



2023 Water Revitalization Plan Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting Summary

Meeting No. 2: Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Location: Venice Island Recreation Center

Meeting Attendees:

WRP Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)	Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)	Consultant Attendees
Lindsay Christinee	Laura Copeland	Jenny Gain, Brown and Caldwell
Lucinda Hudson	Dan Schupsky	Jennie Mummert, West Cary Group
Raymond Lucci	Jesse Debes	Katie Porter, Brown and Caldwell
Su Ly	Brian Rademaekers	
Joanne Reilly	Michelle Bailey	
Dr. Joi Spraggins	Thomas Spokas	
Walter Threadgill	Amy Hopf	
Cheryl Tse		
Richard Lampert		
Rozell Kenney		
Kayla Akpan (virtually)		
Corey Wills (virtually)		
Kathy Trinh (Absent)		
Mithun Das (Absent)		

The meeting convened at 6:35 p.m.

The highlights of the presentation included:

- Members introduce themselves - two new members at this meeting!
 - East Falls Community Council (EFCC) and Wynnefield Heights Civic Association (WHCA) representatives
 - EFCC: Richard Lampert
 - WHCA: Rozell Kenney
- Review of disclosure statement and meeting norms recap as developed by the SAG during meeting #1 in July 2023
 - Emphasis on the importance of SAG member understanding and decision-making process on what information shared during SAG meetings should be shared with the general public and what should be kept for internal discussion among the smaller group
- SAG Members' Role review
 - Serve as advocates for the Water Revitalization Plan (WRP)
 - Participate in quarterly meetings

- o Review and monitor program progress
- o Utilize voices and influence within the community to gain WRP support
- o Represent PWD in a positive manner
- o Gather public input as it relates to ongoing WRP projects
- Q&A on PWD 101
 - o Innovative utility for stormwater, wastewater, and drinking water - take pride in our work!
 - o Dan provided recap for services, reviews Projects & Construction page - Our resources were made to be shared
 - o PWD “At a Glance” one-pager distributed
- Schuylkill River Crossing (SRX) Project Spotlight
 - o SRX is a large-scale tunnel project, the first of the WRP, that will connect two of our City’s drinking water plants to ensure that Philadelphia’s current residents and future generations maintain access to safe, reliable drinking water.
 - o Construction is estimated to begin in early 2026.
 - o Reviewed high-level project details, illustrations and animations showing the project location information and TBM path
 - o Shared video on “How a Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) Works and called special attention to the differences between shown video and the SRX project specific TBM to include:
 - Tunneling through rock as opposed to soil
 - SRX TBM will be digging much deeper
 - o Showed animation of the TBM path for the SRX project
- SRX Project Community Engagement & Outreach Breakout Session (**see below notes**)
 - o Included review of outreach examples from other PWD efforts
- Interactive Survey - “What benefits of the SRX project do you see as the most valuable/impactful to all Philadelphians?”
 - o Discussion of results & overview of next step to create a word cloud to share with the group on posted SAG meeting deck
- Upcoming Community Listening Sessions Overview (CLS) - How do SAG members want to be involved?
 - o Intent: Increase project awareness and share project milestones with communities across the city
 - o Aim to hold in-person CLSs in every Council district
 - o What content will resonate with your community? What is most valuable to share at this stage? Where should they be held?
 - o Expected to begin in January/February 2024

- Wrap-Up
 - Included ask to answer feedback survey questionnaire about meeting #2
- Compensation: \$50 gift cards distributed

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

The next meeting of the 2023 Water Revitalization Plan SAG will take place on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Location: Philadelphia Water Department Headquarters: 1101 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107

SRX Project Community Engagement & Outreach Breakout Session - What type of info would be helpful to SAG members and community?

Issues to Consider

- Quality of life: Impacts on traffic, noises, lighting impacts, vibrations, air quality/dust
- Parking loss
- Soil from tunnels - where does it go?
- What is the cost? Will this change water bills?
- Water still safe to drink during/after construction - different sources? Any changes?
- PWD has to work to establish trust with community

Media/Communication Ideas

- Multiple rounds of communication
- Local publications
- Paper mailers/notices in mailboxes and telephone poles
- Traffic advisories - Route 1 ramps
- Distribution of materials at local schools, businesses, and public libraries
- 3D Model of SRX - display at schools, libraries, and RCO meetings
- Bus stops signage, SEPTA ads
- Radio
- 1-800 number - Email established - WRPsupport@phila.gov
- Translation services
- Digital media/social media
- Educational material aimed at children

Remember: All Philadelphians will be impacted by SRX and WRP

- Construction may not be happening in your neighborhood, but the benefits of resiliency and redundancy will be for all residents

