



Community Lead Response Advisory Committee

December 8, 2022

Meeting Minutes

On Conference Call:

Mora McLaughlin
Dan Duffy
Dominique Nunley
Everett Skipper
Israel Gray
Sarah Viszneki
Gina Miller
Sarah Stoner
Cecilia Segal
Julie Barg
Christina Maloni-Hoover
Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis
Lisa Frank
Anna Coleman
Barry King

Welcome and Introductions

- Introductions
 - SDWMR Program Update
 - LSLR Program Update
 - Other Updates:
 - Termination Status
 - Orthophosphate Optimization
 - Private Side Reimbursement Program
 - General
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Active LSLR Activities:

Lead Help Desk:
412.255.8987
LeadHelp@pgh2o.com

Resources:
pgh2o.com/lead-facts

Stay Connected:
@pgh2o

Penn Liberty Plaza I
1200 Penn Avenue
Pittsburgh PA 15222



- Two active water main replacement contracts, anticipated to take approximately one year.
- First contract is currently replacing water infrastructure in Central Oakland, other areas of this contract are in the restoration phase.
- Second contract is a little further behind. Work in Point Breeze is largely complete, Hazelwood is still getting started. Squirrel Hill has not started yet.
- 82% of water main installed over both contracts, 85% of service lines are verified.
- 39% public and 35% private lead found, closer to anticipated levels for these contracts. Higher than other recent contracts.
- Work is going smoothly, should have most of construction other than restoration done by spring.
- Two service lines on BRT project yet to be completed, waiting on another utility.
- 2021 SDWMR – 13 outstanding agreements of 940 total sites
 - Have started termination process at these 13 properties and will determine material type before proceeding.
- 311 public lead found, 279 private lead found.
- Other water main projects:
 - Thomas & McPherson Stormwater Project – replacing portion of main, most water work is complete. 56% lead lines found.
 - Fuchsia Way Sewer Project – water main moved as part of sewer repairs, awaiting to start water main phase.
 - Waterline Relay Project – Dearborn, Ligonier, Logan, Garfield, Brereton Streets.

Future Lead Activities:

- 2022 SDWMR
 - PENNVEST awarded \$77M in loan and \$6M in grant money for this project.
 - Three contracts – 10 miles of water main, about 1,900 service lines to be replaced. One contract was from current year that we couldn't fit in budget.
 - These areas have high density of service lines, 190 service lines per mile.
 - Will begin in May 2023
- 2023 SDWMR
 - Starting procurement for design and engineering.
 - Engineering anticipated to start first quarter 2023, construction begins mid-2024.
 - Two contracts – 12 miles of water main, service lines TBD.
 - Full project will be contingent on PENNVEST (only 6 miles allocated in CIP).

2022 LSLR Active Construction

- 2022 Priority LSLR
 - \$4.7M grant/loan package



- Replaced LSLs at daycare facilities and locations with elevated test kit results.
- Construction started in March, last LSLR finished last Friday. Restoration will continue. Hoping to have all restoration complete before cold weather shuts work down. Only handful of sidewalks and some landscaping, only asphalt remains. Crews will return in spring for final restoration where needed.
- Replaced 268 public and 301 private lead lines, found a lot more lead than our normal contracts.
- Did not find much lead in daycare facilities, but found a lot of lead at elevated sites.
- Expanded our test result requirements to include more locations, helped us spend all funds.
- 2022 Neighborhood LSLR – American Rescue Plan Act funds
 - \$17.5M provided by City to PWSA from American Recovery Plan Act. (\$17M for LSLR)
 - Contract began in early April, funding for approximately 1,400 LSLRs.
 - Used prioritization model to determine neighborhoods
 - Finished work in North and South Oakland, East Allegheny/North Shore, Elliott/Crafton Heights.
 - Currently working in East Liberty, starting in Bloomfield in early 2023.
 - Found more lead in East Liberty (38% public and private) but still finding less (28% public, 23% private) on the contract overall than anticipated.
 - Added 300 locations to 1,400 we were initially prepared to do. Will likely add more if we keep finding non-lead. In early spring, we'll determine how many more can be done with remaining funds and will send more agreements.
 - Good agreement return rate – 90% returned
 - As we find lead, replacement happens within a few days.
- 2022 Urgent LSLR
 - Will replace private lead when encountered by PWSA Operations team related to emergency like a public-side leak.
 - Also includes contingency for public side in the event that PWSA staff are not available.
 - If there is no ability to put people on temp. service, we Have a 4-hour mobilization item with our contractor to replace the service line the same day as long as we have cooperation from the property owner.

Opt-Out Status

- 63 total opts.
- 58 said their side is non lead – 39 of those verified so far and all found to be non-lead.
- We go out and verify if they decline because their side is non-lead. Will inform them otherwise if they find lead and try to get them to sign agreement (or terminate).
- We abandon service line at condemned property.
- For vacant that is unresponsive, we replace public and shut water off at curb (after following termination procedures). They must work with us to get it reinstated in the future.
- No PWSA opt-outs in current construction contracts.



Anna Coleman: How much funding is needed to meet goal of replacing all lead by 2026?

- CIP published in October has plans for SDWMR and LSLR programs laid out, believe that there will be additional funding necessary and are hopeful that IAJA funding will be available to meet the goal. Have discussed with PENNVEST how to maximize funding going forward.

Outreach (Mora McLaughlin):

- Virtual public meetings – regular meetings will resume as new contracts come on-line.
- Robocalls – bi-weekly to all unresponsive sites across all contracts.
- Lead Help Direct phone calls
- Door-to-Door Canvassing – have not needed to utilize this as much due to our good return rate.
- Directed outreach for locations verified private lead
- Project updates:
 - 2022 Water Main Programs: <https://www.pgh2o.com/projects-maintenance/2022-water-main-replacement-program>
 - 2022 LSLR Programs: <https://www.pgh2o.com/projects-maintenance/2022-lead-line-replacement-programs>

Overall LSLR Progress

- 960 public, 858 private lines replaced in 2022.
- Will hopefully hit 10,000 public service lines replaced before end of year.
- Understanding our inventory is equally important as replacing lead, verified over 1,500 non-lead public and 1,500 non-lead private lines this year.

Cecilia Segal: Is funding the biggest factor in meeting the goal?

- We can certainly meet our goals with enough money. We have had concerns in recent years due to supply chain issues, this has ebbed and flowed. Had struggles getting curb boxes early in the year, more recently we've not be able to get enough corporation stops. Ultimately hasn't slowed us down too much. Other specialty water/sewer projects have had more troubles than LSLR.
- Have tried to be flexible to use different, comparable products.
- Funding is ultimately driving the pace of our work.



2023 LSLR

- Infrastructure Bill dedicated funds for LSLR that PENNVEST will distribute.
- Trying to maximize ability to receive increased grant dollars that are part of this funding.
- Grant funding is targeted towards Environmental Justice areas, almost all of Pittsburgh is part of EJ area or within ½ mile of one.
- Use our prioritization model, then focus on income level to further rank our highest priority areas.
- Planning to make semi-annual applications in the \$10-15M range.
- First application submitted in November 2022 for \$13.5M, will hopefully be awarded in January.
- Project Details:
 - Will fund work at approximately 1,400 sites.
 - Priority neighborhoods:
 - Esplen
 - Lincoln-Lemington-Belmar
 - Perry South
 - Bluff
 - Marshall-Shadeland

2023 Summary of Planned Work

- Have a lot of work planned
 - 2021 SDWMR – final work at 127 sites
 - 2022 LSLR – 700+ sites
 - 2022 SDWMR – 1,900 sites
 - 2023A LSLR – 1,200 sites
 - Urgent, Waterline Relay - ~250 sites
 - Over 4,000 planned for 2023
 - This year, only worked at 2,400 – 2,500 locations.
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Termination Updates

- 13 locations have been terminated since protocol started in April 2021, ALL VACANT.
 - 5 were emergency operations replacements.
 - 5 were part of Fifth and Forbes project
 - 1 part of 2020 SDWMR – safety concerns
 - 1 part of 2021 SDWMR
 - 2 part of Fuchsia Way Sewer Project that were unoccupied, 1 has since been reinstated.



- 1 location had a curb box shut, resulting in owner of tenant-occupied property agreeing to an LSLR and the water service being restored same-day.
 - Always wait at least 5 days after we shut to physically disconnect in case someone changes their mind.
 - 712 locations received 37-day notice, 247 30-day postings that went to tenants.
 - 103 10-day letters
 - 17 3-day postings
 - 13 ultimately terminated.
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Orthophosphate Update:

- 2022b compliance sampling wrapping up soon. Four more samples at lab.
- 90th percentile results looking great, certified results available in mid-January
- Changes to sampling protocol coming with the LCRR in 2024:
 - Sampling site *must* have lead service line. Present regulations allow copper line with lead solder however PWSA has focused on lead service lines only for a few years. Have also been using locations where the lead line has been confirmed via visual verification, not just relying on records. This was recommended by corporate monitor.
 - During this sampling event, have been collecting 1st draw liter + 5th liter – present regulations require 1st and future will require 5th. Are not seeing much difference between the two 90th percentiles.
- DEP approved PWSA's request to increase ortho dose in June – implemented immediately.
- Continuing additional, ongoing monitoring within distribution system to ensure proper application of orthophosphate.
- New Corrosion Consultant brought on in April 2022 – fresh set of eyes on our treatment, monitoring, and operating procedures.
 - Helping us plan for optimization and treatment for the future.
 - Initial evaluation recommended continuing our current treatment.

Christine Maloni-Hoover: General update on corporate monitor?

- **Everett Skipper is on the call – agree to share update:**
 - **Have sat in on all CLRAC meetings from past two years, reviews all documentation for Committee. PWSA is doing more than was initially expected.**
 - **Our programs are run well, with good construction standards. Inspectors and Contractors following SOPs in the field.**
 - **Have had concerns with ortho feeds, PWSA has made adjustments. Corrosion control consultant will be working with them going forward.**
 - **Corrosion consultant's guidance is in line with Everett's.**



- Finalizing their summaries this year – if there is anything the committee wants to bring to his attention, asking them to contact him (provided email).

Gina Miller: There was a request to increase orthophosphate – was that related to Everett’s comments?

- Dan Duffy responded: semi-related:
 - We had completed an extensive optimization study that involved ortho and pH adjustments. After completion of the study we determined we had better treatment at the higher dose we were at when we started. We came to conclusion we should increase ortho dose, Everett’s team agreed.
 - *Everett confirmed on call that he also saw the need to increase dose.*
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Reimbursement Program Update (Julie Barg):

- Highlighting some program updates:
 - Customers will now call the Pgh2o Cares team to begin income eligibility. Was previously through Dollar Energy Fund.
 - If a tenant applies, will also send documentation to homeowners to keep them in the loop.
 - Think that tenants were applying for program but homeowner didn’t know, weren’t aware that tenant’s income can be used to get approved for program and maximize reimbursement amount.
 - 787 total applicants, majority are at <300% of FPL and would qualify for 100% reimbursement.
 - 78 locations have completed replacement and provided ACHD inspection needed for reimbursement (10 more since last meeting).
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General Updates:

- Table of PUC Settlement Requirements Status will be included in files after meeting.
- Web map of service line inventory continues to be updated monthly.
- Customer request sampling program continues.
- Have a Consent Order Deliverable due at end of month – updated inventory, with new inventory of non-residential accounts included.
- DEP has issued new guidance for inventory requirements due in October 2024 (part of LCRR revisions), they hosted training session which we attended.

Cecilia Segal: Will DEP Inventory update be made available to CLRAC? And has there been an update to WEF methods of non-invasive inventory identification?



- **Everett to provide WEF update (Cornwell worked on this):**
 - Vendors were delayed in getting equipment to them to review, this has delayed the process.
 - Project is ongoing – results expected by end of 2024.
 - Technologies that will allow you to identify the line without digging – soundwaves, electrical.
 - Determining ease of use and how easy it is to train personnel, how long to wait for results, etc.
 - No data at this time.
 - Many utilities and universities are involved in process. Universities are doing the testing, utilities are stepping in to complete replacement when lead is found.

Christine Maloni-Hoover: Will DEP report require methodology for identification of each service line?

- **No, just will have database of materials and addresses. Similar to inventory report we've submitted in the past. Text will share generic methodology used, but not on individual property level.**
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Housekeeping

- Confirm date and time
- Suggest next meeting be held March 9, 2023
- Meet discussion will include:
 - Water main and relay construction updates
 - LSLR
 - Other programs
 - Reimbursement
 - Other topics? Please contact Dan or Mora.