



Community Lead Response Advisory Committee
February 6, 2019
Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
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- Prioritization for 2019 Work Order Areas

- Discussed county data for Population, Blood Lead Levels and Income

QUESTION: Data available from PCS and DHS for children to the household level – decided to use County data for existing work order areas

- Discussed weighting factors for 3 criteria – asked to consider 1/3 each and second version with 40% each for children and BLL and 20% for income
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- 2018 Program Update

- Trenchless method success is closer to 98%
 - Complete with 2018 work.
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- 2019 Updates

Agreements –

- 4,000 returned to-date
- Agreements did not go to anyone with historical data with public non-lead.
- Homewood has the lowest return rate of signed agreements.

QUESTION: Is this because of tenant residents versus homeowners?

- Homewood is about 40/60 split homeowner/tenant
- Unreturned agreements - 50/50 split



- Twenty five percent of Perry North and twenty percent of Homewood work order areas are vacant according to canvassing efforts.
- Canvassing helps us determine which locations visually appear vacant, this is confirmed with water consumption records. Lead Help will continue outreach on these locations, however if we cannot get an agreement according to the PUC Tariff Settlement we will do no work at these addresses.

QUESTION: Suggested that we get ahold of Allegheny Front to do a story about collecting agreements.

QUESTION: What are the limitations to canvassing in Homewood? – Lead Help team member responsible for that work order gave feedback to committee

- A little over 200 are vacant, condemned, or razed – this is around 20%.
- Tenant versus homeowners? – Homewood North is owner-occupied, Homewood South/West – more row-houses that are tenant occupied.
- People are often not home when we canvass.
- Now that we've done door hangers and seen vacants during the day, we will try nights and weekends in second round of canvassing

QUESTION: Try reaching out to Operation Better Block and Homewood Children's Village.

- OBB has block-level data where children live and keep it up to date.

QUESTION: Reach out to Gainey's office. – we reached out for the 2018 work and they were receptive.

Community Outreach

- Effectiveness of community publications has worn off.
- Referred attendees to outreach table with updated meeting locations and robocalls.

Construction Bids and Plans for Additional Locations

- Bids received and around 30% less than estimate/budget and about \$3000 per private side replacement lower than 2018 costs. PWSA did a lot to revise the bidding documents and process and it appears successful, along with 2018 contractors having a better understanding of the costs.



- Potential for adding 1,000 more replacements to the work – this is an estimated number and not final. If we have enough funds for 1,000 extra replacements, we will have to send around 1,600 agreements.
- Based on PENNVEST and public bidding law requirements we cannot add contractors to our original bid award – will have to incentivize the three contractors we awarded to do more and potentially increase their scope.
- Trying to do extra work within the same timeframe as the original 3,400 locations – realistically, we will only know if we can meet original schedule after 4-6 months of work.
 - Worse case – extend construction duration. June 2020 → end of 2020
- Work starting March around 11.
- Additional letters to be sent by end of May.

QUESTION: How long will work orders take?

- All are different size and we are not sure exactly how long each will take
- In 2018, gave everyone the same number of sites – this year we looked more at their qualifications

QUESTION: There is still a chance that people who signed agreements and not get a replacement?

- Given the bid prices, we are anticipating that we will be able to get agreements as the work progresses in a neighborhood and to get to all locations that sign an agreement.
- Managed expectations by not giving specific time of work.

QUESTION: How will we keep people engaged if we don't get to them until 2020?

- Once we have a better idea of the construction schedule we can set up a series of robocalls to keep people who signed agreements informed.

QUESTION: Where can they improve their project delivery?

QUESTION: Staging and waste management on-site? – can do better.

- Staging issue came up with a contractor who did not make the cut this year.
- All contractors subcontract plumbing firm - this was a difficulty. Most efficient way to manage those subs was figured out as the work progressed. We cannot tell them how to handle this since they are not our subs.
- County plumbers' coordination with contractors have been difficult.

QUESTION: How are the One-Calls?

- Sometimes utilities don't do great markings, we are sometimes responsible for this.



- Timing is sometimes off and we can't start work.
- We need to have one-call complete before getting our street-opening permit from City so we do it fairly far in advance.

QUESTION: In March, can people still opt in who are our first work orders?

- Yes, Pennvest is allowing this.
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5-year meter program

- PWSA's metering team plans to install 50,000 new water meters in next 5 years per PUC regulations.
 - App is recording service line material in the home and on the other side of the meter along with a photo
 - Committee member Michael Blackhurst's map is doing something similar.
 - Great for identifying lead – if it is non-lead, we can do further investigation.

QUESTION: Do we record galvanized iron?

- Yes, we treat it the same as lead.
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CEP Filters

QUESTION: Methods for filter distribution – discuss at next meeting

- How accessible is the redemption for the filter?
- Requesting update on how the rollout worked?
- How to we engage people who haven't hear about the program?
 - Include more educational materials with their filter to help them understand better.
- Vouchers sent to all unknown sites under CEP program last week – 900+ letters.

QUESTION: Low income assistance AND winter moratorium – is everyone captured in the filter voucher program?

- Should be everyone in the CAP
- Filtered out those with non-lead records and who are sewer-only customers.
- Working with Customer Service to get update on those enrolled in CAP program.



- 500 customer-requested sampling kits requested on Monday 2/4 due to press conference and notice of exceedance.

2019 Work Order Prioritization

- Have opportunity to prioritize new 1,000 sites that we can do because of the low construction bids.
- Discussed increasing weight of BLL.
- Criteria:
 - Blood lead level (BLL)
 - Income
 - Age
- Results of weighting from earlier discussion presented – it doesn't appear to have an impact when evaluating the two options
- Will have contractors do high priority sections of their work orders first.

QUESTION: Factoring in people who opt in once they see us? Overlay that with the priority sites.

QUESTION: Will mobilization costs be a factor? Would it be worth it to just go systematically through the whole work order?

- Ideally yes, but will proceed in this manner to focus on higher priority areas first.
- Tentative plan for contractors:
 - Contractor #1 – south of the rivers
 - Contractor #2 – north of the rivers
 - Contractor #3 – east end.
- Michael Blackhurst reached out to Pittsburgh Public Schools (5-6 YO) and Department of Human Services (0-5 YO) and they are willing to share block-level data of children in their schools to compare to our work orders.
 - Could replace the census tract data as a weighted data point
 - Not useful to the house level since we will still have to create 250+ work order segments – individual LSLR contracts we do have are very costly.
- Operation Better Block have good idea of demographics, tenants change often in Homewood.

Date and priorities for next meeting

- HOLD – 1st and 4th of March from 3-5 pm – dependent on when the Customer Service PUC meeting at PWSA office occurs.
- TOPICS:
 - Additional areas for new work orders



- Update on potential for output for contractors
- Working on report for private side only replacements – preliminary discussion of that for next meeting.

QUESTION: How are you thinking through the scope of those reports the committee would like to hear, even if they aren't complete.

- Analyzing costs of other programs.
- Final 2018 cost report – may be ready for next meeting, but more likely not.

QUESTION: Would like to give feedback, hear more about where the Attorney General fine will go?

- Pass this desire along to senior staff to advocate for the money to stay to fund lead service line issues, not to the City