

PEARCE CREEK IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

September 18, 2015; 10:00 AM

90B North Center Street

Cecilton, MD 21919

Attendees:

Bay View Estates (BVE) Residents: Bill Haines, Norine Haines, Sandra Stake, Dave Heacock, Stephen Zawatski, Ken Cowley, George Hansell

Cecil County Health Department (CCHD): Angela Scramlin

Cecil County Department of Planning and Zoning: Eric Sennstrom

Cecilton Mayor: Joe Zang

Maryland Environmental Service (MES): Kristen Keene, David Peters

Maryland Port Administration (MPA): Dave Blazer

MPA Consultant: Fran Flanigan

AECOM (formerly URS): Chris Rogers

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE): Tim Kelly, Mike Landis

West View Shores (WVS) Residents: Valerie Woodruff, Stephen Modzelewski, Eddie Lavin, Helena Davidson, Robert Davidson

1.0 Welcome & Introductions

Dave Blazer

- Mr. Blazer announced that he has accepted a new position as the Director of Fisheries for Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR) and will be leaving the Maryland Port Administration (MPA); Kristen Weiss will assume the role as MPA Project Manager for the Pearce Creek project.

2.0 Summary Approval

Committee

- The July 24th meeting summary was approved as written.

3.0 USACE updates

Tim Kelly

Liner Approval

- The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) received the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) liner approval, which allowed the USACE to award liner installation contract to Sealaska (\$18.9 million). The Notice to Proceed was issued to Sealaska and residents will start seeing mobilization on the site.
- There will be a separate contract for the liner purchase (approximately \$5.5 million) with bid openings on September 22nd.

Discharge and Groundwater Monitoring Plans: Timelines

- Liner construction will be completed in March 2017, and dredged material placement will occur in October 2017, which aligns with the water system construction timeline.
- The USACE has started to develop the discharge monitoring plan, which will be final at least six months before placement occurs; the plan is anticipated to be submitted to MDE by January 2016.
- The USACE issued a contract for groundwater monitoring using the existing wells. One option includes four existing deep wells on private property. The USACE prefers to use the wells for future monitoring and will contact the residents regarding an easement.

- A citizen requested the USACE share the groundwater monitoring plan, including the monitoring well locations. USACE replied they will provide the map to Maryland Environmental Service (MES) to be uploaded onto the Pearce Creek outreach website, however the groundwater monitoring plan is still being developed.

Tree Planting

- MES has developed a plan that includes tree species recommendations and a delineated planting area along Pond Neck Road.
- The USACE needs to coordinate with the water system construction team to ensure that site activity does not disturb the trees which will be planted adjacent to Pond Neck Road.

4.0 Drinking Water Line Planning Progress

Mayor Zang and Chris Rogers

Updates

- The waterline design is finished, but the Town of Cecilton is still hoping to acquire an easement on private property for one of the chlorine injection stations. In the event that the easement cannot be obtained, the chlorine injection station will be located on USACE property.
- Construction of the water system will start in January or February 2016.
- Three contracts will be used in conjunction with the water system: one for the main from the town to the community; one for the distribution system; and one for the on-lot work.
- AECOM will be coordinating with homeowners in the spring regarding the water distribution system.
- The West View Shores (WVS) board meeting will be held in October and the community property easements will be voted on.

5.0 MPA Update

Dave Blazer

Pearce Creek DMCF: Monitoring Approaches

- A presentation was provided which described the three types of monitoring that will be conducted at the Pearce Creek site: Dredged Material Containment Facility (DMCF) surface water discharge, groundwater, and exterior.
- Per the MDE Water Quality Certification (WQC), the USACE is responsible for the development of discharge and groundwater monitoring plans. Exterior monitoring is a voluntary effort funded by MPA to detect changes in the environment surrounding the Pearce Creek DMCF.
- Based on the conditions in the WQC, the surface water discharge monitoring plan must be submitted by the USACE and approved by MDE prior to any dredged material placement in the DMCF. Once the plan is fully developed, the exact constituents being monitored for will be known.
- Groundwater monitoring will include groundwater sampling in the Magothy and Patapsco aquifers. The plan will be submitted by the USACE to MDE for approval and will include the following: the description and location of all the monitoring wells, well ID numbers, aquifer designation, monitoring frequency of the water levels and constituents, and the specific constituents being monitored.
- Exterior monitoring is a voluntary effort on behalf of MPA that is not required by MDE and is used to monitor the environmental parameters surrounding the Pearce Creek DMCF and includes sediment, water, and benthic community sampling in the Pearce Creek Lake and Elk River.

- The exterior monitoring results will be shared with the Pearce Creek Implementation Committee on a semi-annual basis every year monitoring is conducted, and will be accessible on the Pearce Creek outreach website.
- The first round of exterior monitoring sampling was completed and the report should be finalized and ready to share in February 2016. There will be two types of deliverables accompanying the results; a comprehensive report and a simplified summary of findings.
- The goal of exterior monitoring is to detect any changes caused by the Pearce Creek DMCF. Baseline sampling events will occur before dredged material placement to determine the existing conditions. If the initial conditions are not satisfactory, the information can be provided to Cecil County or other entities for a resolution.
- Monitoring also occurs on the channel sediments that are dredged by the USACE. Those results are submitted to MDE on an every other year basis, or prior to dredging.

Consolidated Transportation Program Funding

- The Pearce Creek water system is included as a highlight on page MPA-9 of the Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) budget. Originally, the Pearce Creek water system budget was allocated across two fiscal years but it was recently changed to three years. Money is now spread out over three fiscal years, but the total amount (\$14.1 million) remains available.
- MES will update the Pearce Creek outreach website with the new CTP page.

Flush Hydrants

- Mr. Blazer stated that MPA will be funding the flush hydrants as part of the grant agreement.

Elected Official Outreach

- Senator Hershey, Delegate Jacobs, Delegate Arentz, several other Harford and Cecil County elected officials, Mayor Zang, local municipal mayors, the Cecil County Council, Cecil County Executive Tari Moore, and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Secretary were updated on the Pearce Creek Project at the CTP meeting.
- The MDOT secretary was briefed on the project and was provided a tour of the Pearce Creek DMCF. The MDOT secretary expressed support for the project.

Community Outreach

- MPA attended the Bay View Estates (BVE) meeting to provide project updates. MPA also met with Sunset Pointe citizens to discuss well abandonment and mandatory hookups.

6.0 Citizen Comments

- The majority of the BVE and WVS residents have a positive response to the overall project, hydrants, and water system.

Community Representatives

7.0 Future Meeting Discussions

- The next PCIC meeting will be chaired by Kristen Weiss and held on December 4th.
- The DMMP Annual Meeting will be held November 6th at the Sollers Point Multi-Purpose Center. All citizens are invited to attend the DMMP annual meeting.

Fran Flanigan

8.0 Adjourn

Dave Blazer