



CITY OF PORTLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 1000, Portland, Oregon 97204 ■ Nick Fish, Commissioner ■ Michael Jordan, Director

REPORT TO COUNCIL

DATE: November 9, 2015

TO: City Council

FROM: Michael Jordan, Director 

SUBJECT: Accept Report on the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant Citizen Advisory Committee's 20 Years of Service

I am pleased to submit for your consideration and acceptance the report to Council of the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant Citizen Advisory Committee's (CAC) 20 Years of Service. In October 1995, the City Council passed an ordinance supporting the CAC's previous and ongoing efforts.

The CAC represents a wide range of public interests including neighborhood, business, industry, environmental, recreational, and educational. The CAC works with the Wastewater Group to ensure that Environmental Services implements treatment plant and other north Portland projects in a way that serves the surrounding community and addresses their needs and concerns.

CITY OF PORTLAND | BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant Citizen Advisory Committee's 20 Years of Service

NOVEMBER 18, 2015



*The Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant
in North Portland*



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND

working for clean rivers

Nick Fish, Commissioner
Michael Jordan, Director

REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant Citizen Advisory Committee's 20 Years of Service

Portland's Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant (CBWTP) opened for business at 5001 N Columbia Boulevard in 1952. Today, the plant's campus covers 140 acres and provides wastewater treatment services to nearly 614,000 residential and commercial customers. The plant operates every day around the clock treating Portland's wastewater and recovering and beneficially reusing wastewater treatment byproducts.

In 1992, the CBWTP established a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) to assist the Bureau of Environmental Services in designing the treatment plant's new Headworks facility. Before there was a CAC, plant managers informed the community of projects but didn't involve the public in project decisions. Forming the CAC ushered in a more collaborative approach to community involvement at the plant and in the bureau.

The first CAC worked with the bureau for 18 months on the Headworks design and helped gain public acceptance of the project. In 1994, Environmental Services formed a follow-up CAC, which included several original CAC members, to update the CBWTP facilities plan.

During the year-long project, the CAC helped developed a vision and set of guiding principles as a foundation of the facilities plan implementation. The CAC also reviewed and made recommendations on the plan. The CAC discussed issues related to the impact of future projects at the plant and particularly the keen interest in odor mitigation benefitting adjacent north Portland neighborhoods. The North Portland Odor Abatement Committee (NPOAC) was one of the first to point to the plant as a source of odors in the neighborhood. The plant staff responded positively and set the tone for improvements that continue to this day.

When the facilities plan was complete, the CAC recommended that it continue to meet to provide a community perspective on plant projects and odor issues. In 1995, the City Council passed an ordinance supporting the CAC's previous and ongoing efforts and authorized hiring a consulting firm to facilitate future CAC meetings. The consultant, bureau staff and committee members recommended expanding the CAC to represent a wider range of public interests. Environmental Services no longer uses an outside consultant to facilitate CAC meetings. BES staff now provide those services.



CAC Today

Today, CAC members represent neighborhood, business, industry, environmental, recreational, and educational interests. The CAC works with the Wastewater Group to ensure that Environmental Services implements treatment plant and other north Portland projects in a way that serves the surrounding community and addresses their needs and concerns. Members also assist in public outreach efforts for CBWTP projects and monitor facilities plan implementation.

Since the involvement of the CAC, Environmental Services decides if odor abatement is necessary for new projects that add or significantly modify treatment plant facilities. CAC members work with Environmental Services to create a north Portland odor monitoring and reporting program, as well as an odor notification system that allows CBWTP staff to inform the local community when maintenance and repairs may result in perceptible odor from the plant.

The CBWTP CAC meets quarterly at the plant with Environmental Services staff. The CAC has established the following goals:

- Monitor Environmental Services activities that implement the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities Plan, Master Plan and Vision Statement.
- Reduce the impact of the treatment plant so that it is a positive benefit to the surrounding and greater community, our natural environment and our natural resources.
- Review activities and projects that have an impact on the plant. During design phases of projects related to the plant, consider and provide input on alternatives that affect costs, the environment and the surrounding community.
- Identify opportunities to provide linkages to other projects sponsored by other entities.
- Participate actively in addressing odor abatement.
- Insure that public involvement/education plans and processes are inclusive and effective.
- Expand knowledge through field trips and other fact-finding activities.

The CAC has seven members, two of whom have been involved even before City Council voted to form the CAC in 1995. Current CAC members are:

- **Pam Arden**, a resident of the Kenton Neighborhood and actively involved in the 40-Mile Loop (original CAC member)
- **Jim Robison**, whose particular interests include odor abatement in North Portland (original CAC member)
- **Gordon Bussey**, who lives in a floating home on the river (CAC member since 1998)
- **Mark Kennedy**, University of Portland Associate Dean and Professor (CAC member since 1998)
- **Matthew Denton**, Portsmouth Neighborhood (joined CAC in 2008)
- **Charles Robertson**, New Columbia resident (joined CAC in 2011)
- **Jerry Fadden**, St. Johns neighborhood (joined CAC in 2014)



1185

Agenda No.
REPORT
Title

Environmental Services commemorates the Columbia Boulevard Wastewater Treatment Plant Citizen Advisory Committee's 20 years of service providing a community perspective on plant projects and odor issues. *(Report)*

<p>INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Fish</p>	<p>CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>NOV 10 2015</u></p>
<p>COMMISSIONER APPROVAL</p> <p>Mayor—Finance and Administration - Hales</p> <p>Position 1/Utilities - Fritz</p> <p>Position 2/Works - Fish <i>9/4</i></p> <p>Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman</p> <p>Position 4/Safety - Novick</p>	<p>Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland</p> <p>By: <i>[Signature]</i> Deputy</p>
<p>BUREAU APPROVAL</p> <p>Bureau: Environmental Services Bureau Head: Mike Jordan <i>[Signature]</i></p> <p>Prepared by: Debbie Caselton Date Prepared: 10/20/15</p>	<p>ACTION TAKEN:</p> <p>NOV 18 2015 ACCEPTED</p>
<p>Impact Statement</p> <p>Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>City Auditor Office Approval: required for Code Ordinances</p>	
<p>City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code, easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan</p>	
<p>Council Meeting Date 11/18/15</p>	

AGENDA
<p>TIME CERTAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Start time: 9:45 a.m.</p> <p>Total amount of time needed: 30 min (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>
<p>CONSENT <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Total amount of time needed: 30 min (for presentation, testimony and discussion)</p>

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
		YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	1. Fritz	✓	
2. Fish	2. Fish	✓	
3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman	✓	
4. Novick	4. Novick	✓	
Hales	Hales	✓	