



Water Revitalization Plan Stakeholder Advisory Group Meeting Summary

Meeting No. 2.2: Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Location: Venice Island Performing Arts & Recreation Center
7 Lock St. Philadelphia, PA

Meeting Attendees:

WRP Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)	Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Linzy White (she/her) 2. Dr. Joi Spraggins (she/her) 3. Rozell Kenney (she/her) 4. Joanne Reilly (she/her) 5. Michele Baymor (she/her) 6. Richard Lampert (he/him) 7. Mika Manzieri (she/her) 8. Iola Harper (she/her) 9. Cheryl Tse (she/they) 10. Amy Cornelius (she/her) <p>Absent</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Kadafi El-Kardah (he/him) 12. Walter Threadgill (he/him) 13. Kayla Akpan (she/her) 14. Michelle Feldman (she/her) 15. Megan Schilling (she/her) 	<p>Laura Copeland (she/her) Rick Orlosky (he/him) Farwa Zaidi (she/her) David Sims (he/him) Eddie Borrelli (he/him)</p> <p>Others: Karaline Bridgeford (she/her), Brown and Caldwell Anna Kloiber (she/her), Brown and Caldwell Maggie Dunn (she/her), Brown and Caldwell Megan Smith (she/they), West Cary Group Lexi Beaver (they/she), West Cary Group</p>

The meeting convened at 6:40 p.m.

Summary of meeting activities and discussion:

1. Welcome from Farwa Zaidi, PWD City Planner.
 - Farwa provided a recap of the last meeting.
 - She also introduced the meeting’s learning outcomes:
 - Understand the importance of upgrading aging water infrastructure and why outdated systems are less efficient and less reliable
 - Learn why and how the WRP is modernizing Philly's drinking water system and be able to share example WRP projects that will help address this issue

2. Community Share Out

- Stakeholder Advisory Group members shared recent interactions they've had with their community about the WRP
- Community feedback included:
 - An increased interest in the “why” behind WRP projects
 - Curiosity around what the WRP will mean for their neighborhood specifically
 - Environmental inquiries, especially from those living around the Schuylkill River
 - Relief that a plan is in place, especially from residents who ‘don’t trust their tap water’
 - A push for messaging that empathetically addresses WRP costs

3. Updating Aging Infrastructure and the WRP

- Rick Orlosky, PWD Creative Director, and Anna Kloiber, an Environmental Engineer on the WRP Support Team, shared historical information about PWD infrastructure in need of an update.
 - i. They focused on three pump station projects that are part of the WRP and scheduled for future upgrades: Chestnut Hill Pump Station, East Park Booster Pump Station, and Fox Chase Pump Station.
- Rick and Anna also discussed how updating aging infrastructure is a “behind-the-scenes” job that often goes unseen to local communities.
 - i. They challenged the Stakeholder Advisory Group to help PWD “make the invisible visible” through WRP communications
 - ii. Rick outlined some of the outreach channels PWD uses to share this information

4. Breakout Groups: Three Upcoming Pump Station Projects to Address Aging Infrastructure

- Rick invited members to dig deeper into their thoughts around communicating about aging infrastructure in breakout groups. Each breakout group was assigned an upcoming pump station project that addresses aging infrastructure. The groups provided feedback on the key audiences and messages for each project.
- The Stakeholder Advisory Group discussed:
 - Key audiences for each upcoming pump station project:
 - Fox Chase Pump Station upgrades

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1. Lawncrest neighborhood residents
 2. Visitors to the park/community garden adjacent to pump station construction
 3. All of Philadelphia (in context of the larger WRP)
- Chestnut Hill Pump Station upgrades
 1. Families with children attending the school adjacent to pump station construction
 2. Residents in neighborhoods near pump station construction
 3. Local businesses in the area/Saturday shoppers
 4. Nearby church communities
 - East Park Booster Pump Station upgrades
 1. Pedestrians who frequent the area
 2. Community leaders
 3. Nearby neighbors/residents
 4. Business leaders in the area
 5. The local Community Development Corporation
 - Key/relevant messages for each upcoming pump station project:
 - Fox Chase Pump Station upgrades
 1. Longevity: how long will these upgrades last?*
 2. Detours: where will they be?
 3. Construction dates: when will work happen?
 4. On-site inspector information
 5. Pump station operation during emergency conditions
 6. Pressure districts and redundancy
 7. Maintained park/garden access*
 8. Funding
 9. Pest mitigation
 10. Parking impacts

11. The privilege of having safe, consistent water access in Philadelphia

12. Improved water pressure for the community*

- Chestnut Hill Pump Station upgrades
 1. The importance of clean drinking water*
 2. Maintaining the historic character of the Chestnut Hill neighborhood*
 3. Benefits of new pump station equipment*
 4. Future-proofing Philadelphia's drinking water infrastructure
 5. Sustainability
- East Park Booster Pump Station upgrades
 1. Critical infrastructure*
 2. Legacy investment*
 3. Preparing for the future*
 4. Preserving old growth trees
 5. Saving rate payers money
- Members also discussed which of these messages they saw as the most important. Those have been marked with an * above.

5. Wrap Up

- David Sims, PWD City Planner, challenged the Stakeholder Advisory Group to connect with their community about the need to update aging infrastructure ahead of the January meeting. Members were encouraged to discuss:
 - How PWD can “dig deeper” and expand on project messages discussed in breakout groups
 - Additional resources that could help the community understand PWD's need to update aging infrastructure.
- David also shared the link to the post-meeting survey and encouraged all members to participate to inform future meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.