

South Bay Odor Stakeholders' Group

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 16, 2020

Time: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Location: Sheraton San Jose (1801 Barber Lane, Milpitas, CA 95035)

Attendees: See Sign-in Sheet

Recorder: Republic Services

Discussion

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| Evan Boyd | 1. Call to Order and Introductions Call to order at 12 p.m. Introductions. Meeting minutes and agenda are available in the hallway. |
| Dan North Tamiko Endow, SBOSG members | 2. Overview of Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2019 Minutes approved with changes (Dan: change “take over”. Tamiko: Eric not at October meeting, change to Jeff. Also cover the comments about the Bay) |
| Jerry Bovee, Abhijit Basu, Rod Sinks, Ling Kong, Discussion included majority of attendees | 3. BAAQMD Odor Study Update Jerry shared that the Board approved contractors. In process of refining scope of work, sign off on both contracts and get going. Scope of work submitted to this group by late next week if legal signs off. Mid-to Late February planning meetings with both contractors start. Montrose approach is sensitive instrumentation, PTRMS, which gives us data to fingerprint odors. Data will feed into Jacobs study. They have experience characterizing odors already. Study will create data to understand the problem so that problems can be addressed. Abhijit asked for clarification on using public funds for this odor study to make sure it's the right way to go. He doesn't feel this process was followed the way it was promised it would be. Jerry explained process. Abhijit expressed concerns with the process because it sounds like research and not an approach to solve the issue. Rod acknowledged we are following a process and he wants it to get going. As chair, he wants it to start immediately. Ling would like to know what the role of this group is when scope is shared. Can we make changes or is it FYI? Jerry indicated it the role is to review and comment. Will address comments and revise as necessary but not guaranteed. BAAQMD controls study and it needs to be done by its specification. Jerry stated as we go through study, around the facilities will include up wind and downwind which is expected to partition out which odors are coming from the bay. |

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| <p>Abhijit Basu, Anurag Pal, Bob Nunez, Evan Boyd, Rod Sinks, Dan North, Jerry Bovee, Tom Pyke</p> | <p>4. Technology and Process for Odor Study</p> <p>Just getting data is not enough. We need to figure out how to measure the data. Abhijit wants to do his own parallel study and needs funding. Believes that we need a second study to validate the BAAQMD study. Anurag mentioned everyone has private property and Abhijit will need approval to get on the properties. Abhijit is okay if people say no. Evan appreciates Abhijit's passion and where he's coming from. Doesn't think anyone here would say we don't want to solve the issue. We all do. Everyone has different perspective on how to solve the issue but from Evan's perspective and from the group's perspective we've got it in the hands of the experts. We've tried to give everyone a forum to express thoughts about process and technology. Evan thinks this group has done the best that they can to move this issue forward to the entities that can take care of it for us. And put it in hands of the best expertise. For the sake of time we need to move on and move the odor study forward. Evan inquired if Abhijit attended the November 20 BAAQMD meeting. Abhijit went to Sept 20 meeting and wanted a meeting with panel to discuss concerns but received no response to his request. Rod believes that district staff has done a competent job to set this study up. Once we have good data, we'll work with community and facilities in question. Dan indicates there's a vocal part of community that wants this to move forward. They made that clear at the last Stationary Source Committee. We have to trust in the process and move on to the next step. Anurag asks if there are any concerns from San Jose or Zanker? Jerry said he hasn't gotten any. Rod believes we're past that point as this has been worked on for a year. Tom asked what kickoff meeting entails? It is a meeting with contractors to set schedule, firm up plan and coordinate efforts. Jerry reported that Stationary Source Committee meeting in April there will be an update. Once we start getting data in that's pointing in specific directions BAAQMD will start talking to this group more and set up community workshops.</p> |
| <p>Dan North, Ling Kong, Evan Boyd</p> | <p>5. Update of proposed MRF designs</p> <p>Dan reported that over the past few months, Republic hosted an in-person tour with BAAQMD engineers. As a result, there were a few requests about modifications to the air handling systems and enclosures at the MRF. Most substantial is enclosure over area 7 where single stream comes in. Republic proposed a cover but it will be fully enclosed instead and looking for clarification from BAAQMD on air handling system. If Republic gets okay we'll move onto preparing application for City of San Jose building dept. Ling asked when construction will start. Dan indicated it's hard to say, depends on process. Looking at 6 to 12 months. Evan speculates we're probably 60-90 to full project approval. Once done we'll need to go through San Jose process, 45-60 days for our group to get that done. Maybe issue to planning department in June timeframe but could be sooner. Planning dept process is a 12-18 month process until full approval. Start construction late 2021.</p> |
| <p>Tracy Lee, Rod Sinks, Tony Ndah</p> | <p>6. Round-Table Update</p> |

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| | <p>Tracey reported less than 30 complaints each month except October which had about 70. BAAQMD Working with Republic and ZWED and STP and doing inspections. Regarding occasional odors from MRF, BAAQMD noticed there are one or two days with compost/green waste related odors but nothing definitive from one facility over the other. Looking to see if all the facilities, including ZWED and STP, can come and present their projects to this group. STP has a 30-year capitalization project. ZWED and Republic were toured by two directors and staff and are seeking ways to improve ways odors. As far as complaints go, it's what BAAQMD expected based on last year's numbers. There are community workshops scheduled for Jan and Feb and BAAQMD is updating complaint investigation guidelines. Workshop in San Jose on Feb 4 at MLK library from 5-7 p.m. There will also be a webcast from SF workshop in December. Jan. 28 in Santa Rosa, Oakland Jan. 30, Martinez Feb. 5. BAAQMD can float a flyer with those dates and is soliciting input to make things better. Taking public comments and suggestions online through Feb. 12 and working on app to report odors. Rod added that ACLAMA is doing Bay Area-wide odor study. 9 counties. Going to every street 9 times to get accurate data. Looking at air pollution and GHG directly affecting human health. Tony reported that Milpitas has staff collecting data. Going out once a week since Nov. to key locations that have experienced odor events in the past. Next step is creating what dashboard will look like so public can see data and make suggestions to make it better. Using odor wheel. Better idea of odor experience in the City and how we can improve.</p> |
| | <p>7. No public comment</p> <p>No public comment.</p> |
| Evan Boyd | <p>8. Suggested next meeting date</p> <p>Next scheduled meeting April 16. Group agreed. Same time same location</p> |
| | <p>9. Adjourn</p> <p>Meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.</p> |

Next Meeting

Thursday, April 16, 2020, 11:30am to 1:30pm, Sheraton San Jose, 1801 Barber Lane, Milpitas, CA 95035