



# RiverRenew Workgroup Meeting Notes

Meeting No. 5 / January 31, 2019

## Meeting Attendees:

RiverRenew Workgroup	City of Alexandria	Alexandria Renew Enterprises
Justin Wilson, Mayor	Emily Baker	Karen Pallansch
Amy Jackson, Council Member	Lalit Sharma	Bill Dickinson
John Hill, AlexRenew Board Chair	Tafesse Gyes	Liliana Maldonado
Patti Turner, AlexRenew Board member		Caitlin Feehan
		Sheeva Noshirvan
		Lisa Van Riper
		Justin Carl
		Jeff Theerman
		Susan Mitchell
		Kasey Kraft

The meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. Mayor Wilson welcomed staff and managed introductions.

Ms. Pallansch provided a presentation to update the Workgroup on the current status of RiverRenew. Highlights of the presentation included:

- A status update on the preparation of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and its timeline. A draft document is proposed to be submitted to the National Park Service in March 2019 and final document/public comment period is anticipated in May 2019. It is not yet determined if the government shutdown will affect the projected EA timeline.
- An update on the anticipated Development Special Use Permit (DSUP) timelines for the (1) tunnel system and (2) AlexRenew wastewater treatment plant amendment.
- An update on the RiverRenew Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) which included the announcement of appointed members and potential topics and timeline for meetings.
- An update on the Outfalls 003/4 alternatives that outlined a replacement option for the Commonwealth Interceptor to address combined sewer discharges to Hooffs Run.
- An overview of the risk management process and example risks.
- A review of the submissions from the tunnel naming contest, including a short list selected by AlexRenew staff.

Mr. Theerman provided an overview of rate adjustment guidance developed with AlexRenew’s Board of Directors.

The following is a summary of the questions asked by the Workgroup and the answers provided by City and AlexRenew staff.

- **Mayor Wilson asked how the DSUP process applies to the tunnel system.**

Ms. Pallansch explained that the DSUP for the tunnel system is focused on areas with above-ground impacts near the existing outfalls. Ms. Baker added that because of complexities, Attorneys, including City Attorneys and Planning Department is working on the issue. Ms. Baker also explained



the important role of the SAG in disseminating this information to the community. Mayor Wilson requested that it be made clear to the community that a decision will not be made in regard to the routing of the tunnel as part of the DSUP. Tunnel routing and facility locations will be studied and analyzed as part of the Environmental Assessment.

- **Mayor Wilson asked if the Environmental Assessment timeline was realistic (with reference to the Potomac Yard Metro Environmental Impact Statement process).**

Ms. Pallansch noted that the schedule was realistic and the National Park Service (NPS) has been corporative throughout the process, noting the potential for delay associated with the government shutdown. Ms. Baker indicated the Environmental Assessment process is different than the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. It is a shorter process and less rigorous than what an EIS requires. Ms. Pallansch reiterated the RiverRenew team is completing the alternative analysis and working closely with the NPS to ensure we are correctly aligned with the process.

- **Mayor Wilson asked if the Commonwealth Interceptor replacement was a system-at-large improvement.**

Ms. Pallansch explained the Commonwealth Interceptor replacement is another option to address discharges from Outfalls 003/4. There are currently three options to address discharges from Outfalls 003/4 that include: a deep tunnel, a shallow tunnel, and open-cut pipeline. The Commonwealth Interceptor replacement is a variation of the open-cut pipeline that significantly minimizes Program risk and will provide infrastructure renewal.

- **Mayor Wilson asked how the projected rate increases align with the debt-finance aspects of AlexRenew and the Program.**

Ms. Pallansch explained that the debt-finance aspects of AlexRenew and the Program have been incorporated into the rate model.

- **Mayor Wilson asked about the purpose of the tunnel names as it relates to design, construction, and operation.**

Ms. Pallansch explained that the tunnel names will be used in community engagement materials, appear in contract documents, and designated in AlexRenew's asset management system. Ms. Pallansch noted that the selected names should be identifiable for people in the community and reflect Alexandria's rich history, landscape and sense of community pride.

### Other discussion points:

The next Workgroup meeting will be Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at AlexRenew.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.