

## ODOR CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD

Bahai Center  
5750 Rodeo Road  
July 10, 2006

### MEETING #30 MINUTES

#### Attendees:

<b>ADVISORY BOARD MEMEBERS</b>	<b>CITY OF LOS ANGELES REPRESENTATIVES</b>
Ms. Carol Tucker	Ms. Valerie Lynn Shaw, Commisioner, Board of public Works
Mr. Sam Hart	Mr. Adel Hagekhalil, Manager, Bureau of Sanitation
Mr. Milton Bassett	Ms. Debbie Pham, Bureau of Sanitation
Mr. Ted Lumpkin	Mr. Scott Hare, Bureau of Sanitation
Ms. Opal Young	Mr. Ahmad Ghanem, Bureau of Sanitation
Ms. Pauline Caroll, Village Green	
Ms. Reba Glover	
Ms. Barbara Washington	
Mr. Nat Huffon	
Mr. Theodore Irvine	
Mr. Sanfuel Jones	

Meeting Minutes Recorded by: Ahmad Ghanem, City of Los Angeles

Chairperson: Ms. Carol Tucker

#### Introductory Issues

The meeting agenda was approved.

The previous meetings minutes dated Nov. 14, 2005 and February 13, 2006 were approved.

#### Attendance Issues

Ms. Carol Tucker, Chairwoman, indicated that the meeting objective is to address the future of the Advisory Board due to lack of attendees. Carol stated that there were some misunderstandings by some community that the City was trying to terminate the Odor Advisory Board. She strongly stated that the City's position is to continue to maintain support the Odor Board and that it was her own decision to call the meeting because she personally felt that great responsibilities should not rest on the shoulder of few people. The Odor Board should represent all affected areas, but currently; only very few representatives are attending. The Department of Public Works has representatives attending this meeting to discuss their plan regarding future Odor Advisory Board issues.

## **Future of Advisory Board**

Adel Hagekhalil gave a general background of the 2002 sewer overflow (due to heavy rain) and the ensuing law suit by EPA, Santa Monica Bay Keepers Association, and the local groups. He told how the presiding judge ordered the formation of the Odor Advisory Board to address the issues and get feed back on how well the City is mitigating the sewer issues. The first meeting took place in September of 2002 and now this is the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting. The intent was to have an open channel of communications between City and community members and the City would be very supportive in maintaining the Board for that purpose. The City will contact the potential members as recommended by the board members in addition to contacting other City offices to recruit new members joining the Board.

Debbie Pham provided the Board a briefing on how the City is trying to bring up the attendance of the Odor Board including making reminder phone calls on the date of the meeting. In November 2005, the City sent the letter to encourage members to regularly attending the quarterly meeting and look for input in accommodating members' schedule. In April 2006, the City sent another letter to all Board members to confirm their commitment to be active members of the Board. Phone calls were followup and the following were the results:

- Noreen McClendon from Citizens of South Central Los Angeles: understaff and unable to send some one to attend.
- Deborah Harris of Village Green Owner's Association: will try to attend.
- Anthony Nicholas of United Homeowner's Association: won't be able to attend unless meeting nights can be changed to any day other than Monday.
- Victor Nahmias Empowerment Congress West Area Neighborhood Development Council, CD 8: Out of town during the contact time.
- John Saito of Baldwin Neighborhood Homeowners Association: Resigned.
- Felipe Valasquez of Guardian Angels Block Club: Resign – Started new job and unable to commit to meeting.
- Patrick McCullough of Expo Environmental Group: Unable to commit attending meeting.
- Four members indicated their willingness to continue: Carol Tucker, Samuel Hart, Milton Bassett, and Ted Lumpkin.

Commissioner Shaw acknowledged and thanked the Board for their dedication and long time commitment in working to make the community a better place to live. She shared her wish that the Advisory Board continues. She suggested that the Board may want to discuss other issues in addition to sewer odor.

Ms. Barbara Washington of Village Green stated that she and another member of her community will attend future Board meetings.

**Questions, Answers and Action Items:**

	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Questions/Comments</b>	<b>Responses/Action Items</b>
1-	<b>ATFs</b>	<p>Nat Huffon of Village Green asked if things get done</p> <p>Ms. Opal Young said that in her opinion, the scrubbers are not doing the job all the time.</p> <p>Opal asked why we have so many scrubbers near each other</p> <p>Milton Bassett stated that the NORS siphon is the cause of odor upstream and that all 3 upstream ATFs are not needed if we have adequate siphon.</p>	<p>Ms. Tucker said that our issues were addressed when raised, however due to lack of attendance of members, it was necessary to call this meeting to discuss the future of the Board.</p> <p>Adel stated that the City has done a lot of work in addressing the odor in the community. Works include chemical additions, constructing new relief sewers, extensive pressure testing throughout the collection system, and introducing the latest technology available. He indicated that the various carbon scrubbers are the results of a joint effort between the Advisory Board and City. We are trying to determine the best locations for the ATFs that provide the optimum results. He also presented summary information depicting the effectiveness of the odor control efforts. Odor complaints are down by 60%, H2S level by 90% and pressure inlevel has been dramatically reduced.</p> <p>The locations are based on a study by experts and consultants that concluded that the current locations produce the best results. These locations were agreed to by all parties including Opal's group and now are mandated by court order.</p> <p>The 3 ATFs will address the odor issue for the system, not only for the NORS. Adel stated that the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation has committed to addressing the odor and authorized WESD to conduct a thorough investigation of the siphon and its effect on odors in upstream</p>

	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Questions/Comments</b>	<b>Responses/Action Items</b>
		<p>Milton agreed to the plan. The Odor Board also agreed to the city's plan.</p> <p>Ted Lumpkin asked about the time line for the pressure test.</p> <p>Ted Lumpkin reiterated what took place so far in the meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1- Odor Advisory Board continuation is up to the board members and not the City.</li> <li>2- Any testing at the NORS siphon will be transparent and data will be shared with all members, especially Mr. Bassett.</li> <li>3- Director of BOS authorized the testing at the siphon</li> </ol> <p>Is there a possibility that some ATFs will be canceled?</p>	<p>sewer system.</p> <p>Adel stated that the test of extracting the air (zero pressure at NORS siphon) should be able to confirm whether having one ATF for the NORS siphon is the solution or not. Adel asked Milton to be part of the Study. If the test shows that NORS is not the cause, Milton should put the matter to rest. If the test shows otherwise, the City will revise its plan.</p> <p>In a month or so we'll inform the Board of the plan for the NORS Siphon Test.</p> <p>Not all of them, but based on testing and evaluation, the City will make the decision. The ATFs at La Cienega &amp; Jefferson and at 6000 Jefferson are moving forward. The others are being further revised and evaluated.</p>
2-	<b>Odor Hotline Outreach</b>	Ms Glover of Village Green asked if the ATF's problem will delay the Odor Master Plan	Debbie responded that the Odor Master Plan is the living document to provide planning for the entire sewer collection system. The issues of the ATFs won't delay the delivery of the Odor Master Plan in meeting the due date.

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		<p>Barbara Washington requested copy of the Odor Hotline Flyer. Subsequently, the Flyer was provided and Barbara will consider posting it on the Village Green website, in the laundry rooms, and in the published quarterly newsletter for homeowners.</p>	<p>Debbie Pham gave a brief description of the Odor Hotline Survey administered to four Neighborhood Councils: South LA, West LA, Hollywood, and Studio City. She invited all attendees to join in the effort to get the word out to the community about the benefit of using the hotline when odor is detected in their areas.</p>
3-	<b>General</b>	<p>Carol asked about the latest regarding ATFs' bids that came in too high.</p> <p>Ms Tucker stated that they should know in advance of projects in their area such as the LCIS rehab project at Fairfax and La Cienega. "We tried to meet with DOT, PW, and LAPD to resolve all issues, but it's clear that if we don't get involved; the City will be on your front yard before you know it" she said.</p> <p>Ms Tucker thanked all who attended and confirmed that the Advisory Board will move forward and continue to do what the members have been doing.</p>	<p>ATF at 6000 Jefferson and the ATF at La Cienega and Jefferson are proceeding as planned. Design should be completed by the end of July 2006. 7 other ATF's are on hold at this moment. The Board will be briefed on the ATFs in the next meeting.</p> <p>All attendees were in agreement with the Chair's statement.</p>

**Future Agenda:**

- NORS Siphon pressure test results/analysis
- ATF update

The next meeting will take place on November 13, 2006