traveling over rocks and riffles will also help remove particulate impurities, which is also important to aquatic life.

To summarize, there is no question that any choice will cost rate payers a lot of money, but if we are being forced to choose, let us pick the option that has the most holistic effect, and does the most for the least cost, namely the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy. By selecting

this option, it opens up new possibilities for subsequent projects, and welcomes in new and innovative thinking for solving our long-term storm water management issues. I hope you will agree!

Sincerely,

---

Kendra G. Schroer, MCP, CHMM

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### MSD Communications

**From:** Jacque Chischillie [jac.3sisters@hotmail.com] **Sent:** Mon 9/3/2012 4:42 PM  
**To:** Sigman, Christian  
**Cc:** moorel@gcfdn.org; Hartmann, Greg; Monzel, Chris; Portune, Todd; MSD Communications; jilki@aol.com  
**Subject:** MSD Lick Run Project  
**Attachments:**  MSD Lick Run Project.doc(66KB)

September 3, 2012

Mr. Christian Sigman  
 County Administrator  
 138 E. Court Street, Room 603  
 Cincinnati, OH 45202

Re: Lick Run Alternatives  
 MSD Combined Sewer Overflow Project

Dear Mr Sigman:

As a longtime resident of South Fairmount I have attended almost all of the meetings presented by the MSD and recently was present while Hargrove Engineering LLC presented their alternative to the South Fairmount City Council. I understand that something has to be done to reduce sewer overflows into the Mill Creek so one option will need to be selected to satisfy the EPA consent decree. As I understand it we the citizens have three options.

Option 1: Dig a very deep tunnel and use a large pumping station to convey large rainwater overflows deep under the Mill Creek,

Option 2: Build a large lake and creek structure to daylight the rain water overflow which can then evaporate into the atmosphere,

Option 3: - Hargrove's solution - Build a new treatment plant that will be large enough to treat approximately 800,000 gallons of rainwater.

All three options will require substantial capital investment. Option 1 and 3 will require energy to drive pumps and treatment equipment. Option 2 will require ongoing maintenance to the newly created lake.

Option 1 is the default option suggested by the EPA when they issued the consent decree.

- This option solves the problem by using an electrical energy to send the water deep underground.
- The goal of reducing overflow is accomplished and the residents of South Fairmount are left with a status quo neighborhood.
- In addition the natural path of the Lick Run remains permanently altered.

Option 2 is the MSD alternative to daylight the water. This option:

- Restores the Lick Run to its natural state and any additional rainwater can naturally evaporate.

- Evaporation would be an environmentally friendly process that does not require any additional energy and has been part of proven solutions in many cities addressing this same issue.
- A third auxiliary benefit would be to create a new urban green space that could be used to attract new investment to our neighborhood

Option 3 presented by Hargrove Engineering LLC would construct a new pumping station and treatment plant.

- This treatment plant would operate using Hargrove's patented technology to use a nitrogen rich environment to starve the bacteria and clean the sewer water.
- A 20 acre site on the side of hill would need to be cleared of old growth forest for the construction of the plant.
- Significant electrical energy would be consumed by the process to separate nitrogen from the air.
- Working with nitrogen has its own list of hazards as well as requiring trained workers to operate safely in the environment.
- This alternative would require the as much energy if not more to operate. It also does not remove the unnecessary step of treating rainwater.
- Lastly, Hargrove could not cite any examples of this technology being used by a similar sized city to reduce overflows.

As a lifetime resident I am writing this letter in support of the MSD daylighting option for the following reasons:

- Daylighting and evaporation uses passive technology which will require the least energy going forward to accomplish the goal of reducing sewer overflows.
- The project would be able to be scaled or modified should the need arise to reduce sewer overflows in the future.
- This option restores the natural flow of the Lick Run

I believe that returning waterways to their original state is consistent with providing a more sustainable urban living environment. The Hargrove alternative uses technology which has not been proven and might in the end fall short of reducing the overflow enough to meet the EPA decree. This could potentially result in fines which would be paid by the MSD customers.

Let it be clear that there are many residents of South Fairmount who feel that the South Fairmount Community Council is excluding them from their decision-making and therefore are not represented by the Council in this matter. We also empathize with the business owners of South Fairmount and the parties who would like to see the historic treasure of South Fairmount restored. The neighborhood has been status quo for too long. The residents have waited long enough for change and revitalization, especially those of us who remember when we used to be a community, not just a neighborhood. I believe restoring the waterway is the only solution to start moving the area in the right direction - environmentally, aesthetically, economically and socially.

Regards,

*Jacquelyn Chischillie*

Jacquelyn Chischillie  
1692 Harrison Ave  
Cincinnati, OH 45214

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**MSD Communications**

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**From:** Robin Corathers [robin@groundworkcincinnati.org] **Sent:** Mon 9/3/2012 7:36 PM  
**To:** Parrott, Tony; MSD Communications  
**Cc:** Lodor, MaryLynn  
**Subject:** Please see attachment  
**Attachments:**  [MSD LMC Partial Remedy Comments 9-3-12.pdf\(1MB\)](#)

--  
Robin Corathers  
Executive Director

Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek  
1617 Elmore Court  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45223  
513-731-8400 telephone  
513-731-8404 fax  
[robin@groundworkcincinnati.org](mailto:robin@groundworkcincinnati.org)  
[www.groundworkcincinnati.org](http://www.groundworkcincinnati.org)



# Groundwork Cincinnati

---

## Mill Creek



September 3, 2012

To: Tony Parrott, Director, Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati

Cc: Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek Board of Trustees

From: Robin Corathers, Executive Director, Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek.

Re: Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

### **I. Introduction**

Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek (formerly Mill Creek Restoration Project) has participated on the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD) Communities of the Future Committee and in MSD's Lower Mill Creek public meetings and design workshops. The nonprofit has also reviewed the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report (LMCPR report) and offers the following comments:

### **II. General Comments**

Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek endorses the Phase 1 Sustainable Alternative proposed by MSD. The Sustainable Alternative is watershed-based and holistic in scope, concentrating on source control with strategic Green Infrastructure projects (e.g., reforestation, stream restoration and daylighting, wetlands, rain gardens, green roofs and walls, and bio-swales).

These approaches are ecologically and fiscally sound and provide multiple benefits for Mill Creek neighborhoods and communities. Source control reduces the volume of stormwater and natural stream flows that enter combined sewers, preventing and reducing combined sewer overflows (CSOs) to Mill Creek and its tributary streams. Groundwork Cincinnati understands that additional grey infrastructure (e.g., the Sustainable/Hybrid Alternative) will also be needed to meet MSD Consent Decree requirements in the heavily urbanized Lower Mill Creek Watershed.

Over the past three years, MSD could have focused solely on building a far more expensive deep tunnel that the public would never see and that would have higher life cycle and energy costs to operate and maintain. The Hamilton County Commission, the City, and MSD are to be commended for their foresight in developing a viable alternative to a deep tunnel that saves dollars; engages diverse public and private partners; uses sewer improvements as a catalyst for stimulating economic reinvestment in Lower Mill Creek neighborhoods; and provides other major environmental, economic, social, and public health benefits to the broader community.

Groundwork Cincinnati is committed to collaborating with MSD whenever possible on implementation of Phase 1 and 2 Sustainable Alternative Green Infrastructure projects and to integrating sustainable

watershed solutions into its ongoing Mill Creek environmental education programming. The nonprofit is willing to raise outside funds to underwrite some of the work ahead, including creating greenways, trails and other ecological improvements along daylighted portions of Lick Run and West Fork Creek. Further, Groundwork Cincinnati will continue to participate on the MSD Communities of the Future Advisory Committee and the Policy subcommittee, and to contribute to the development of the Lower Mill Creek Watershed Action Plan that will address other sources of water quality and biological impairments.

Groundwork Cincinnati/Mill Creek is a dynamic, community-based nonprofit working in the Lower Mill Creek Watershed with the City of Cincinnati and other diverse partners to regenerate the health of Mill Creek and other natural resources, to revitalize economically depressed neighborhoods, to recycle derelict properties for productive reuse, and to build community capacity by educating youth and providing training and employment opportunities for adults. To date, the nonprofit has provided year-round environmental education programming for 26,000 youth; completed 25 ecological (wetlands, wildlife habitat, water quality, streambanks, and floodplains) projects; and constructed and landscaped 3.5 miles of the Mill Creek Greenway Trail in the Lower Mill Creek Watershed.

### III. Specific Comments

**1. Butler County Impacts on Mill Creek Water Quality:** In Chapter 12 of the LMCPR report, it indicates that even if MSD eliminates all of the CSOs to Mill Creek in Hamilton County, Mill Creek will still not reach water quality standards because bacteria levels will remain high from upstream Butler County sources. **This is a critical issue impacting public health, water quality, and the ultimate net benefit of the MSD Consent Decree that must be resolved.**

**2. Water Quality and Recreational Use in Lower Mill Creek:** The LMCPR report notes that channelization and industrial and transportation uses along the Lower Mill Creek severely limit recreational use of the river, and therefore reducing CSOs will not have a significant impact on public health or increase the number of days when there is recreational use of Mill Creek. Groundwork Cincinnati believes this picture is changing with development of the Mill Creek Greenway Trail; ecological improvements taking place in and along the river; and incremental improvements in water quality from CSO projects MSD has completed to date. As MSD continues to eliminate and reduce CSOs, thereby reducing public health risks, Mill Creek neighborhoods will increasingly want to recapture the river's benefits. Water quality is a high priority for these economically disadvantaged communities.

You forwarded this message on 9/4/2012 11:43 AM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** Comcast Guard [ka\_karfe@msn.com]  
**To:** MSD Communications  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** comments on Consent Decree solution  
**Attachments:**

**Sent:** Mon 9/3/2012 7:18 PM

### The Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy - Presentation August 16, 2012 Comments

#### I recommend that MSD implement the Tunnel

After attending MSD's presentation and reviewing the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report, dated June 26, 2012 it became obvious the only project that will meet the 85% control of CSO's in the Mill Creek Basin is the tunnel.

Per the report: the tunnel (Phase I and II) has the lowest cost to achieve 85% control at every CSO and provides more alternatives for Carthage and SSO 700 solutions.  
 (Page 26)

I would interpret this to mean the default tunnel project (Phase I) was to provide 85% control to the bottom eleven CSO's (002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 007, 009, 125, 428, 429 and 666) not just in two or three areas.

The Sustainable Option (Phase 1) is just another gray solution of storm pipes that will dump 2,978,000,000 gallons of highly polluted urban stormwater into the waterways of Hamilton County disguised as a faux creek and wet lands. The faux-creek and wet lands planned for Lick Run Drainage Basin is a good idea in theory but too small to provide adequate treatment to meet the Consent Decree. As sited in the EPA Urban Fact Sheet (841-F-03-003), "Urbanization increases the variety and amount of pollutants carried into streams, rivers and lakes. The pollutants include: sediment, oil, grease and toxic chemicals from motor vehicles, pesticides and nutrients from lawns and gardens, viruses, bacteria and nutrients from pet waste and failing septic systems, road salts, heavy metals from roof shingles, motor vehicles and other sources, thermal pollution from dark impervious surfaces such as streets and roof tops." The Sustainable Option will not be able to remove these pollutants based on the design plan. It does not provide a large enough wet land to treat the amount of pollutants that will be present.

If the Sustainable Option is selected who is going to be responsible for treating this highly polluted urban storm water, Hamilton County?, City of Cincinnati?, or the Sewer rate payers? What will this cost?

As Tony Parrott stated, "solutions can be two fold;" but the obvious solution should benefit the greatest number of sewer rate payers and not just the city residents. Maybe it is time to fix the problem and leave city re-development to the City Manager and City Counsel to be paid for out of their budget and not the pockets of the county sewer rate payers.

**CHOOSE THE TUNNEL!**

**Thank you,  
Kathleen Karle  
513-922-0574**

 You replied on 9/3/2012 1:41 PM.

**MSD Communications**

**From:** Michael Patton [michaearlpatton@yahoo.com] **Sent:** Mon 9/3/2012 10:29 AM  
**To:** MSD Communications  
**Cc:** MikeStautberg  
**Subject:** Comments on Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy  
**Attachments:**

We need to know the costs of the alternatives with respect to the \$1.5 billion trigger contained in the Consent Decree (Section IX) and the 2% of median income trigger mentioned in the public meeting on August 23. Where are we now with respect to these triggers and where will we be after either of the alternatives is constructed?

Further we need to know the amount, in dollars, each of these alternatives will have on the typical water/sewage bill. Again, what is the typical residential (i.e., house) bill now and what will it be in the future after either of these alternatives is constructed?

I must, from past experience with MSD on questions of this nature, make it clear that in the second paragraph I am talking about residences -- especially houses -- where the owners or occupants are billed directly by MSD. I am not, repeat NOT, talking about apartment buildings or condos where the bill is divided amongst the various parties. If MSD does not have that information separately, then the data from customers with a 5/8 inch meter size may be used.

I am very concerned about the constantly escalating costs and the effect this will have on the typical homeowner. The effect is to drive those from moderate means either out of Hamilton County or to force them to sell their houses and to move into an apartment.

These costs also will hinder industries which use a large amount of water from moving here, My guess is that this will especially affect the food industry. They used to be a much stronger presence in Cincinnati than today. I think that the rising sewage costs helped drive them out.

Michael Earl Patton

 You forwarded this message on 9/4/2012 6:54 PM.

**MSD Communications**

**From:** Ed Bemer [edbemer@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** Tue 9/4/2012 2:49 PM

**To:** MSD Communications

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Response to MSD Town Hall Meeting 8/16/2012

**Attachments:**

Gentlemen;

We are frustrated that after two years the same story is still be told.  
Oblige the businesses of South Fairmont with decent offers and move on.

Edward J. Bemerer, President  
BLK Properties  
1551 Queen City Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214  
513-921-4500  
FAX: 513-921-4598  
EMAIL: [edbemer@hotmail.com](mailto:edbemer@hotmail.com)

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**MSD Communications**

**From:** Jennifer Eismeler [jeismeler@millcreekwatershed.org] **Sent:** Tue 9/4/2012 11:11 AM  
**To:** MSD Communications  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Comments on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy  
**Attachments:**  [mcwcc partialremedy comments 090312.pdf\(157KB\)](#)

Attached please find the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities' comments on MSD's Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy. Thank you for the opportunity to submit feedback.

Jennifer Eismeler

Jennifer Eismeler

Executive Director

Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities

720 East Pete Rose Way, Suite 420  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

ph: 513.563.8800 fax: 513.621.9325

mobile: 513.509.9959

[jeismeler@millcreekwatershed.org](mailto:jeismeler@millcreekwatershed.org)



September 3, 2012

Mr. James A. Parrott  
Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati  
1600 Gest Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45204

Re: Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy

Dear Mr. Parrott:

On behalf of the Mill Creek Watershed Council of Communities (MCWCC), we are writing to support the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy (LMCPR) offered for public comment by the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD). MCWCC was formed to build consensus among the 37 political jurisdictions of the Mill Creek Watershed and undertake initiatives that improve the Mill Creek and its tributaries. MSD's proposed LMCPR demonstrates tremendous investment in an environmentally and economically superior alternative to the default tunnel solution, an alternative which will deliver watershed-scale improvements consistent with MCWCC's founding mission and community-driven work.

The benefit of a watershed approach is a holistic assessment of both water quantity and quality impairments, and a thoughtful comprehensive approach to reducing those impairments. MSD's consent decree mandate is tied solely to volumetric reduction, not to specific water quality improvements. MCWCC sees the lack of specific water quality improvement benchmarks as a weakness of the LMCPR. As partners in development of the Lower Mill Creek Watershed Action Plan (LMC WAP), the State of Ohio's process for identifying and addressing water quality impairments, MCWCC and MSD, among others, have a responsibility to aggressively pursue water quality improvement. We strongly encourage MSD to continue this engagement beyond its regulatory mandate of volumetric control.

MCWCC commends MSD for its rigorous pursuit of a feasible alternative to the default tunnel solution. We firmly believe implementation of the LMCPR, undertaken in tandem with water quality improvement delivered through the LMC WAP, and community revitalization efforts through brownfield redevelopment and continued construction of the Mill Creek Greenway trail, will bring us all leagues closer to realizing the vision of the Mill Creek as an amenity that improves quality of life and makes Greater Cincinnati an outstanding example of environmental stewardship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Koehler".

Bruce Koehler  
Chair, Board of Trustees

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Eismeier".

Jennifer Eismeier  
Executive Director

 You forwarded this message on 9/6/2012 3:09 PM.

**MSD Communications**

**From:** Lodor, MaryLynn  
**To:** MSD Communications

**Sent:** Tue 9/4/2012 5:40 PM

**Cc:**  
**Subject:** FW: LMCPR - Good Job!

**Attachments:**

MaryLynn Lodor

Environmental Program Manager

MSDGC - Office of Director

1600 Gest Street

Cincinnati, Ohio 45204

513.244.5535 - direct

513.562.7220 - mobile

[www.projectgroundwork.org](http://www.projectgroundwork.org)

---

**From:** Patricia Garry [<mailto:patricia.garry@cdcagc.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 04, 2012 5:12 PM  
**To:** Lodor, MaryLynn  
**Subject:** LMCPR - Good Job!

Thanks for the two docs you had delivered to me last week! I am impressed – and I really love the quote Roxanne Qualls gave you in the Executive Summary. I have been very happy with the openness and forward thinking MSD has shown throughout this project.

Keep up the good work!

: > Patricia

Patricia Garry

Executive Director

Community Development Corporations

Association of Greater Cincinnati

2859 Colerain Avenue #11

Cincinnati, OH 45225

(v) 513.281.3774

(f) 513.281.6600

(e) [patricia.garry@cdcagc.org](mailto:patricia.garry@cdcagc.org)

(w) [www.cdcagc.org](http://www.cdcagc.org)

You forwarded this message on 9/4/2012 11:44 AM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** Ed Gutfreund [egutfreund@fuse.net]

**Sent:** Tue 9/4/2012 12:04 AM

**To:** MSD Communications

**Cc:**

**Subject:** Public Feedback

**Attachments:**

To The Staff of MSD:

We attended the recent public meeting on August 23rd concerning the options being considered for the Lower Mill Creek partial remedy.

We live in Wooden Shoe Hollow, very near the CSO 217 which regularly overflows into King's Run Creek, which is a border of our property. We have witnessed serious erosion which has taken land from our property over the years and we have regularly observed the unsanitary and unsafe water conditions when the creek is flooded with sewage.

**We want the preferred remedy to be the choice of an alternative, sustainable, green solution for the project. We want the solution to be sustainable, affordable, and most of all effective.**

### Effectiveness of Plan

We have attended many meetings, and, based on some previous discussion, appreciate the changes that separate the sewers from storm water carriers. It makes sense to not treat "clean" rain water, though there is some question of the pollutants which are accumulated from road oils, etc. and the fertilizers used in lawn and landscape treatments.

There is no need to wait until some unknown time to implement "storm water management tools that advance water quality and quantity". This is low hanging fruit. It seems most important to slow and integrate water accumulation near the sources which means homeowners usage, commercial and open land runoff. Commercial business run off should have more regulation and monitoring so that developers and builders have more responsibility to reduce flow with ample detention. Education and implementation of low-water use showers and toilet equipment would also control use in a significant way, and require little attention if the proper equipment is installed or retrofitted in homes and businesses. These point source controls can take the pressure off the CSO systems.

In our particular situation the control of raw sewage in the creek at the edge of our property is of utmost importance. Slow progress that only has a goal of

gradually getting to 75% clean in many years is unacceptable in our perspective. Since the water that is planned to be treated by the EHRT station further upstream will be "discharged into the Mill Creek," will it end up in King's Run Creek on its way to the Mill Creek? What volume of water is expected to go into the creek in a high rain event? How can the creek tolerate potential additional water without worse erosion? What plans does MSD have for stream restoration for this part of the creek which has been so badly damaged and degraded in the last 30 years?

The proposed solutions we heard do not seem to address the increasing pattern of extreme weather events with high volume severe rainfall. The recent high volume storms this year have frequently gone over the 50-100 year rain quantities. How will the Gray Road Fill owners and other future developers of land in the area be held accountable for detaining appropriate amounts of water? The future development of the Land fill will no doubt cause additional runoff from buildings and pavement. How will they cooperate with solutions MSD proposes to control water at point sources?

Concerning "community participation and input which we we welcome": what happened to the Community Design Meeting for the King's Run Watershed that was promised after the March 2012 meeting held in Wooden Shoe Hollow? The local community is still expecting that.

We look forward to hearing your response to our comments and questions.

Sincerely,

Eileen Frechette and Ed Gutfreund  
5081 Wooden Shoe Hollow Dr.  
Cincinnati, OH 45232



 You replied on 9/4/2012 6:50 PM.

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The sender of this message has requested a read receipt. [Click here to send a receipt.](#)

### MSD Communications

**From:** Dennis [dennis@paperproductscompany.com] **Sent:** Tue 9/4/2012 1:55 PM  
**To:** MSD Communications; Lodor, MaryLynn; Parrott, Tony; Hartmann, Greg; Monzel, Chris; Portune, Todd  
**Cc:** Mallory, Mayor; Dohoney, Milton; #COUNCIL; Sittenfeld, P.G.; Qualls, Roxanne; Winburn, Charlie; Well Thoman; Ball, Karen; South Fairmount Community Council; Aluotto, Jeff; Sigman, Christian; Process Construction; butch@charterbusservice.com; tcling@udfinc.com  
**Subject:** Paper Products Co. response to MSD Town Hall Meetings!  
**Attachments:**  [MSD response letter to Town Hall meeting.pdf\(90KB\)](#)

Gentlemen,

The original date the MSD posted to respond to their 2 most recent Town Hall meetings was yesterday, September 3, 2012, Labor Day, a national holiday. Today's date should be within the deadline. While the above "attachment" represents the interests of Paper Products Co., it also represents the view point and interests of most of the members of The South Fairmount Business Association. Thank you for your consideration and we all look forward to continued dialogue.

Dennis J. Smith  
 President  
 Paper Products Company  
 1543 Queen City Avenue  
 Cincinnati, Ohio 45214  
 Office: 513-921-4717 Cell:513-739-7817  
 FAX: 513-251-5553  
 E-mail: dennis@paperproductscompany.com  
 web: www.paperproductscompany.com



PAPER PRODUCTS COMPANY  
*Manufacturers of Quality Paperboard Packaging Since 1932*

1543 QUEEN CITY AVENUE

CINCINNATI, OHIO 45214

(513) 921-4717

Fax: (513) 251-5553

September 4, 2012

Ref: Response to MSD Town Hall Meetings!

Gentlemen,

The MSD's Project Groundwork will have a dramatic impact on Paper Products Company by potentially forcing us to move on someone else's timetable from our South Fairmount location. Our industry is capital intensive and we need to update our machinery that includes printing presses and die cutters. We have 2 other manufacturing facilities nearby that support each other in the process of making folding paper boxes for the baking industry. We are a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation family owned company having been started by my father, Omer J. Smith, during the Great Depression in 1932.

Unknown to us around 2004 the Commissioners and USEPA and the courts entered into a consent decree that required the MSD to separate storm water from sewer water to solve the combined sewer overflow, CSO #5, in South Fairmount . The so called "deep tunnel" was mandated in the consent decree. At some point the MSD realized they could save rate payers and taxpayers millions of dollars by designing an alternative "green" solution referred to as "daylighting" of the old Lick Run stream. The Lick Run sewer runs directly though our property on Queen City Ave as well as through the properties of many other well established, tax paying businesses. We have two other locations -- one in Camp Washington and the other in Queensgate. We must stay very close to those locations as one supports the others in the manufacturing process.

Since the MSD and the Commissioners are considering the less costly solution, we are asking that Paper Products Company and the other businesses of South Fairmount be allotted the funds necessary above and beyond the appraised values of our properties to move to like and similar locations elsewhere without debt. We are asking that since the MSD will be saving millions of dollars for ratepayers and taxpayers at our expenses by daylighting, that the requested funds be part of the MSD's budget. We are hopeful that the USEPA, Department of Justice, State of Ohio, Hamilton County, City of Cincinnati, and the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati will somehow find the authority to render economic justice as part the reality of enforcing the Clean Water Act by amending the laws, policies, ordinances, etc. to make this happen.

We are the job providers, tax payers, risk takers, and the true stakeholders in this project!

Dennis J. Smith  
President

 You replied on 9/4/2012 6:51 PM.

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### MSD Communications

**From:** Weil/Thoman [weil@fuse.net] **Sent:** Tue 9/4/2012 5:00 PM  
**To:** Dennis; MSD Communications; Lodor, MaryLynn; Parrott, Tony; Hartmann, Greg; Monzel, Chris; Portune, Todd  
**Cc:** Mallory, Mayor; Dohoney, Milton; #COUNCIL; Sittenfeld, P.G.; Qualls, Roxanne; Winburn, Charlie; Ball, Karen; South Fairmount Community Council; Aluotto, Jeff; Sigman, Christian; Process Construction; butch@charterbusservice.com; tcling@udfinc.com  
**Subject:** RE: Paper Products Co. response to MSD Town Hall Meetings!  
**Attachments:**  WEIL-THOMAN RESPONSE MSD TOWN HALL MEETINGS.pdf(826KB)

Along with Dennis and Paper Products Co., Weil/Thoman Moving & Storage would like to voice our opinion on the matter.

You may view our view point expressed in the attachment.

Joseph C. Thoman  
 President  
 Weil/Thoman Moving & Storage Co  
 1617-29 Queen City Ave  
 Cincinnati, Ohio 45216  
 Office: 513-251-5000  
 Fax: 513-251-0291  
 weilthomanmovers.com

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Dennis [mailto:dennis@paperproductscompany.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 04, 2012 1:56 PM  
**To:** MSD.Communications@cincinnati-oh.gov; Metropolitan Sewer District; MSD; Greg Hartmann / Ham. Cty. Comm.; chris.monzel@hamilton-co.org; todd.portune@hamilton-co.org  
**Cc:** Mayor Mark Mallory; milton.dohoney@cincinnati-oh.gov; citycouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov; Councilmember P.G. Sittenfeld; City of Cincinnati; Councilmember Charlie Winburn; Weil Thoman; Metropolitan Sewer District; South Fairmount Community Council; Jeff Aluotto; christian.sigman@hamilton-co.org; Process Construction; butch@charterbusservice.com; tcling@udfinc.com  
**Subject:** Paper Products Co. response to MSD Town Hall Meetings!

Gentlemen,  
 The original date the MSD posted to respond to their 2 most recent Town Hall meetings was yesterday, September 3, 2012, Labor Day, a national holiday. Today's date should be within the deadline. While the above "attachment" represents the interests of Paper Products Co., it also represents the view point and interests of most of the members of The South Fairmount Business Association. Thank you for your consideration and we all look forward to continued dialogue.

Dennis J. Smith

President  
Paper Products Company  
1543 Queen City Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214  
Office: 513-921-4717 Cell:513-739-7817  
FAX: 513-251-5553  
E-mail: [dennis@paperproductscompany.com](mailto:dennis@paperproductscompany.com)  
web: [www.paperproductscompany.com](http://www.paperproductscompany.com)

**Weil/Thoman Moving & Storage Co.**  
1617-29 Queen City Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45216  
513.251.5000 | 513.251.0291

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September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Re: MSD Town Hall Meetings

Gentlemen,

From my experience, having attended two town meetings, the most informative speakers were the responders limited to two minutes.

In light of the proposed "Deep Tunnel" project, a responder at the meeting divulged a few negative points of this concept:

- Astounding \$500 Million project
- Crude application of wastewater management

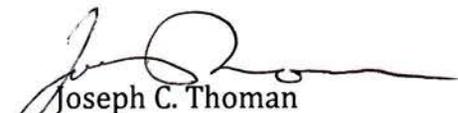
With prodigious savings of \$200 Million, it can be readily perceived that "Daylighting" would be the most practical, economical, and ecological application of wastewater management for the South Fairmont community.

A movement for additional funding for persons who meet specific criteria was also announced. Great! Except, funding for these "qualified" individuals still comes up short. There is no grant funding, only loans at a 2.00% interest rate. Why must we borrow money to pay for MSD's expense to cover "Project Groundwork"?

The best game in town is the courtroom. Let us line everyone up in a row and get our day in front of our peers! Let them compensate us for our total expenses - of which are not covered by the current practices.

I have both said and demonstrated with my coin purse - "It should not cost one red cent for me to relocate and re-establish!"

Weil/Thoman Moving & Storage is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation company that has been in business since 1891 - the days of the horse and wagon. The least effective maneuver would be to go out of business.

  
Joseph C. Thoman  
President

 You replied on 9/5/2012 11:43 AM.  
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**MSD Communications**

**From:** Gruenstein, Eric (gruenste) [GRUENSTE@UCMAIL.UC.EDU] **Sent:** Wed 9/5/2012 11:17 AM  
**To:** MSD Communications  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** ..... comments on Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report .....  
**Attachments:**  [Letter to MSD re Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report.doc\(41KB\)](#)

Attached please find my comments in response to the request for public input on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report.  
Please forward them to the City Council and BOCC.

Eric Gruenstein

# Comments on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report

by

Eric Gruenstein

September 4, 2012

I am the chair of the Board of Advisors of the Green Partnership for Greater Cincinnati and a Professor of Biochemistry and Neuroscience at the University of Cincinnati Medical School. The following analysis and recommendation to the proposed alternatives presented in the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report represent my own opinions and not necessarily those of these organizations

An overriding consideration which mitigation method to employ should be the ability to accommodate almost all of the extreme precipitation events that can be anticipated for the foreseeable future. This in turn requires that we have as clear an idea as possible of what, if any, changes may occur in the degree and frequency of those extreme events. It is therefore of great importance that we take note of a recent study by James Hansen et al in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (1).

Their study shows convincingly that the global warming which has been underway since the mid-twentieth century is the cause of a 100-fold increase in the incidence of extreme heat waves that occur locally. Since there is a high degree of agreement in the scientific community that global warming is likely to continue to increase at least for the remainder of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, it is certainly relevant to consider what effects these extreme temperature events will have on precipitation when discussing the best approach to fulfillment of the MSD consent decree. Here's what Hansen, et al have to say about that.

Changes of global temperature are likely to have their greatest practical impact via effects on the water cycle. ...The other extreme of the water cycle, unusually heavy rainfall and floods, is also amplified by global warming. A warmer world is expected to have more extreme rainfall occurrences because the amount of water vapor that the atmosphere holds increases rapidly with temperature, a tendency confirmed by observations. Indeed, rainfall data reveal significant increases of heavy precipitation over much of Northern Hemisphere land and in the tropics (27) and attribution studies link this intensification of rainfall and floods to human-made global warming (28–30).

Thus, it appears very likely that the number and extent of extreme rainfall events is going to be increasing, so the key question then becomes, "How much?" The answer, unfortunately, is difficult to predict, in part because, while we know that global warming is going to increase, the amount will depend to some extent on what actions are taken to mitigate it. Thus, the prudent approach to managing Cincinnati's combined sewer overflow should be to adopt whatever strategy provides the greatest degree of flexibility in responding to increases in the number and degree of extreme rainfall events.

Based on the Alternatives Evaluation of the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report, the prudent and preferred approach, i.e. the one with the greater flexibility, would clearly be the Sustainable Alternative.

1. Hansen, J, M Sato & R Ruedy, "Perception of Climate Change," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA, 2012 Aug 6. [Epub ahead of print]

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**MSD Communications**

**From:** Niemeyer, Dean [Dean.Niemeyer@hamilton-co.org] **Sent:** Fri 9/7/2012 11:59 AM  
**To:** Lodor, MaryLynn; Deb Leonard  
**Cc:** Wamsley, Brian; MSD Communications  
**Subject:** FW: OEQ Support Letter  
**Attachments:**  [120905 MSD Support Letter.pdf\(949KB\)](#)

FYI

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**From:** Falkin, Larry [mailto:Larry.Falkin@cincinnati-oh.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 06, 2012 4:50 PM  
**To:** Niemeyer, Dean  
**Cc:** Parrott, Tony  
**Subject:** OEQ Support Letter

Dean,

Attached is OEQ's letter in support of the green alternative.

Larry Falkin, Director

Office of Environmental Quality

(513) 352-5325

September 4, 2012

Tony Parrott, Director  
Metropolitan Sewer District

Dear Mr. Parrott,

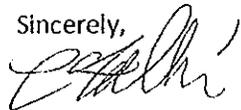
The Cincinnati Office of Environmental Quality strongly supports and recommends the Lower Mill Creek Sustainable Alternative as presented in the *Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Report (June 25, 2012)*. The OEQ has been a community partner in MSD's Communities of the Future (CFAC)/Project Groundwork planning and outreach efforts. OEQ has also partnered with MSD and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency in the implementation of the first Green Roof Loan Program where the Ohio EPA has made \$5 million available for linked-deposit, below-market-rate loans to install green vegetative roofs within the MSD service area.

OEQ led the development and now leads the implementation of the Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP), Cincinnati's sustainability plan. The GCP identifies 80 specific recommendations to reduce contributions to global climate change, reduce dependence on non-renewable energy sources, support local job creation and the local economy and help to clean Cincinnati's air, land and water.

The Lick Run Alternative Solution, as part of the Lower Mill Creek Sustainable Alternative, is estimated to reduce 838 million gallons (MG) of combined sewer overflow annually. With the default grey alternative that same 838 MG of combined sewer overflow would have to be pumped to the proposed tunnel and treated at the proposed new enhanced high rate treatment facility. Thus the default solution would require additional energy output for pumping and treating the 838 MG of the annual combined sewer overflow. This extra energy usage is estimated to be 26,974,730 kWh per year. The EPA's Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator ([www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html](http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html)) estimates that this extra energy usage would generate 18,601 Metric Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> gases per year.

Clearly, the Lick Run Alternative Solution effectively reduces green-house gas emissions and dependence on non-renewable energy sources. OEQ also foresees that the proposed Lick Run Alternative Solution will be a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization both in housing and commercial uses in the Lick Run neighborhood. The proposed daylighting of Lick Run, along with open space corridor and other amenities described and illustrated in the *Lick Run Watershed Master Plan (May 2012)* will bring increased value to the surrounding historical buildings making them ideal opportunities for energy efficiency upgrades that could be facilitated by funding and expertise of the Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance. In the end, the Lower Mill Creek Sustainable Alternative including the Lick Run Alternative Solution will help Cincinnati implement the Green Cincinnati Plan and move toward sustainability, including supporting local job creation and the local economy and helping to clean Cincinnati's air, land and water.

Sincerely,



Larry Falkin, Director

 You replied on 9/7/2012 7:07 PM.

## MSD Communications

**From:** Mcgrew, Mary Beth (mcgrewm) [mcgrewm@ucmail.uc.edu] **Sent:** Fri 9/7/2012 6:26 PM  
**To:** MSD Communications  
**Cc:** Lodor, MaryLynn; Niemeyer, Dean; Thomas, Leonard (thomasld)  
**Subject:** Comments on Stormwater Plans  
**Attachments:**

Thank you for the opportunity to review the planning documents and provide comment. Len Thomas has provided a thorough review of the documents and I concur with his opinion as outlined below.

The information contained within the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati's proposed Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternative Evaluation and Lick Run Master Plan documents provide a comprehensive overview of the challenges, compliances, and opportunities, as well as, the benefits, risks and estimated costs of a two phase project that investigates three distinct approaches to capture, treat or remove at least 85% of the annual overflows from combined sewers within the Mill Creek basin ( Consent Decree with the U.S. EPA, the Ohio EPA and ORSANCO ).

The three strategies that are explored include a grey alternative ( default solution : deep tunnel pump station , with enhanced high rate treatment and partial sewer separation; a sustainable option, which does not include a deep tunnel, but does include large scale sustainable solutions for 6 watershed areas ( one of which is Lick Run : Phase I ); and a sustainable / hybrid alternative that includes a re-sized / reduced tunnel to Mitchell Ave whose dimension is based on other integrated large scale sustainable solutions. The reports introduce a combination of sewer separation strategies and BMP's with storm water removal estimated at 80% ( non-compliant ) for the sustainable solution, 88% for the grey alternative, and 90% for the sustainable /hybrid option.

While the Phase I grey alternative achieves 2BG of CSO reduction from the Lower Mill Creek watershed, and possesses an inherently greater operational reliability / flexibility ( than the hybrid solution ) , its estimated cost is \$220M more than the sustainable / hybrid option. Furthermore, the identified risks / disadvantages contained within the grey alternative

( greater energy demand, larger carbon footprint, complexity of construction, limited local contractor participation, and limited community revitalization potential ) certainly present a measurable down-side for this approach.

The Phase I sustainable / hybrid alternative, on the other hand, not only achieves the 2BG of CSO reduction, but introduces numerous economic, social, and environmental benefits including job opportunities, neighborhood revitalization, more green spaces and natural habitats, a celebrated urban waterway system, as well as health benefits of elimination of sewer back-ups and decreased exposure to pathogens.

The Phase I sustainable /hybrid alternative consists of sustainable infrastructure projects in four watershed districts, and features large scale sewer separation, storm water detention basins, naturalized and new water channels, stream restoration, relocated combined sewers, and a small enhanced high rate treatment facility.

As part of the Phase I project, Lick Run features numerous storm water and sustainable strategies and best management practices that support both community renewal ( South Fairmount ) and infrastructure improvement ( "Communities of the Future"). The limits of the strategic storm water capture / separation include a 2700 acre watershed district with targeted areas identified as Tier I ( 1800 acres of top priority, in which South Fairmount is located ) and Tier 2 ( the remaining 900 acres) ,which are the non-priority upland areas already regulated by the City of Cincinnati Stormwater Utility and Building Code.

The concepts identified within the collaboratively developed Lick Run Master Plan will serve as a catalyst for transforming the Lick Run Watershed and South Fairmount Community by establishing a planning framework that creates a strong community character /identity, promotes economic growth, improves the transportation network, and supports a more sustainable environment.

**As suggested in the Alternative Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report, the Phase I Sustainable / Hybrid alternative is the most flexible and offers the best approach for integration into the Phase 2 recommendations / parameters.**

MSD has demonstrated , in the content of these two documents, a thoughtful, thorough and timely summary of the environmental, economic and social implications of the volumetric management of combined sewer overflows throughout the Lower Mill Creek. The evaluations and technical information introduce benefits and risks and take into consideration the responsibility of long-term watershed planning. While the cost implications are sizeable regardless of the grey or hybrid option ( approximately \$1.2B) compliance appears non-negotiable. MSD, and the multiple stakeholders, have brought forth an approach that seems to be reliable and responsible, and now will identify and cultivate funding sources to contribute to this essential infrastructure improvement.

Mary Beth McGrew, AIA; Associate VP of P+D+C and University Architect

Division of Administration and Finance, Planning + Design + Construction

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 Attachments can contain viruses that may harm your computer. Attachments may not display correctly.

**MSD Communications**

**From:** Bohl, Brian [Brian.Bohl@hamilton-co.org] **Sent:** Thu 9/13/2012 1:46 PM  
**To:** MSD Communications; Parrott, Tony  
**Cc:** Lodor, MaryLynn; Leonard, Deb; Wamsley, Brian; Utrata-Halcomb, Holly  
**Subject:** Hamilton County SWCD comment on MSD's Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy July 2012 Report  
**Attachments:**  HCSWCD comment on MSD Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings-120913.pdf(1MB)

Mr. Parrott,

The attachment reflects comments and recommendations submitted by the Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District related to the "Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy – Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report". We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and would be interested in getting MSD's perspective on these preliminary comments.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brian Bohl

Brian J. Bohl, MES, CPESC, QDC

Stream Specialist

Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District

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September 13, 2012



Mr. Tony Parrott, Director  
Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSDGC)  
1600 Gest Street  
Cincinnati, OH 45204

soil and water  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

**Subject:** Comment on the MSDGC “Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report”

Dear Mr. Parrott,

The Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District would like to thank you and your hard working staff members for the opportunity to provide comment on the “Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report” and the associated grey, sustainable and hybrid alternatives. Our agency has partnered with MSDGC through involvement in the Communities of the Future Advisory Committee, Lower Mill Creek Watershed Action Plan Committee, the Ault Park Project and response to citizens water issues. The submitted comments reflect our review given an expedited time frame. Consequently, we hope MSDGC is open to more detailed input regarding the design of individual project areas. The details of the project scope and design are vital to ensuring optimal combined sewer overflow (CSO) reduction and appropriate routing of storm water flows for the benefit of the public, aquatic life, MSDGC and associated partners.

Our agency recognizes and appreciates the efforts of MSDGC to evaluate multiple options in obtaining combined sewer overflow goals. Furthermore, we favor the incorporation of a sustainable approach to reducing overflows. There are significant water quality treatment benefits associated with appropriate implementation of the sustainable approach. Natural media can be extremely effective at removing pollutants associated with storm water runoff, while increasing ground water supply. The sustainable approach and hybrid options appear to have similar benefits to the grey alternative from the perspective of percent watershed control and CSOs eliminated. Additionally, the projected Phase I cost of the sustainable/hybrid option alternative is considerably lower than the grey alternative. The Phase II projected cost of the sustainable option also appears to be much lower than the grey alternative.

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Mission Statement - A public organization committed to assisting the citizens of Hamilton County through education, technical assistance and leadership to be stewards of our soil and water resources.

Regarding the details of the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report and associated Town Hall/public information meetings, we have the following comments and recommendations.

- Produce and distribute a synopsis of questions, comments and responses from the August 2012 Town Hall meetings and prior public comment meetings and open houses related to the Lick Run Project, West Fork Project, Bloody Run Project, Kings Run Project, Ludlow Run Project and Denham Project. Include responses to all other comments received.
- Storm water detention design and implementation: To retain the additional storm water flows, many new basins are proposed. Some are proposed within existing stream channels. In order to reduce sedimentation within such basins and long term maintenance, we recommend installing basins outside of the primary stream channel. Or, detain storm water through multiple source controls. This should also enhance the ability for aquatic life to migrate through the project area, which is another measure of project success. There appear to be several in-stream detention facilities proposed in the Lick Run watershed and potentially the Denham and Kings Run watersheds.
- Water quality inflow and outflow monitoring should be conducted at source control measures to better understand and implement designs associated with maximum pollutant removal. MSDGC may find that there are lower costs associated with higher pollutant removal when utilizing more on-site planting media.
- Storm water models can be valuable tools in assessing pollutant removal efficiency based on the number, location and quality of best management practices (BMPs) within a watershed. However, localized water quality and volume reduction monitoring can play a vital role in model calibration.
- In addition to monitoring inflow and outflow at selected source control BMPs, we recommend seasonally consistent monitoring upstream, midstream and downstream of project areas to reveal the water quality improvements that have taken place. Knowing the actual in-stream water quality benefits will help MSDGC to prioritize and allocate resources more efficiently in future project areas. Key water quality parameters include stream habitat, stability, chemistry, macroinvertebrates, fish and salamanders.
- Consider requiring 2-5 year warranties on project performance in order to fully address early project failures or maintenance issues.
- Use alternative and sustainable energy sources to account for higher energy demands as a result of implementing solutions.
- MSDGC has been diligent at informing stake holders regarding the CSO reduction projects at the concept stage. Yet, it is also important to allow partner agencies and groups to provide feedback at various stages in the design process. Field implementation can often divert from concept plans so keeping constituents informed and maintaining transparency through the stages of design is critical.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Lower Mill Creek Partial Remedy Alternatives Evaluation Preliminary Findings Report. Our agency welcomes the perspective of your agency concerning our recommendations. We commend the outreach efforts of MSDGC and value the opportunities we have to partner with your organization. Feel free to contact the Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District at (513) 772-7645 ext. 15 if you have questions or would like clarification on these submitted comments.

Sincerely,

*Brian Bohl*

Brian Bohl, MES, CPESC  
Stream Specialist

CC: Holly Utrata-Halcomb, District Administrator, Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District