

**Public Meeting Minutes**  
**West Branch of Moore s Run Storm Drain Improvements**  
**Harbel Community Center**  
**Wednesday, August 13, 2003**  
**7:30 p.m.**

Minutes updated 9/19/03

**I. Attendees**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>
Jean Baker	Citizen
Tim Baker	GMB
Donna Bandel	Citizen
W. Gordon Dick	Heery Corp.
Frank Donaldson	PHR+A
Christopher Dorsey	Citizen
Jacqueline Fields	Citizen
Councilwoman Lois Garey	First District
Susan Giles	Citizen
Bernard & Linda Hayes	Citizen
Theresa & Stella Hill	Citizen
Lynn & Thomas Horner	Citizen
Sheldon & Dracell Jones	Citizen
Louis Kanzelman	Citizen
Joe & Phyllis Kepner	Citizen
Kurt Kocher	Baltimore City DPW
Graeme Lake	PHR+A
Alice LoRusso	Citizen
Jason Lytle	GMB
Wendy O Donnell	Cornerstone
Bessie Peacock	Citizen
Ella Reinsfelder	Citizen
Carolyn Rixham	Citizen
Dan Rocks	Baltimore City DPW
Jim Sapa	Citizen
Mike Schultz	Baltimore City DPW
Kris Shipley	Citizen.
Charlotte N. Smith	Citizen
Russell Vane, Jr.	Citizen
Stuart Vosburg	Baltimore City DPW
David & Elaine Wagentuehr	Citizen
Paul Weiner	Baltimore City DPW
Robert Wolf	Citizen
Gary Wyatt	Baltimore City DPW
T. Young	Citizen

## II. Opening and Introduction

Mike Schultz opened the meeting at 7:25 p.m. by welcoming the community and introducing the project team. He explained the meeting was called because the project is about to begin construction, and the City wanted to alert citizens to pending construction activity and the types of disturbances to expect over the next three years. The meeting only addressed section 2, or the northern portion, of the Moore s Run project. The contractor was identified as the Angelozzi Brothers, a very experienced local firm. Mike Schultz then he called upon Tim Baker to give an overview of the project

## III. Project Overview

Using aerial and alignment maps, Tim Baker (George, Miles & Buhr) described the history of the project and alignment features including:

- A study undertaken by PHR+A/GMB, which determined the inadequacy of the storm drain as well as a need for sewer repairs
- Streets impacted by the alignment
- Array of utilities in the alignment
- Locations of all areas where sewer will be rehabilitated
- Restoration of streets including new blacktop, curbs and sidewalks, and reseeded to restore grass.
- Construction activities the community can expect to see including BGE relocating power poles and installing temporary lighting, and relocating water lines

## IV. Alignment Specifics

Via a PowerPoint slide show, Gordon Dick (Heery Corp.) used photos of the alignment superimposed with graphics to indicate the position of various pipes and utilities showing precisely how construction will affect all parts of the alignment. During the slide show, Mike Schultz identified the locations where construction will begin and reiterated that he will keep the community informed of construction milestones as they are reached. Tim Baker described the temporary water pipes that will be installed at Belle Vista.

## V. Questions

A wide range of questions were asked during and following the slide show, many of which related to the project while others had to do with extraneous issues. The questions and answers are summarized below.

1. *Will water quality be affected?*  
A. There will be no change in water quality.
2. *When will you get to Walther?*  
A. Tim Baker explained that until downstream portions of the project are completed, there will be no improvement to water problems in upstream portions even if construction at an upstream location has been completed. Mike Schultz said residents should not expect any reprieve from storm water until the project is completed in June 2005.

3. *The June 13<sup>th</sup> flood and back-up was the third flood I've had in eight years. How come it took so long to address this problem after 32 years?*
  - A. Councilwoman Lois Garey summarized the past issues and priorities for public spending, and explained the consent decree as the driver for moving this project ahead. She emphasized that funding for the project means an increase in water rates.
  
4. *What does [George] Winfield have to do with this?*
  - A. Councilwoman Garey explained he is the head of the Dept. of Public Works.
  
5. *Will this project help areas north of Winthrop?*
  - A. The City said yes it will help, since downstream pipes will be replaced with larger pipes that will allow upstream water to flow faster out of the area.
  
6. *Where does Moore s Run end?*
  - A. A community member said it ends at Herring Run.
  
7. *Two months ago there was a back-up of sewage in Herring Run. Is this part of this project?*
  - A. The City responded that Herring Run is not part of this project. Kurt Kocher described the manhole stacks at Herring Run and the work that will be undertaken there to avoid future back-ups.
  
8. *A resident in the 5900 block of Bel Air Road said there was a lot of back up after the recent storms, and wanted to know if this project will help, and could the drains be cleaned.*
  - A. The City indicated section 1 of the Moore s Run project will help that back-up situation. Mike Schultz handed his business card to the resident and ask the person to call him so he could make arrangements to have the drains cleaned.
  
9. *Can any part of the project be operational before June 2005?*
  - A. Tim Baker responded that the sewer and storm pipes will become operational as construction moves along the alignment, however, he emphasized that the full benefit of the project will not be felt until the entire project is completed in June 2005. He indicated that the Belle Vista and Glen Arm sections will be the last to be completed.
  
10. *I live near 95 and Pulaski Highway. There s a problem with sewer stacks/lids coming off; it s a cause for concern with children playing nearby.*
  - A. The City responded that below section 1 of this project, there is another problem area in the sanitary sewer. This is being addressed in a different project, which is moving into the design phase.
  
11. *When you start in Herring Run, it will flow down to us. Will this new project cause flooding downstream once this current project is completed?*
  - A. Various City representatives provided responses to this question. In summary, their responses were that a study has defined the most critical areas that have resulted in three Moore s Run projects. The current project is the middle section,

which probably won't impact the storm water and sanitary sewer in Herring Run. The lower section will be constructed in three years.

12. *What's the City stand on damages for the June 13<sup>th</sup> storm?*
  - A. Kurt Kocher indicated residents should contact the City Law Dept. and speak with community relations attorney Steve Wright. The Law Dept.'s phone number is 410-396-3400.
  
13. *When you start tearing up the street, how does street closing work and what is the impact on parking?*
  - A. Using the Glen Arm/Belle Vista portion of the alignment as an example, the City described the phasing of the project and the need to close streets and/or limit parking in a section when construction activity is occurring.
  
14. *Will anyone be supervising the contractor regarding the number of people working?*
  - A. Mike Schultz replied that a construction inspection team will be assigned to the project and will be on site during construction activity. This team will have an office in the White House Manor apartments.  
[Subsequent to meeting, the on-site office to be located at Gatch Memorial United Methodist Church at 5738 Belair Road, not at the apartment complex.]
  
15. *I live between Harford and Walther, south of Echodale. Will this project change my situation?*
  - A. This project is not in your watershed therefore it will not affect you.

Stuart Vosburg gave the audience his phone number — 410-396-4700 — and said they could call him if they have storm water problems.

Councilwoman Garey said citizens can call her if they have a problem with BGE relating to this project.
  
16. *Is the drinking water safe? It doesn't taste good.*
  - A. The City responded the drinking water is fine and meets all safety regulations.
  
17. *Councilwoman Garey: Will you stop work in winter for snow?*
  - A. No. Special equipment will be used to remove snow from alleys when construction limits street parking and access during and after snowstorms.
  
18. *There are flooding issues at Glenmore and Carter.*
  - A. Stuart Vosburg responded this is an isolated problem and it's in the public right-of-way.
  
19. *When will you start on section 1?*
  - A. Within six months and be finished by June 2005.
  
20. *Can the City provide sandbags for heavy rain?*

- A. Kurt Kocher responded that the storm of June 13 was the worst we've ever witnessed, so the likelihood of needing sandbags in the future is remote.
21. *Councilwoman Garey: Is it possible to put together a briefing for the community?*
- A. Yes. Briefing materials will be developed to cover water, sewers and storm drains.
22. *After June 13<sup>th</sup>, there was a major health concern and my doctor suggested getting a hepatitis shot.*
- A. Kurt Kocher indicated there are things that the homeowner can do to prevent a sewage back up in the basement, such as activating the toilet back-flow valve. However, it was pointed out by a citizen that if paper is caught in the valve it won't work correctly and an overflow will still occur.
23. *Kurt Kocher: When will the next meeting be held?*
- A. Mike Schultz responded that he will be working with the City's Office of Neighborhoods to form a Citizens Advisory Committee which will meet quarterly. There will also be a Website created for this project to inform residents of progress and next steps in construction.

Mike Schultz closed the meeting at 8:45 p.m.