

**Oneida County Permit Compliance and Sewer Abatement Project
Steering Committee Meeting Report
October 23, 2008
5:30 p.m.
Yorkville Fire and Hose Company**

Municipality	Representative	Attendance
The Village of Clayville		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Nancy Sheppard	
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Mike Steiger	X
The Town of Deerfield		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Scott Mahardy Peggy Boshart	
<i>Community Delegate</i>		
Town of Frankfort		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Joseph Kinney	
<i>Community Delegate</i>		
Village of Holland Patent		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Michael Bennison David Wilcox	
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Peter Gaige	X
The Town of Marcy		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Brian Scala Keith Schuderer	
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Carson Sorrell	X
The Town of New Hartford		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Earle Reed Roger Cleveland	X
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Scot Owens	
Alternate	Christine Krupa	X
The Village of New Hartford		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Donald J. Ryan Don Bathke	X X
	John Grygiel	
<i>Community Delegate</i>		
The Village of New York Mills		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Robert Maciol Joseph Urban	X X
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Michael Bailey	
The Village of Oriskany		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Don Rothdiener Mick O'Connnor	
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Chris Burtch	X

The Town of Paris		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Felix Cardillo	
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Jim Hogel	X
Town of Schuyler		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Kenneth Dodge	X
<i>Community Delegate</i>		
The City of Utica		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee OR Designee	David Roefero Deb Day Mike Mahoney	X
The Village of Whitesboro		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Richard Pugh Chester Kowalski	X X
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Joe Lazenby	
The Town of Whitestown		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Charles R. Gibbs II Sal Granato	X
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Bill Schmitt	
The Village of Yorkville		
Chief Elected Official OR Designee	Bruno Petruccione Anthony Leone, Jr.	X
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Ken Schaaf	X
Oneida County		
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Bruce Brodsky	X
<i>Community Delegate</i>	Harvey Yando	X
<i>County Attorney</i>	Peter Rayhill	X
Oneida County Commissioner - Water Quality and Water Pollution Control		
	Steve Devan	X
Project Consulting Team		
Shumaker Engineering	Karl Schrantz Jim Luz Brian Whittaker	X X X
Stearns & Wheler	Bob Armstrong	X
Brown & Caldwell	Charlie Lombardi Christopher Somerlot	X X
Paige Group	Nancy Pattarini Richard Barrett	X X
Fiscal Advisors	Mark Colopy	X
Guests in Attendance:		
League of Women Voters League of Women Voters League of Women Voters	Joanna Albrecht Barbara Weaver Mary Anthony	

Old Business

Copies of the revised Sewer Use Rules and Regulations, passed in July by the Oneida County Board of Legislators and filed with the state in August, were distributed to committee members.

Letters from DEC approving proposed amendments to the I/I Offset Plan were also distributed.

The project consulting engineers distributed a progress report detailing recent project activity. In summary, engineering fieldwork and inspections are continuing and all submittals to the DEC under the Consent Order requirements have been completed in accordance with deadlines.

A committee photo was taken for inclusion in an annual progress report that is being produced. Once it is compiled, members will have the opportunity to preview a copy prior to its publication and distribution to elected officials, legislators, media, and stakeholders. The report will also be posted on the project website at www.ocgov.net.

New Business

The project consulting engineers delivered a power point presentation that provided a progress status report on past and present project activity, which included flow metering, groundwater monitoring, and field inspections of manholes and county- and municipally-owned pipes.

The presentation also outlined the project's next steps, which includes additional engineering fieldwork and identifying key issues that will require further evaluation and study by the committee and project team.

A copy of the presentation can be found on the project web site by visiting www.ocgov.net and clicking on "SSO Abatement Project" on the right side of the web page.

The project consultants met with seven communities within the Sauquoit Creek Pumping Station service area during October to present and discuss data that has been collected specifically for each. The results indicated that every community in the district is contributing to the excess I/I problem to varying degrees. Sewer system inspections and evaluations will be ongoing over the next several months and data will be further analyzed.

As reliable data is collected, the engineering consultants will proceed to the next phase of the project, which includes alternatives analysis, i.e. identifying capital and repair projects and prioritizing them.

The consulting engineers in cooperation with the Village of Whitesboro will also conduct a small-scale pilot program to assess homeowners' sewer connections to sanitary sewers in a defined neighborhood in Whitesboro. This will allow the team not only to collect information but also to determine the assessment protocol and level of effort required to conduct these private property I/I assessments district-wide, if necessary, in order to get a full appreciation for the magnitude of the problem (i.e. sump pumps, roof leaders, etc. connected to sanitary sewer laterals).

The consulting engineer team emphasized the need for communities to begin thinking about a CMOM (Capacity Management Operations and Maintenance) readiness program and to include line item budgeting for it in the future, since it will likely become mandatory as part of permitting and compliance. Communities are being encouraged to move from a reactive to a proactive mode by developing a perpetual care plan that includes operations, maintenance, repairs and rehabilitation of their sanitary sewer system placement over its useful life.

In terms of listing next steps for the project and committee work, the engineers discussed such topics as funding considerations and long-term ownership and operating structure of the district, recognizing that the DEC will likely not allow the present status quo to continue.

A request was made for the consulting team to provide committee members with scenarios for funding options and ownership structures that would also include pluses and minuses for each.

Another recommendation was made by the Steering Committee to create a specially-created county resource position in order to assist communities in their sewer planning, budgeting, operations, maintenance and repair. Funding for the position could possibly be incorporated into the Oneida County Sewer District operating budget, which is funded through user fees.

The idea was met with support from committee members and the County Executive's Chief of Staff, who was in attendance. He recommended that the committee make a formal recommendation and submit it to the District for further consideration as part of its overall project model.

Next meeting: Rescheduled from 12/11/08 to 1/29/09. Time: 5:30 pm. Tentative location is New York Mills Senior Community Center. Meeting notifications confirming date, time and location will be sent to all members by 1/15/09.