

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY  
Washington, D.C.

**Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan  
Public Participation Program**

***Responsiveness Summary For  
Public Meeting No. 1  
June 7, 1999***

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for its Combined Sewer System (CSS). As part of this comprehensive effort, the first in a series of planned public meetings was held on Monday, June 7, 1999. The purpose of the meeting was to present the background, objectives, work plan and timetable of the LTCP to the public and to invite public comment and participation in the LTCP development process.

**2. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE LTCP**

WASA operates a wastewater collection system comprised of separate and combined sewers. Parts of the District are served by separate storm and sanitary sewers. In the combined sewer system (CSS), there is a single sewer to convey stormwater and sanitary wastes. The area served by combined sewers comprised about 12,640 acres (about 33 percent) of the District.

During dry weather, sanitary wastes collected in the CSS are conveyed to the Authority's wastewater treatment plant at Blue Plains (BPWWTP or the Blue Plains WWTP). During periods of rainfall, the capacity of a combined sewer may be exceeded and the excess flow, which is a mixture of stormwater and sanitary wastes, is discharged directly to the Anacostia River, Rock Creek or the Potomac River or tributary waters.

There are a total of 60 combined sewer overflow (CSO) outfalls listed in WASA's existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. The NPDES permit is

issued and administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In addition to other conditions, the permit requires preparation of a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for the CSS.

The principal objective of the LTCP development process is to develop an action plan and implementation schedule to control Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) discharges to area waterways. Developing the LTCP will consist of the following principle elements:

- Establish Existing Conditions – identify CSO outfalls, hydraulic control points, and sewer system relationships.
- Characterize Systems – perform monitoring and modeling of receiving waters and sewer systems to assess the frequency and impact of CSOs.
- Identify and Evaluate Alternatives – identify and evaluate alternatives for controlling CSOs in terms of effectiveness, costs, impacts to the public and the environment.
- Select Plan – select the preferred alternative and develop an action plan and schedule for implementation.

### **3. NOTIFICATION AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC MEETING NO. 1**

The following notifications and information were made available prior to the public meeting. Copies of the newspaper advertisements, script for the radio service announcement and the mailing list for notices are included in Appendix A.

- a. Newspaper: Public Meeting No. 1 was advertised by an official notice placed in the following newspapers:
  - The Alexandria Gazette packet on May 6, 1999
  - La Nación on May 7, 1999
  - The Washington Afro-American on May 15, 1999 - May 21, 1999
  - The Washington Post on May 7, 1999
  - The Washington Times on May 7, 1999

- b. Radio: A public service announcement was broadcast on WAMU National Public Radio.
- c. Public Information Depository: An Information Document was prepared and placed on reserve at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library at 901 G Street, NW.

The Information Document included the following documents:

- “EPA Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Policy”
  - “District of Columbia Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan (Draft Program Plan)”
  - “Study Memorandum LTCP-5-1: Monitoring Plan for Sewer Systems and Receiving Waters (Draft)”
  - “NPDES Permit”
  - “CSO Abatement Program Final Report 1983”
- d. Notice by Mail: Over 500 notices were mailed to citizens and representatives of businesses, interest groups, Federal Government, local government, regulatory agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, and interjurisdictional agencies.

#### **4. MEETING PRESENTATION AND ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Michael Marcotte, WASA’s Deputy General Manager and Chief Engineer, began the meeting with introductory statements, an outline of the presentation, and a discussion on water quality issues. Mr. Lawrence Jaworski of Greeley and Hansen then described the purpose of the LTCP, the approach to preparing the LTCP and public participation opportunities. Mr. Marcotte concluded the presentation with an overview of WASA’s ongoing efforts to control CSOs and a look ahead to upcoming milestones in the LTCP development process.

A total of forty-four (44) people, including the presenters noted above, attended the public meeting. The attendance list and the presentation handout are attached in Appendix B.

## 5. PUBLIC STATEMENTS

Two people signed up to make public statements prior to the question and answer session. The statements by Mr. Robert Boone of the Anacostia Watershed Society and Mr. Frazer Walton of the Kingman Park Civic Association are presented below:

Statement No. 1: Mr. Boone stated that the goal should be zero discharge of combined sewage overflow to the Anacostia River and that the condition of the river should be improved for today's children and future generations so that they can fully utilize this perfect resource. He also stated that WASA should develop a stakeholders committee to get input from the people who use the river on a more frequent basis than the proposed four public meetings.

Statement No. 2: Mr. Walton stated that he agreed with the previous suggestion that WASA should form a stakeholders group to include groups that wanted to actively participate in the decision making process. He also stated that litter from activities along the river such as carnivals, etc ended up right in the river and a method should be developed to prevent the litter from entering the river. He then offered to take WASA out on the Anacostia River and show them the impact on the Kingman Park Area.

### Response to

Statements 1 & 2: WASA has decided to form a Stakeholder's Advisory Panel (Panel) as requested by the above comments. The Panel will provide an opportunity for public input and consultation on the LTCP development process at more frequent intervals and will provide a forum for more in-depth exchange of information, ideas and results as the LTCP process moves forward. The Panel will consist of between 15-40 members representing citizens, businesses, interest groups, Federal Government, regulatory agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, and interjurisdictional agencies. It is anticipated the Panel will meet

approximately 3 or 4 times per year. WASA is still in the process of organizing the Panel.

## **6. QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

Question No. 1: Where are you with the National Park Service (NPS) on the issue of posting CSO Outfall signs?

Response: WASA has an obligation to post signs at CSO outfalls. Signs had been posted, but many on NPS property were taken down by the NPS. WASA is now working with the NPS on coming up with a design that is suitable to them. Once the design is finish, a copy will be given to EPA for their review and comment, prior to posting.

Question No. 2: How do we get the NPS to move more quickly on this issue?

Response: A work group of federal agencies has been recently been formed that may facilitate resolving the sign posting issue in a more timely manner.

Question No. 3: On Page 6 of the handout, "Water Quality is a Watershed issue," what pollutants is it referring to?

Response: This information was taken from the MWCOG study referenced (*An Existing Source Assessment of Pollutants to the Anacostia Watershed*; prepared by the Metropolitan Council of Governments for the D.C. Department of Consumer & Regulatory Affairs, June 1997). The pie chart was developed based on the total poundage of pollutants evaluated in the study. The pollutants evaluated were Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus, BOD<sub>5</sub>, Arsenic, Chromium, Copper, Lead, Zinc, Chlordane, Total Hydrocarbon, Total Suspended, and Solids.

Question No. 4: May I have more information on the breakdown of the pollutants?

Response: Yes, you may obtain a copy of the report by calling Dr. Mohsin Siddique, the CSO Program Manger for WASA. His phone number is (202) 787-2424.

Question No. 5: In reference to progress on the Nine Minimum Controls, if I want to find out more specifically about what steps have been taken; what has been implemented; what's in the planning process; and what has already been accomplished, where would I look for that information?

Response: WASA is required under the permit to prepare a quarterly report to EPA on NMC activities. WASA can make that available to you or you can obtain it from EPA. Contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at (202) 787-2424 with regards to future planning, that will be happening in conjunction with the LTCP development process and participating in the LTCP process will enable you to be kept up to date on future planning for Nine Minimum Controls.

Question No. 6: Where does water conservation fit into the plan?

Response: There is a companion project under way right now by WASA called the Water Conservation Study. One purpose of the project is to evaluate water conservation potential to reduce the District's wastewater contribution to the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant. Several other aspects of the project deal with infiltration control and storm water control. The LTCP project is working with the Water Conservation Study to ensure that the results of the Water Conservation Study are considered with regard to the potential for CSO reduction as well.

Question No. 7: How do I find out more about Water Conservation Study?

Response: You may contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at DCWASA at (202) 787-2424.

Question No. 8: The Eastside Interceptor was found to have silt buildup?

To what amount and does it affect the depth of the water in the Anacostia River? Does it interfere with our waterways? Would boats run aground?

Response: Yes, there is silt buildup inside of the Eastside Interceptor, which is an underground pipe on the west of the Anacostia River that conveys combined sewage flow. WASA has discovered that over the years, the pipe has filled-up with silt, which is reducing the capacity of the pipe. The cleaning program planned for the interceptor will restore its flow capacity. The interceptor's condition does not affect the Anacostia River in terms of siltation in the river channel.

Question No. 9: Will the cost to implement the CSS LTCP and Best Management Practices (BMPs) affect sewer rates?

Response: Depending on the selected LTCP and BMPs to be implemented, there is a good potential that sewer rates would be affected. WASA anticipates that the money to cover these programs will be generated through WASA's ratepayers or through other additional means. For example, there are programs under the Federal Government State Revolving Loan Fund program. There may be an opportunity for direct funding from the Federal Government in some instances.

Question No. 10: I don't think this is a unique problem to the District of Columbia. Are there other cities with this problem? WASA should find out what has been successful in the other cities and adapt it to the District, rather than reinventing the wheel.

Response: Yes, there are other cities facing this same problem. WASA has researched how other communities, such as Boston and New York City, are addressing this problem. Typically, what works for each city is different, because the configuration of each sewer systems and receiving water condition is unique.

However, we will continue this investigation effort on Thursday, June 10, 1999, when officials from WASA and members of the LTCP project will travel to New York City and Northern New Jersey to review floatables control and CSO retention facilities. One floatables control technology, a netting system, that has been successful in other cities, is proposed to be tested on the Anacostia River. WASA has and will continue to use the experience of other communities in developing its LTCP.

Question No. 11:

Getting back to the question of rate payers, there is a danger in not approaching the problem from a watershed point of view. How would you approach the challenge of addressing the storm water pollution problem, which I know is substantial in the Rock Creek and Anacostia tributary waterways? Have you given any thought to a regional approach to include everybody who lives in the watershed areas to contribute funds toward watershed improvement and not just make it a mandatory cost for the District residents? I don't live in the D.C.; I live in Montgomery County but I am willing to pay.

Response:

WASA does not have direct control over the funding priorities or allocations of other jurisdictions. WASA does, however, participate in interjurisdictional groups to address these issues. As an example, WASA participates in the Anacostia Watershed Restoration Committee along with District officials, Prince George's and Montgomery Counties as well as Maryland state officials to improve the water quality of the Anacostia River. Mr. Jim Collier of the D.C. Department of Health is also a very good resource on watershed initiatives. Through the auspices of the EPA Special Panel on Wet Weather Issues, Ms. Rebecca Hamner of the EPA also urges everyone to work on a watershed basis. You can also encourage Montgomery County to evaluate storm water programs to reduce pollutant loads on the watershed.

Question No. 12: Do you know how many cities in the country are dealing with the same issue?

Response: Approximately twelve hundred combined sewer communities have been identified by EPA.

Question No. 13: How many of those have come up with a resolution?

Response: Less than half have come up with a resolution.

Question No. 14: Out of the approximately 600, what is the most successful resolution?

Response: WASA is unaware of a comprehensive assessment to determine the relative degree of success of various CSO plans in terms of performance, cost, and non-monetary factors. Some CSO plans involve little construction while others call for substantial capital improvements. As an example, Chicago has built a tunnel system costing billions of dollars, which has improved their combined sewer system. However the plan has not been fully implemented, because they have not been able to fully fund the project and complete the reservoir component.

Complete separation of the combined sewer system into separate sanitary and storm sewers will likely be one of the most costly alternatives. During the public meeting, the cost of complete separation was stated to be in the range of \$12 to \$16 billion. This estimate was based on an order of magnitude cost for the approximately 12,640 acres located within the combined sewer service area. A thorough and detailed estimate of the cost of separation has not been performed recently, however, prior studies have included estimates of this cost. In a 1957 report titled *Improvements to Sewerage System* (Board of Engineers), a program to separate combined sewers in the District was outlined and its cost was estimated to be \$214 million at that time (over 40 years ago). In a 1983 study titled *Combined Sewer Overflow Abatement Program* (O'Brien & Gere, Inc.), this cost was updated to 1983 using

*Engineering News Record's* construction cost index. The cost updated to 1983 was reported to be approximately \$1.2 billion. The cost of separation is approximately \$2 billion when the 1983 cost is updated to 1999 using the same methodology. Please note that cost separation will be reevaluated as part of developing the Long Term Control Plan, which is the subject of this public meeting.

Question No. 15: What would be the Federal Government's financial contribution to the CSS LTCP?

Response: Through Rebecca Hamner of the EPA, WASA has begun a dialogue with the federal agencies to discuss their responsibility for federal facilities impacts, and to discuss their contribution to the LTCP.

Question No. 16: Does the Federal Government comprise 30 or 40 percent of the combined sewer area?

Response: The percentage comprised by Federal Agencies has not yet been quantified. There is a group made up of representatives of federal agencies that is now meeting on a regular basis to discuss Federal Government issues associated with wet weather pollution.

Question No. 17: Will this study give you any indication of how much litter (cups, wrappers from the curbside, etc.) gets in the drains and causes backups?

Response: Best Management Practice (BMP) demonstration projects proposed for the Anacostia River and Rock Creek will help to identify the quantity of floatables generated in those areas. WASA also has additional information, from other communities, that quantifies the floatable loading rates for similar urban areas. Based on past experience, floatables do not typically contribute significantly to sewer backups. However, WASA is developing programs to control floatables and keep them from getting into the sewers. One effort described in the

presentation is WASA's current effort to implement a more aggressive catch basin cleaning program.

Question No. 18: What is the source of the estimate you gave earlier on the cost of separating sewers in the combined sewer area?

Response: See the response to Question 14.

Question No. 19: Has any serious study been done on how much unused dry weather capacity Blue Plain's allocates to other jurisdictions?

Response: Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant capacity is allocated under what is called the Intermunicipal Agreement. It's a contractual arrangement involving the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Montgomery, Prince George's, and Fairfax Counties, and the District of Columbia. Roughly, one-half of the capacity of Blue Plains is allocated to jurisdictions other than the District. The average daily treatment capacity of Blue Plains WWTP is 370 million gallons per day (mgd). About 30 to 40 mgd of capacity is presently underutilized by the Maryland jurisdictions, which allows for their future growth and increased flow.

Question No. 20: Why allow storm water to go to the river? Why not treat all of it?

Response: A very large volume of storm water is generated during large rain events, probably in the range of billions of gallons per day. Treating this volume of water would be extremely costly and difficult. Public education programs may be a more cost effective means to improve storm water quality. Please note that the LTCP process will address the combined sewer system. The separate storm water system will only be addressed to the degree it impacts the combined sewer system.

Comment No. 1: I would like to agree with the others who have expressed dissatisfaction with one meeting every 6 months.

Response: WASA will establish a Stakeholder Advisory Panel, which will meet at more frequent intervals to provide opportunity for public input and consultation. See the response to public Statements after Section 5 of this document.

Comment No 2: There is a problem with silt build-up on the east side of the Anacostia River to the point where it is beginning to encroach on the navigable channel.

Response: This has been noted. WASA is unaware of CSOs causing siltation problems in the Anacostia River. Impediments to navigation in waters of the United States are typically addressed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Comment No. 3: The EPA has done a lot on defining public participation. The EPA also has guidelines on this and you may want to use them as you flesh out the plan. Also, WASA should use the news media in a creative manner to build public support for this LTCP project.

Response: EPA Guidance Documents, including those on preparation of the LTCP, have been used in developing the public participation program for the LTCP. This program is proposed to include public meetings, establishment of a Stakeholder Advisory Panel, mailers in water and sewer bills, newsletters, and other items.

Comment No. 4: I recommend that WASA educate people not to litter and advising people of the repercussions of littering on our waterways.

Response: Two components of the Nine Minimum Controls program are 'Pollution Prevention' and 'Public Notification'. As part of the Nine Minimum Controls program, WASA will be reviewing measures aimed at preventing pollution and at educating the public. WASA will also be working with the Department of Public Works on various programs aimed at pollution prevention/public education such as street cleaning, trash pickup, and others.

Comment No. 5 by Ms. Hamner of EPA: EPA does not encourage sewer separation as the technique of choice because after the sewer is separated, there will still be some water pollution. If you look at *An Existing Source Assessment of Pollutants to the Anacostia Watershed* report, it indicates that a significant portion of the pollution load is from storm sewers not the combined sewer. EPA realized that (a) sewer separation is a very expensive cost to the city; (b) it doesn't solve the water quality problem. Some type of project that provides underground retention of CSO may provide more benefit to the water quality of the receiving waters.

Response: This has been noted for consideration.

Comment No. 6: The authorities should punish violators of littering and polluting regulations.

Response: Please note that police activities are a District of Columbia government function and not a WASA function. The District has an environmental crimes unit which addresses illegal dumping. Police must catch dumpers in the act or must have sufficient evidence to locate the responsible party. This can be difficult, especially when dumping occurs in remote areas and at irregular hours. Considering that police forces in and around the District are occupied with many important issues, focusing substantial resources on dumping may not be the best use of those limited resources.

Comment No.7: Kingman Park had a very effective public education program to reduce littering and polluting. We worked with 10 schools in the area. We found that starting with the elementary schools age children first, and encouraging them to talk their parents was successful. We had a poster content and awarded first, second, and third place prizes to the students. The children are more receptive than the adults. Working with the public schools is a good way to educate the public.

Response: This has been noted for consideration

## **7. MORE INFORMATION/CORRECTIONS**

If there are any corrections to this document or if further information is needed, please contact the following:

Dr. Mohsin Siddique  
Program Manager  
D.C. Water and Sewer Authority  
5000 Overlook Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20032  
Tel: (202) 787-2424  
e-mail: Mohsin\_Siddique@dcwasa.com

The District of Columbia  
Water and Sewer Authority  
Washington, D.C.

**Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan  
Public Participation Program**

***List of Written Comments  
Via Mail***

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Mr. Christoper Anest<br>Nutley, NJ                           | 11. Mr. Martin Pell<br>Washington, DC                             |
| 2. Ms. Suzanne Bobela<br>Washington, DC                         | 12. Mr. Keith J. Pemrick<br>American University<br>Washington, DC |
| 3. Ms. Elizabeth Bourne<br>Washington, DC                       | 13. Mr. Seth young Raley<br>Washington, DC                        |
| 4. Ms. Brenna Coleman<br>Washington, DC                         | 14. Ms. Darci Rodenhi<br>American University<br>Washington, DC    |
| 5. Mr. Malick Faye<br>Washington, DC                            | 15. Nasreen Seleem<br>American University<br>Washington, DC       |
| 6. Ms. Barbara Francisco<br>Silver Spring, MD                   | 16. Ms. Michelle Turner<br>Washington, DC                         |
| 7. Mr. Casey Legler<br>American University<br>Washington, DC    | 17. Ms. Michelle Vitale<br>American University<br>Washington, DC  |
| 8. Mr. Richard n. McGlothlin<br>Washington, DC                  | 18. Robin Wilby<br>American University<br>Washington, DC          |
| 9. Ms. Patricia R. McPherson<br>Washington, DC                  | 19. Ms. Deborah Wood<br>American University<br>Washington, DC     |
| 10. Mr. Cameron Miller<br>American University<br>Washington, DC |   |

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT  
for

**National Public Radio**

The following announcement is proposed as a public service announcement on National Public Radio (WAMU) during the week of April 24 through April 28, 2000.

“The second in a series of public meetings to discuss the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority’s combined sewer system will be held on May 4, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. The Authority operates the wastewater collection system for the District of Columbia and provides wastewater treatment for the District, and portions of Maryland and Virginia. The Authority is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan to control combined sewer overflow discharges to area waterways. The Authority invites the public to participate in this process.

For more information about this meeting, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at (202) 787-2424. “

# PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT for

## Cable TV Bulletin Board

The following announcement is proposed as a public service announcement on the District of Columbia Public Access Television—DCTV and City Cable.

“The second public meeting to discuss the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority’s combined sewer system will be held on May 4, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. The Authority is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan to control combined sewer overflow discharges to area waterways. The Authority invites the Public to participate in this process.

For more information, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at (202) 787-2424.or e-mail at [Mohsin\\_Siddique@dcwasa.com](mailto:Mohsin_Siddique@dcwasa.com).”

## CSO WEB SITE ANNOUNCEMENT

The following announcement is proposed as an on the DCWASA CSO Web page under the "UPDATES" heading:

"The second in a series of public meetings to discuss the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority's combined sewer system will be held on May 4, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 901 G Street, NW, Room A-5. The Authority operates the wastewater collection system for the District of Columbia and provides wastewater treatment for the District, and portions of Maryland and Virginia. The Authority is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan to control combined sewer overflow discharges to area waterways. The programs developed as a result of the Long Term Control Plan process could have a significant impact on water and sewer rates in the District. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting.

For more information, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at (202) 787-2424.or e-mail at [Mohsin\\_Siddique@dcwasa.com](mailto:Mohsin_Siddique@dcwasa.com). "

**(NEWSPAPER NOTICE)**

**NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

for  
District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority  
Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. LIBRARY  
901 G Street, NW  
Room A-5

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2000  
6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) operates the wastewater collection system for the District of Columbia and provides wastewater treatment for the District, as well as portions of Maryland and Virginia. Approximately, one third of the District (12,640± acres) is served by combined sewers while the remaining area is served by separate sewers. In a combined sewer system, the sewage from homes and businesses during dry weather conditions is conveyed to the District of Columbia's Wastewater Treatment Plant at Blue Plains where it is treated and discharged to the Potomac River. When the capacity of a combined sewer is exceeded during rain storms, the excess flow, which is a mixture of sewage and storm water runoff, is discharged as Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) to the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, Rock Creek and tributary waters.

WASA is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) to address CSOs. The purpose of the LTCP is to develop a plan and schedule for controlling CSO discharges to area waterways. This is the second in a series of public meetings, which are intended to provide an opportunity for public input and consultation. These meetings will occur at intervals over the next two years concluding with a Public Hearing to present the conclusions and recommendations of WASA's LTCP. The CSO LTCP is currently scheduled to be submitted to the U.S. EPA and other regulatory agencies in July 2001.

Members of the public potentially affected by the LTCP include rate payers, industrial users of the sewer system, persons downstream from CSO discharges, people who reside near the waters and people who use the waters for swimming, fishing and recreational purposes. The programs developed as a result of the LTCP process could have a significant impact on water and sewer rates in the District. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting.

For more information or if you require special assistance to be able to participate in this meeting, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at (202) 787-2424. Information about WASA's LTCP is available at WASA's web site at [www.dcwasa.com](http://www.dcwasa.com) and at the following public libraries: Martin Luther King, Jr. at 901 G St. NW, Capitol View at 5001 Central Ave. SE, Mount Pleasant at 3160 16<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Northeast at 330 7<sup>th</sup> St. NE, Southeast at 403 7<sup>th</sup> St. SE, Shepherd Park at 7420 Georgia Ave. NW, Tenley-Friendship at 4450 Wisconsin Ave. NW, and Washington Highlands at 115 Atlantic Street SE.

Subject: Invitation to Public Information Meeting No. 2  
District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority  
Combined Sewer System (CSS) Long Term Control Plan

Dear Public Stakeholder:

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is currently in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) to address Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) to the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, Rock Creek and tributary waters. The purpose of the LTCP is to develop a plan and schedule for controlling CSO discharges to area waterways.

In order to provide opportunities for public input and consultation, WASA proposes to hold a series of public meetings. The meetings will occur at intervals over the next two years, concluding with a Public Hearing to present the conclusions and recommendations of WASA's LTCP. The draft CSO LTCP is currently scheduled to be submitted to the U.S. EPA and other regulatory agencies in July 2001.

The first public meeting was held in June 1999. The second public meeting is scheduled as follows:

- Date and Time: Thursday, May 4, 2000, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
- Place: Martin Luther King, Jr. Library  
901 G Street, N.W., Room A-5

The programs developed as a result of the LTCP process could have a significant impact on water and sewer rates in the District. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting. A brief description of CSOs and the LTCP planning process is included on the attached **Newsletter**.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity and we look forward to seeing you at the Public Meeting. If you would like additional information, or require special assistance to be able to participate in the meeting, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique, WASA's Program Manager, at (202) 787-2424.

Sincerely,

Jerry N. Johnson  
General Manager

Attachment

The District of Columbia  
Water and Sewer Authority  
Washington, D.C.

**Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan  
Public Participation Program**

***List of Attendees  
Public Meeting No. 2  
May 4, 2000***

1. John Arin  
DC Public Schools  
1709 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002
2. David J. Bardin  
ANC 3F04  
4701 Connecticut Avenue, NW, #501  
Washington, DC 20008
3. Jerusalem Bekele  
DC Department of Health  
Environmental Health Administration  
51 N Street, NE, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20002
4. Len Benson  
DC WASA  
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW, Rm. 314  
Washington, DC 20032
5. Robert Boone  
Anacostia Watershed Society  
4302 Baltimore Avenue  
Bladensburg, MD 20710
6. John F. Cassidy  
Greeley and Hansen  
8905 Presidential Parkway, Suite 230  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
7. Jim Collier  
DC Department of Health  
51 N Street, NE, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20002
8. Steve Cochran  
DC Office of Planning  
801 North Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002
9. Cyril Crandon  
Advanced Engineering, P.C.  
1339 Green Court, NW  
Washington, DC 20005
10. Burt Curry  
ADS  
3916 Vero Raod, Suite M  
Baltimore, MD 21227
11. Angela S. Essner  
Greeley and Hansen  
8905 Presidential Parkway, Suite 230  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
12. Neal Fitzpatrick  
Audubon National Society  
8940 Jones Mill Road  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
13. Joseph A. Glover, Chair  
Ward 7 Citizen's Env. T.F.  
1215 33<sup>rd</sup> Place, SE  
Washington, DC 20019-2910
14. Edward (Ted) Graham  
MWCOG  
777 N. Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002

15. Phil Heinrich  
ANC 3F  
3817 Veazey Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20016
16. Phil Hwang  
Greeley and Hansen  
8905 Presidential Parkway, Suite 230  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
17. Larry Jaworski  
Greeley and Hansen  
8905 Presidential Parkway, Suite 230  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
18. Captain Steve Martsolf  
Naval District Washington N2  
Washington Navy Yard  
1014 N Street SE, Suite 320  
Washington, DC 20374-5001
19. Kris Moss  
DC Department of Health  
Environmental Health Administration  
51 N Street, NE, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20002
20. Kerry Pearson  
The Kerry S. Pearson LLC  
1225 19<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 825  
Washington, DC 20036
21. Nadia Perry-Lee  
J-DOS Internationale, Inc.  
7826 Eastern Avenue, NW, Suite 409  
Washington, DC 20012
22. Melissa Raphael  
American University  
4400 Massachusetts Avenue  
Letts 324  
Washington, DC 20016
23. King Ryan  
1402 Massachusetts Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20003
24. Cherie Schultz  
ICPRB  
6110 Executive Boulevard  
Rockville, MD 20852-3903
25. Mohsin Siddique  
DC WASA  
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20032
26. Nancy Stoner  
NRDC  
1200 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20005
27. Martin Sultan  
DC WASA  
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20032
28. Lenora A. Thomas  
636 Princeton Place, NW  
Washington, DC 20010
29. Lauren Vaughan  
The Kerry S. Pearson LLC  
1225 19<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 825  
Washington, DC 20036
30. Janice Vieira  
J-Dos Internationale, Inc.  
4826 Eastern Avenue, NE, Suite 409  
Washington, DC 20012
31. Greg Welter  
O'Brien & Gere Engineering  
8201 Corporate Drive  
Landover, MD 20785



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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY  
Washington, D.C.

***Responsiveness Summary for  
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Program Manager - Greeley and Hansen  
June 2000

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APPENDIX A – Public Notifications

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THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY  
Washington, D.C.

**Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan  
Public Participation Program**

***Responsiveness Summary For  
Public Meeting No. 2  
May 4, 2000***

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for its Combined Sewer System (CSS). As part of this effort, the second in a series of public meetings was held on Thursday, May 4, 2000. The purpose of the meeting was to present an update on the development of the LTCP and the Nine Minimum Control Program and to obtain public input and comments.

**2. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE LTCP**

WASA operates a wastewater collection system comprised of separate and combined sewers. Parts of the District are served by separate storm and sanitary sewers. In the combined sewer system (CSS), there is a single sewer to convey stormwater and sanitary wastes. The area served by combined sewers comprises about 12,640 acres (about 33 percent) of the District.

During dry weather, sanitary wastes collected in the CSS are conveyed to the Authority's wastewater treatment plant at Blue Plains (BPWWTP or the Blue Plains WWTP). During periods of rainfall, the capacity of a combined sewer may be exceeded and the excess flow, which is a mixture of stormwater and sanitary wastes, is discharged directly to the Anacostia River, Rock Creek or the Potomac River or tributary waters.

There are a total of 60 combined sewer overflow (CSO) outfalls listed in WASA's existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. The NPDES permit is issued and administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In addition to

other conditions, the permit requires preparation of a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for the CSS.

- The principal objective of the LTCP development process is to develop an action plan and implementation schedule to control Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) discharges to area waterways.

### **3. NOTIFICATION AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC MEETING NO. 2**

The following notifications and information were made available prior to the public meeting. Copies of the newspaper advertisements, script for the radio service announcement and the mailing list for notices are included in Appendix A.

- a. Newspaper: Public Meeting No. 2 was advertised by an official notice placed in the following newspapers:
  - La Nación on March 31 and April 7, 2000
  - The Washington Afro-American on April 8-14, 2000 and April 15-21, 2000
  - The Washington Post on March 31 and April 2, 2000
  - The Washington Times on March 31 and April 2, 2000
- b. Radio: A public service announcement was broadcast on WAMU National Public Radio.
- c. Public Information Depository: An Information Document was prepared and placed on reserve at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library at 901 G Street, NW.

The Information Document included the following documents:

- Nine Minimum Controls Summary Report (Draft)
- Nine Minimum Controls Summary Action Plan (Draft)

- Study Memorandum LTCP-1-3: Existing CSO Controls and Programs (Final)
- Stakeholder Advisory Panel Meeting Summary – Meetings No. 1 and 2

d. Notice by Mail: Over 500 notices were mailed to citizens and representatives of businesses, interest groups, Federal Government, local government, regulatory agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, and interjurisdictional agencies.

#### **4. MEETING PRESENTATION AND ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Lawrence Jaworski of Greeley and Hansen began the meeting with introductory statements and an outline of the presentation. He then gave an update on the development of the LTCP and the Nine Minimum Control Program. Mr. Jaworski concluded the presentation with a look ahead to upcoming milestones in the LTCP development process.

A total of thirty-one (31) people, including the presenters noted above, attended the public meeting. The attendance list and the presentation handout are attached in Appendix B.

#### **5. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

Question No. 1: When is the inflatable dam project scheduled to be complete?

Response: Design of replacements for the inflatable is currently underway and is expected to take approximately 12 months. After design, permits from regulatory agencies and landowners such as the National Park Service will be applied for and obtained. The time required for permitting is beyond WASA's control and thus cannot be estimated. After receiving permits, the project will be bid and construction will commence.

Question No. 2: Do other jurisdictions use inflatable dams?

Response: Other jurisdictions are using inflatable dams. Note that when the dams were first installed, they were a new and innovative technology. The first versions of the dams experienced failures at the seams due to manufacturing problems. Other jurisdictions that installed the first versions of the dams experienced the same difficulties as WASA.

Question No. 3: Is WASA going to advise the media on the new signs at CSO outfalls? WASA should consider a press event to publish the signs.

Response: WASA will take this under consideration.

Question No. 4: How many outfalls are there and where are they located?

Response: There are a total of 60 CSO outfalls; 17 discharge to the Anacostia, 12 discharge to the Potomac, 29 discharge to Rock Creek, and one discharges to Little Falls Branch.

Question No. 5: Where are the largest CSOs and how large are they?

Response: As part of the preparation of the LTCP, WASA is conducting monitoring of CSO overflow volumes at representative CSOs throughout the District. The results of the monitoring in conjunction with computer models will enable prediction of the relative magnitude of each CSO. Based on prior CSO investigations, two of the largest CSOs are the Northeast Boundary sewer located near RFK Stadium and the Tiber Creek and B Street/New Jersey Avenue Sewers located at Main and O Pumping Stations near the South Capital Street bridge. Note that the physical size of a CSO is not necessarily directly indicative of the magnitude, frequency and duration of CSO overflows. Regarding the size of outfalls, some of the largest CSOs span up to 21 feet in diameter.

Question No. 6: Are there overflow events that overwhelm the swirl? How frequently does that occur?

Response: Depending on rainfall conditions, there are CSO events, which exceed the treatment capacity of the Northeast Boundary Swirl Facility. The

frequency at which this occurs is not known and is being investigated as part of the monitoring described in the response to the question above.

Question No. 7:

Is the performance evaluation of the swirl that is currently being planned the first time such an evaluation has been conducted?

Response:

A performance evaluation of the swirl was conducted in the early 1990s. That performance evaluation suggested that the swirl was working, but not up to the level of performance which had been expected. Recently, improvements to the Swirl were constructed by WASA. A second evaluation will assess the performance of the facility.

Question No. 8:

What will WASA look for during the inspection of the siphons and what will be the implication if there is accumulation of silt?

Response:

WASA will identify if there are structural problems, and accumulation of silt in the siphons. Pending the results, a program to repair or clean the siphons would be considered.

Question No. 9:

What is the storage capacity of the entire system?

Response:

The storage capacity of the existing combined sewer system has not yet been estimated. The storage capacity which can be used without causing upstream or basement flooding will be estimated as part of the development of the LTCP.

Question No. 10:

When do you expect the model of the combined sewer system to be completed?

Response:

The model of the combined sewer system is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year 2000.

Question No. 11:

How big are the Anacostia siphons?

Response:

The siphons under the Anacostia River are 5 feet in diameter.

Question No. 12: Does WASA plan to replace the inflatable dams with the same rubber that the rodents like to eat?

Response: Rodents have been found to eat the inflatable dams after they have already failed, when they are deflated. The dams that have failed have done so due to failure of the seams. Once the seams have failed, they cannot be repaired. This will be addressed in the replacement dams.

Question No. 13: Will the LTCP include a financing plan?

Response: A method to finance selected long term CSO controls will be considered as part of the LTCP.

Question No. 14: How much is the District's household currently paying for sewer?

Response: The typical District household pays about \$300/year.

Question No. 15: Regarding the "CSO Flow Monitoring Slide", how much of the flow went through the Northeast Boundary Swirl and how much bypassed it?

Response: During the period monitoring period November 1999- February 2000, approximately 85% of the volume of CSO overflow from the Northeast Boundary drainage area passed through the swirl facility. The remainder bypassed the swirl.

Question No. 16: Can any of the McMillan site be used for storage?

Response: The McMillan site is an active facility, which would make it difficult to use for CSO storage. Portions of the site which are not in use could be used for storage and will be evaluated for feasibility as part of the LTCP.

Question No. 17: What has been decided regarding installation of the EquiFlow® System? The Main & O Street site is not the best site taking into account future development of the area. Have you looked at other places?

Response: WASA prepared an assessment of the system and has forwarded this to the Mayor's Environmental Council. We understand the Council is reviewing the report. Regarding the possibility of locating it at the Main and O St. site, the EquiFlow system must be constructed near CSO outfalls. It also requires adequate water depth in the receiving water and the ability to access the site by vehicle from land that is available to WASA. No sites on the Anacostia met these criteria other than Main and O Street.

Questions No. 18: Are you going to look at storm water?

Response: The purpose and focus of the Long Term Control Plan is to develop a plan to control combined sewer overflows. However, WASA will be assessing the pollutant load imposed by storm water on the receiving waters.

Comment No. 1: The Office of Planning is having a workshop on from May 18 to 23, 2000 and WASA is invited. The meeting will focus on the Southeast Federal Center and economical development in that area.

Comment No 2: The goal of the community should be to achieve fishable and swimmable water quality in the Anacostia.

Comment No. 3: The water quality in the Anacostia received from Maryland at the District Boundary is poor. Maryland needs to do their part to have an affect on the water quality in the Anacostia. We need a watershed approach to clean the river.

Comment No. 4: WASA should adequately consider flow reduction and pollutant management in developing LTCP alternatives. WASA should also consider enlisting allies in D. C. government who have control over activities which affect pollution management such as street cleaning.

Comment No. 5: The District of Columbia Department of Health is a regular participant on the Stakeholder Advisory Panel and in Public Meetings. The Department of Public Works (DPW) should be invited to the Stakeholder Panel.

Response: WASA will invite DPW to attend the Stakeholder Panel Meetings.

Comment No. 6: David Bardin asked that WASA invite Steve Cochran of DC Office of Planning to the Stakeholder Advisory Panel.

Response: WASA will invite Mr. Cochran to the Stakeholder panel Meetings.

## **6. MORE INFORMATION/CORRECTIONS**

If there are any corrections to this document or if further information is needed, please contact the following:

Dr. Mohsin Siddique  
Program Manager  
D.C. Water and Sewer Authority  
5000 Overlook Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20032  
Tel: (202) 787-2424  
e-mail: Mohsin\_Siddique@dcwasa.com

District of Columbia  
Water and Sewer Authority  
Washington, D.C.

**INFORMATION DOCUMENT FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
ON  
D.C. WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY  
COMBINED SEWER SYSTEM LONG TERM CONTROL PLAN**

**BACKGROUND**

Many older cities in the United States are served by combined sewers. A combined sewer carries both sewage and runoff from storms. Modern practice is to build separate sewers for sewage and storm water. No new combined sewers have been built in the District since the early 1900's. Approximately 1/3 of the District (12,640 acres  $\pm$ ) is served by combined sewers, while the remaining area is served by separate sewers. The combined sewer area is shown on Figure 1. The majority of the area served by combined sewers is in older developed sections of the District.

In a combined sewer system, the sewage from homes and businesses during dry weather conditions is conveyed to the District of Columbia Wastewater Treatment Plant at Blue Plains which is located in the southwestern part of the District on the east bank of the Potomac River. There, the wastewater is treated to remove pollutants before being discharged to the Potomac River.

When the capacity of a combined sewer is exceeded during storms, the excess flow, which is a mixture of sewage and storm water runoff, is discharged to the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, Rock Creek and tributary waters. The excess flow is called Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO). There are a total of sixty (60) CSO outfalls listed in the District's existing permit from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The outfall locations are shown on Figure 2.

**CURRENT PLANNING EFFORTS**

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is currently in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) to address CSOs. The purpose of the LTCP is to develop a plan and schedule for controlling CSO discharges to area waterways.

**PUBLIC MEETING**

In order to provide opportunities for public input and consultation, WASA proposes to hold a series of public meetings. The meetings will occur at intervals over the next year, concluding with a Public Hearing to present the conclusions and recommendations of WASA's LTCP. The draft CSO LTCP is currently scheduled to be submitted to the U.S. EPA and other regulatory agencies in July 2001.

The third public meeting is scheduled as follows:

- Date and Time: Tuesday, May 8, 2000, 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
- Place: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E., First Floor Training Room  
Washington, DC

In order to give the public an opportunity to review relevant information prior to the public meeting, WASA has placed this Information Document on reserve at the following public libraries:

- Martin Luther King, Jr.: 901 G St, NW, Washingtoniana Room
- Capitol View: 5001 Central Avenue, SE
- Mount Pleasant: 31 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW
- Northeast: 330 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NE
- Southeast: 403 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SE
- Shepherd Park: 7420 Georgia Avenue, NW
- Tenley-Friendship: 4450 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
- Washington Highlands: 115 Atlantic Street, SE

This Information Document includes the following items, which may be consulted for further information on WASA's LTCP planning efforts:

- Nine Minimum Controls Summary Report (Draft)  
The EPA's Combined Sewer Overflow Control Policy and WASA's NPDES Permit require implementation of the Nine Minimum Controls. The Nine Minimum Controls are relatively simple controls that can reduce CSOs and their effects on receiving waters, which do not require significant engineering studies or major construction and which can be implemented in a relatively short time frame. This document summarizes WASA's existing Nine Minimum Control program and identifies proposed improvements to the program.
- Nine Minimum Controls Action Plan (Draft)  
This document is a follow-up to the Nine Minimum Controls Summary Report. It presents a plan and schedule for implementing improvements to WASA's Nine Minimum Control program.
- Study Memorandum LTCP-1-3: Existing CSO Controls and Programs (Final)  
This document summarizes WASA's past CSO control activities.
- Stakeholder Advisory Panel Meeting Summary – Meetings No. 8 and 9  
To provide additional opportunities for public input and consultation on the LTCP development process, WASA has convened a Stakeholder Advisory Panel. The Panel provides a forum for in-depth exchange of information and is composed of citizens, businesses, interest groups, Federal Government, regulatory agencies, neighboring jurisdictions and interjurisdictional agencies. Ten meetings have been held to date. Meeting summaries are included in this document.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

If you would like additional information, please contact:

Dr. Mohsin Siddique  
Program Manager  
D.C. Water and Sewer Authority  
5000 Overlook Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20032  
Tel: (202) 787-2424; e-mail: Mohsin\_Siddique@dcwasa.com

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT  
for  
**National Public Radio**

The following announcement is proposed as a public service announcement on National Public Radio (WAMU) during the week of April 30 through May 4, 2001.

“The third in a series of public meetings to discuss the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority’s combined sewer system will be held on May 8, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, First Floor Training Room located at 777 North Capitol Street, NE Washington DC. The Authority operates the wastewater collection system for the District of Columbia and provides wastewater treatment for the District, and portions of Maryland and Virginia. The Authority is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan to control combined sewer overflow discharges to area waterways. The Authority invites the public to participate in this process.

For more information about this meeting, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at (202) 787-2424. “

# PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT for

## Cable TV Bulletin Board

The following announcement is proposed as a public service announcement on the District of Columbia Public Access Television—DCTV and City Cable.

“The third public meeting to discuss the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority's combined sewer system will be held on May 8, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, First Floor Training Room located at 777 North Capitol Street, NE. The Authority is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan to control combined sewer overflow discharges to area waterways. The Authority invites the Public to participate in this process.

For more information, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at (202) 787-2424.or e-mail at [Mohsin\\_Siddique@dcwasa.com](mailto:Mohsin_Siddique@dcwasa.com).”

## CSO WEB SITE ANNOUNCEMENT

The following announcement is proposed as an on the DCWASA CSO Web page under the "UPDATES" heading:

"The third in a series of public meetings to discuss the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority's combined sewer system will be held on May 8, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, First Floor Training Room located at 777 North Capitol Street, NE. The Authority operates the wastewater collection system for the District of Columbia and provides wastewater treatment for the District, and portions of Maryland and Virginia. The Authority is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan to control combined sewer overflow discharges to area waterways. The programs developed as a result of the Long Term Control Plan process could have a significant impact on water and sewer rates in the District. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting.

For more information, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at (202) 787-2424.or e-mail at [Mohsin\\_Siddique@dcwasa.com](mailto:Mohsin_Siddique@dcwasa.com). "

**(NEWSPAPER NOTICE)**

**NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

for  
District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority  
Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

First Floor Training Room  
777 North Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002

**TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2001**  
6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) operates the wastewater collection system for the District of Columbia and provides wastewater treatment for the District, as well as portions of Maryland and Virginia. Approximately, one third of the District (12,640± acres) is served by combined sewers while the remaining area is served by separate sewers. In a combined sewer system, the sewage from homes and businesses during dry weather conditions is conveyed to the District of Columbia's Wastewater Treatment Plant at Blue Plains where it is treated and discharged to the Potomac River. When the capacity of a combined sewer is exceeded during rain storms, the excess flow, which is a mixture of sewage and storm water runoff, is discharged as Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) to the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, Rock Creek and tributary waters.

WASA is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) to address CSOs. The purpose of the LTCP is to develop a plan and schedule for controlling CSO discharges to area waterways. This is the third in a series of public meetings, which are intended to provide an opportunity for public input and consultation. These meetings will occur at intervals over the next year concluding with a Public Hearing to present the conclusions and recommendations of WASA's LTCP. The CSO LTCP is currently scheduled to be submitted to the U.S. EPA and other regulatory agencies in July 2001.

Members of the public potentially affected by the LTCP include rate payers, industrial users of the sewer system, persons downstream from CSO discharges, people who reside near the waters and people who use the waters for swimming, fishing and recreational purposes. The programs developed as a result of the LTCP process could have a significant impact on water and sewer rates in the District. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting.

For more information or if you require special assistance to be able to participate in this meeting, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique at (202) 787-2424. Information about WASA's LTCP is available at WASA's web site at [www.dcwasa.com](http://www.dcwasa.com) and at the following public libraries: Martin Luther King, Jr. at 901 G St. NW, Capitol View at 5001 Central Ave. SE, Mount Pleasant at 3160 16<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Northeast at 330 7<sup>th</sup> St. NE, Southeast at 403 7<sup>th</sup> St. SE, Shepherd Park at 7420 Georgia Ave. NW, Tenley-Friendship at 4450 Wisconsin Ave. NW, and Washington Highlands at 115 Atlantic Street SE.

## ON WASA LETTERHEAD

**Subject:** Invitation to Public Information Meeting No. 3  
District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority  
Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Long Term Control Plan

Dear Public Stakeholder:

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is currently in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) to address Combined Sewer Overflow (CSOs) to the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, Rock Creek and tributary waters. The purpose of the LTCP is to develop a plan and schedule for controlling CSO discharge to area waterways to improve water quality.

The upcoming meeting is the third in a series of meetings intended to provide an opportunity for public input and consultation. The draft CSO LTCP is currently scheduled to be submitted to the U.S. EPA and other regulatory agencies in June 2001.

The third public meeting is scheduled as follows:

- Date and Time: Thursday, May 8, 2001, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- Place: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

The programs developed as a result of the LTCP process could have a significant impact on water and sewer rates in the District. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the meeting.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity and we look forward to seeing you at the public meeting on May 8, 2001. If you would like additional information, or require special assistance to be able to participate in the meeting, please contact Dr. Mohsin Siddique, WASA's Program Manager, at (202) 787-2424.

Sincerely,

Jerry N. Johnson  
General Manager

Enclosure

The District of Columbia  
Water and Sewer Authority  
Washington, D.C.

**Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan  
Public Participation Program**

***List of Attendees  
Public Meeting No. 3  
May 8, 2001***

1. David J. Bardin  
ANC 3F04  
4701 Connecticut Avenue, NW, #501  
Washington, DC 20008
2. David Baron  
Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund  
1625 Massachusetts Ave., NW, #702  
Washington, DC 20036
3. Jerusalem Bekele  
DC Department of Health  
Environmental Health Administration  
51 N Street, NE, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20002
4. Len Benson  
DC WASA  
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW, Rm. 314  
Washington, DC 20032
5. Ferial Bishop  
3210 Chestnut St., NW  
Washington, DC 20015-1412
6. Ronald Bizzarri  
Greeley and Hansen  
8905 Presidential Parkway, Suite 230  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
7. Robert Boone  
Anacostia Watershed Society  
4302 Baltimore Avenue  
Bladensburg, MD 20710
8. Wesley Brown  
WASA  
6101 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, #805  
Washington, DC 20011
9. John F. Cassidy  
Greeley and Hansen  
8905 Presidential Parkway, Suite 230  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
10. Jim Collier  
DC Department of Health  
51 N Street, NE, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20002
11. Uwe Brandes  
DC Office of Planning  
801 North Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002
12. Raed El-Farhan  
Louis Berger Group  
1819 H Street, NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20006
13. Angela S. Essner  
Greeley and Hansen  
8905 Presidential Parkway, Suite 230  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
14. Edward (Ted) Graham  
MWCOG  
777 N. Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002
15. Anwer Hasan  
EA Engineering, Science, and Tech. Inc.  
15 Loveton Circle  
Sparks, MD 21152
16. Larry Jaworski  
Greeley and Hansen  
8905 Presidential Parkway, Suite 230  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

17. Pat Kelly  
District Yacht Club  
1409 Water Street, SE  
Washington, DC 20003
18. F. Edward Krueger  
PEPCO  
1900 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20068
19. Libby Lawson  
DC WASA  
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20032
20. Mary Letzkus  
U.S. EPA  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
21. Mitch Manchester  
ICPRB  
6110 Executive Boulevard  
Rockville, MD 20852-3903
22. Captain Steve Martsolf  
Naval District Washington N2  
Washington Navy Yard  
1014 N Street SE, Suite 320  
Washington, DC 20374-5001
23. Lucy Murray  
WASA  
2525 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, SE  
Washington, DC 20020
24. Jack Nelson  
Chesapeake Bay Program  
Citizen's Advisory Committee  
1441 Manchester Lane, NW  
Washington, DC 20011
25. Reginald Parrish  
U.S. EPA  
401 M Street, SW (4505F)  
Washington, DC 20460
26. Nadia Perry-Lee  
J-DOS Internationale, Inc.  
7826 Eastern Avenue, NW, Suite 409  
Washington, DC 20012
27. Richard Price  
EA Engineering, Science, and Tech. Inc.  
15 Loveton Circle  
Sparks, MD 21152
28. Scott Rybarczyk  
Limno-Tech, Inc.  
1705 DeSales St., NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036
29. Andrea Ryon  
MWCOG  
777 N. Capitol Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002
30. Edward A. Sheldahl  
FWHA  
1990 K Street, NW, #510  
Washington, DC 20006
31. Mohsin Siddique  
DC WASA  
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20032
32. Julia Slack, Inc.  
Limno-Tech  
1705 DeSales St., NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036
33. Nancy Stoner  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
1200 New York Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20005
34. Mike Sullivan  
Limno-Tech, Inc.  
1705 DeSales St., NW, Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036
35. Martin Sultan  
DC WASA  
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20032
36. Laurens van derTak  
CMZMHILL  
13921 Park Center Road  
Herndon, VA 20171

37. Mary Vogel  
Anacostia Garden Club  
600 G Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20002
38. Chris Weiss  
Friends of the Earth  
1025 Vermont, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20005
39. Marchant Wentworth  
Sierra Club  
1411 Kennedy Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20011
40. Damon Whitehead  
Anacostia Riverkeeper  
1<sup>st</sup> Street & Potomac Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20003
41. Bill Yeaman  
NPS  
3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW  
Washington, DC 20008

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY  
Washington, D.C.

*Responsiveness Summary for  
Public Meeting No. 3*

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Program Manager - Greeley and Hansen  
July 2001

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THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY  
Washington, D.C.

**Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan  
Public Participation Program**

***Responsiveness Summary For  
Public Meeting No. 3  
May 8, 2001***

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for its Combined Sewer System (CSS). As part of this effort, the second in a series of public meetings was held on Tuesday, May 8, 2001. The purpose of the meeting was to present the criteria for evaluating CSO control alternatives, to describe the final alternatives considered, and to review the assessment of financial capability to fund CSO controls.

**2. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE LTCP**

WASA operates a wastewater collection system comprised of separate and combined sewers. Parts of the District are served by separate storm and sanitary sewers. In the combined sewer system (CSS), there is a single sewer to convey storm water and sanitary wastes. The area served by combined sewers comprises about 12,955 acres (about 33 percent) of the District.

During dry weather, sanitary wastes collected in the CSS are conveyed to the Authority's wastewater treatment plant at Blue Plains (BPWWTP or the Blue Plains WWTP). During periods of rainfall, the capacity of a combined sewer may be exceeded and the excess flow, which is a mixture of storm water and sanitary wastes, is discharged directly to the Anacostia River, Rock Creek or the Potomac River or tributary waters.

There are a total of 60 combined sewer overflow (CSO) outfalls listed in WASA's existing National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. The NPDES permit is issued and administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In addition to other conditions, the permit requires preparation of a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for the CSS. The principal objective of the LTCP development process is to develop a plan and schedule to control Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) discharges to area waterways.

### **3. NOTIFICATION AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC MEETING NO. 3**

The following notifications and information were made available prior to the public meeting. Copies of the newspaper advertisements, script for the radio service announcement and the mailing list for notices are included in Appendix A.

- a. Newspaper: Public Meeting No. 3 was advertised by an official notice placed in the following newspapers:
  - The Washington Afro-American on April 12, 2001
  - The Washington Post on April 5, 2001
  - The Washington Times on April 15, 2001
  - The Common Denominator on April 9, 2001
  - El Tiempo Latino on April 20, 2001
  - The Northwest Current on April 25, 2001
  - The Washington Informer on April 26, 2001
- b. Radio: A public service announcement was broadcast on WAMU National Public Radio.
- c. Internet Websites: Notices of the public meetings were also placed on the following websites:
  - WASA' CSO Website
  - DC Watch Website
- d. Public Information Depository: An Information Document was prepared and placed on reserve at the following libraries:
  - Martin Luther King, Jr. Library at 901 G Street, NW.
  - Capitol View: 5001 Central Avenue, SE
  - Mount Pleasant: 31 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW
  - Woodridge: 18<sup>th</sup> and Rhode Island Avenue, NE
  - Northeast: 330 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NE
  - Southeast: 403 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SE
  - Shepherd Park: 7420 Georgia Avenue, NW
  - Tenley-Friendship: 4450 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
  - Washington Highlands: 115 Atlantic Street, SE

The Information Document included the following documents:

- “EPA Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Policy”
  - “District of Columbia Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan (Draft Program Plan)”
  - “Study Memorandum LTCP-5-1: Monitoring Plan for Sewer Systems and Receiving Waters (Draft)”
  - “NPDES Permit Application”
  - “CSO Abatement Program Final Report 1983”
  - Nine Minimum Controls Summary Report (Draft)
  - Nine Minimum Controls Summary Action Plan (Draft)
  - Study Memorandum LTCP-1-3: Existing CSO Controls and Programs (Final)
  - Public Meeting Nos. 1 and 2 meeting summary
  - Stakeholder Advisory Panel Meeting Summary – Meeting Nos. 1 through 8
- d. Notice by Mail: Over 500 notices were mailed to citizens and representatives of businesses, interest groups, Federal Government, local government, regulatory agencies, neighboring jurisdictions, and interjurisdictional agencies.

#### **4. MEETING PRESENTATION AND ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Lawrence Jaworski of Greeley and Hansen began the meeting with introductory statements and an outline of the presentation. He then gave a brief background explaining the nature of CSOs and the work on the Long Term Control Plan that had been completed to date. This was followed by a presentation on the types of the CSO alternatives considered, final alternatives for Anacostia CSOs, Rock Creek CSOs and Potomac CSOs, receiving water impacts and financial capability assessment. Mr. Jaworski concluded the presentation with a look ahead to upcoming milestones in the LTCP development process.

A total of forty-one (41) people, including the presenters noted above, attended the public meeting. The attendance list and the presentation handout are attached in Appendix B.

#### **5. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC**

Question No. 1: Will WASA recommend a LTCP or present options to choose from?

Response: The draft LTCP will include a control program recommended by WASA for review and comment by the public and regulatory agencies.

Question No. 2: Can you show the difference in sizing of capital facilities if Low Impact

Development (LID) is implemented?

Response: The effect of LID on the sizing and cost of capital facilities will be included in the LTCP.

Question No. 3: What was the basis for selecting 15% impervious area to be treated by LID?

Response: Aerial photographs of representative land uses in the District were reviewed to determine which technologies might be applicable, and the degree to which they could practically be applied. The actual LID-R technologies that were applied depended on the nature of the area. For example, in commercial settings, rooftop greening is an example of a technology that was found to be applicable. In residential settings, rain barrels and bioretention are examples of applicable technologies. The mix of LID-R technologies included the following: rain barrels, rooftop greening, bioretention, drywells, filter strips, grass swales, porous pavement, and sand filters. Based on the aerial photos and on an aggressive application of the technologies, LID-R was estimated to accommodate 15% of the total District impervious area or 1,963 acres. The calculation was made for the entire District, not just the combined sewer area.

Question No. 4: Are the inflatable dams a long-term fix? They don't seem to be compared to a tunnel.

Response: Modern inflatable dams are a reliable and long term technology. Like any piece of moving mechanical equipment, they will need to be replaced more frequently than an infrastructure component, such as a tunnel or pipeline. This has been taken into account in the cost effective analyses performed for the LTCP.

Question No. 5: Is there an analysis that shows how much smaller tunnels can be if Real Time Control (RTC) is implemented?

Response: This has been performed and will be included in the LTCP.

Question No. 6: Will the plan eliminate any outfalls on the Anacostia?

Response: Since separation is not proposed, elimination of outfalls will not be possible. This is due to the need to prevent flooding at extreme rain events that are beyond the capacity of the recommended LTCP. However, it may be possible to reduce the number of CSO outfalls by consolidating them into one or more outfalls. The facilities associated with consolidation would need to be sized to convey storm flows without causing flooding upstream. It is important to note that the overflows from these outfalls would still occur at the location to which the outfalls had been consolidated. The feasibility of consolidating outfalls depends on the location of the proposed tunnel facilities and on other factors and can be

addressed during facility planning.

Question No. 7: Is it true that you don't get a lot of benefit by reducing CSO from 12 to 2 per year in terms of dissolved oxygen?

Response: In the Anacostia River, the largest benefit is seen by reducing overflows from current levels to 12 per year. Reducing overflows further provides incrementally smaller benefits to dissolved oxygen.

Question No. 8: Can you show what happens when Maryland and storm water loads are reduced in addition to CSO?

Response: This was presented previously and will be included in the LTCP.

Question No. 9: Did you model zero discharges per average year and separation?

Response: Both separation and zero discharges per average year have been modeled. The results will be included in the LTCP.

Question No. 10: Do the costs for the Anacostia include rehabilitation of pump stations?

Response: The costs for the Anacostia control program include rehabilitation of Main, "O" Street and Eastside Pumping Stations.

Question No. 11: Is there any benefit to the Potomac River to construct the Anacostia tunnel?

Response: The benefit to the Potomac River is very small.

Question No. 12: The financial analysis assumes that the entire cost of the program is funded by rate payers with no outside assistance. Please show the effect of outside assistance.

Response: WASA has no way of knowing what degree of federal assistance, if any, will be available. However, the effect on rates of a range of outside financial assistance can be analyzed by assuming different degrees of assistance. This will be included in the LTCP.

Comment No. 13: A comment was made that WASA should analyze the effect on CSOs of the suburbs reducing their flows.

Response: The Intermunicipal Agreement of 1985 allocated flows to Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant. Per the agreement, the suburbs have paid for and essentially own capacity at Blue Plains. Reducing the flow from the suburbs is thus not a practical CSO control.

Comment No. 14: A comment was made that WASA should identify that the Federal government constructed a large part of the sewer system and thus bears some responsibility for dealing with combined sewer overflows issues.

Response: This comment was acknowledged.

## **6. MORE INFORMATION/CORRECTIONS**

If there are any corrections to this document or if further information is needed, please contact the following:

Dr. Mohsin Siddique  
Program Manager  
D.C. Water and Sewer Authority  
5000 Overlook Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20032  
Tel: (202) 787-2634  
e-mail: Mohsin\_Siddique@dcwasa.com

Public Meeting Summary for  
June 7, 1999 (#1), May 4, 2000 (#2), and May 8, 2001 (#3)

**Table 10-1**  
**Summary of Public Meetings**

Public Meeting No.	No. of Attendees <sup>1</sup>	Presentation Topics	Public Concerns/Comments
1	44 (13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CSO issues in the District</li> <li>WASA's past CSO control efforts</li> <li>Water quality as a watershed issue</li> <li>Introduction to Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan (CSS LTCP) planning approach</li> <li>Public participation opportunities</li> <li>Ongoing Nine Minimum Controls (NMC) Program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The goal should be zero discharge of combined sewage overflow to the Anacostia River.</li> <li>A stakeholders group that actively participates in the decision-making process should be formed.</li> <li>Signs at CSO outfalls on National Park Service property must be posted.</li> <li>Silt buildup in the Anacostia is affecting navigation in the waterway.</li> <li>The financial cost of the CSS LTCP must be considered.</li> <li>WASA should study how other cities addressed their CSO problems.</li> <li>The problem of water quality in the District is a watershed issue that comprises several jurisdictions, not just the District.</li> <li>Litter entering the sewer system is a serious problem and requires public education.</li> <li>Sewer separation is not a preferred method of addressing CSO's.</li> </ul>
2	31 (9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WASA's present NMC program</li> <li>Short-term projects: Eastside Interceptor cleaning, netting system installation, Swirl Facility evaluation, Rain barrel demonstration program, planned siphon inspection</li> <li>Major capital projects: Dam replacement, pump station rehab.</li> <li>Monitoring program update</li> <li>CSO control alternatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WASA should contact Office of Planning and coordinate LTCP efforts with redevelopment along the Anacostia</li> <li>Consider the benefits afforded by flow and pollutant reduction technologies in the LTCP</li> <li>Consider alternate locations for siting possible Equiflow system</li> <li>Maryland pollutant loads are significantly affecting water quality and should be quantified as part of the LTCP.</li> <li>Storm water loads must be addressed</li> <li>Invite the Department of Public Works to stakeholder meetings.</li> </ul>
3	40 (14)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Criteria for evaluating alternatives</li> <li>Description of range of alternatives considered</li> <li>Final alternatives for Anacostia CSOs, Rock Creek CSOs and Potomac CSOs.</li> <li>Financial capability assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Show the combined effect of structural CSO controls with diffuse controls such as Low Impact Development Retrofit and Real Time Control.</li> <li>Show the effect on water quality of upstream and storm water reductions in pollutant loads combined with CSO control</li> <li>The federal government constructed the sewer system and should bear a portion of the costs of CSO control.</li> <li>Show the effect of CSO control on rates both with and without outside financial assistance.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup>Number in parentheses indicate number of staff associated with development of LTCP (WASA, Greeley and Hansen LLP and subconsultants, and in some cases, MWCOG employees)



District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority  
Combined Sewer System Long Term Control Plan

## INFORMATION BULLETIN

### **Stakeholder Advisory Panel Meeting No. 1 October 28, 1999**

#### **What is a Combined Sewer?**

Many older cities in the United States are served by combined sewers. A combined sewer carries both sewage and runoff from storms. Modern practice is to build separate sewers for sewage and storm water. No new combined sewers have been built in the District since the early 1900's.

#### **CSO Facts**

- "CSO" stands for Combined Sewer Overflow
- About 1/3 of the District is served by combined sewers
- Combined sewers have not been built in the District since the early 1900's
- Combined sewers overflow when rainfall exceeds their capacity

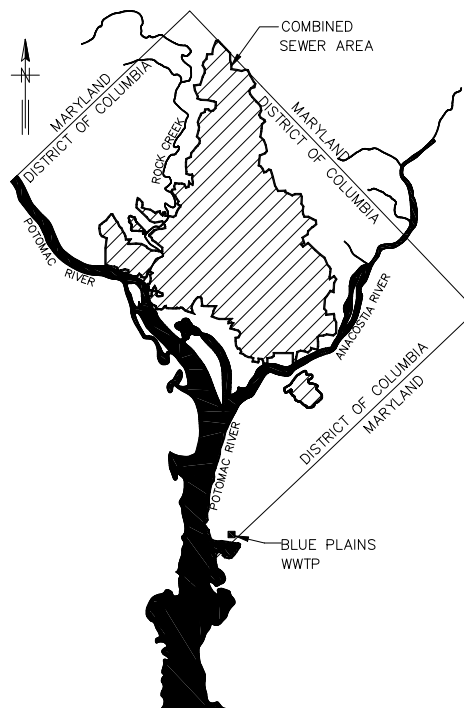
In a combined sewer system, the sewage from homes and businesses during dry weather conditions is taken to the District of Columbia Wastewater Treatment Plant at Blue Plains which is located in the southwestern part of the District on the east bank of the Potomac River. There, the wastewater is treated to remove pollutants before being discharged to the Potomac River.

When the capacity of a combined sewer is exceeded during storms, the excess flow, which is a mixture of sewage and storm water runoff, is discharged to the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, Rock Creek and

tributary waters. The excess flow is called Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO). There are a total of sixty (60) CSO outfalls listed in the District's existing permit from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

#### **What Is the Water and Sewer Authority (WASA)?**

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) operates the wastewater collection system for the District of Columbia and provides wastewater treatment for the District, as well as portions of Maryland and Virginia. Approximately 1/3 of the District (12,640 acres) is served by combined sewers, while the remaining area is served by separate sewers. The majority of the area served by combined sewers is in older developed sections of the District.



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### **What Is the Long Term Control Plan (LTCP)?**

The District's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued by the EPA requires preparation of a LTCP. The LTCP is a plan with a schedule to control CSO discharges to area waterways. Developing the LTCP consists of the following principal elements:

- Establish Existing Conditions - identify CSOs, sewer systems, etc.
- Characterize Systems - perform monitoring of receiving waters and sewer systems to assess the frequency and impact of CSO overflows.
- Identify and Evaluate Alternatives - identify alternatives for controlling CSOs and evaluate them in terms of effectiveness, costs, impacts to the public and the environment.
- Select Plan - select the preferred alternative and develop a plan for implementation.

### **Why is it Important to Participate in Public Meetings?**

The outcome of the LTCP process may be to develop capital projects, management approaches or operational changes to control CSOs. The programs could have a significant impact on water and sewer rates in the District. Public involvement in the process can help ensure that any plans developed are fiscally responsible and are consistent with community interests.

Since the primary goal of the LTCP is to control CSOs, participation in the process is a positive contribution to helping improve the environment of the District of Columbia.

### **When will Public Meetings be Held?**

Public meetings will be held at intervals over the next two years, concluding with a Public Hearing to present the conclusions and recommendations of WASA's LTCP. Public Meetings will be held as progress is made in developing the LTCP. A tentative schedule for Public Meetings is as follows:

Meeting No. and Topic	Date
No. 1 – Introduction to LTCP	June 7, 1999
No. 2 – Monitoring & Modeling	Winter 2000
No. 3 – Potential CSO Control Alternatives	Late Spring 2000
No. 4 – Final CSO Control Alternatives	Winter 2001
Public Hearing to select LTCP	Winter 2002

Meeting schedules may change depending on actual progress. WASA will provide updates in subsequent bulletins.

### **More Information**

More information is available from the following sources:

- Write, call or e-mail WASA as follows:

Dr. Mohsin Siddique  
Program Manager  
D.C. Water and Sewer Authority  
5000 Overlook Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20032  
Tel: (202) 787-2424  
e-mail: Mohsin\_Siddique@dcwasa.com

- Review information relevant to the first public meeting, which has been placed on reserve at the following libraries: **Martin Luther King, Jr., Capitol View, Mount Pleasant, Northeast, Southeast, Shepherd Park, Tenley-Friendship, and Washington Highlands.** Ask for the "Information Document".



## **NEWSLETTER NO. 2**

**March 2000**

### **Combined Sewer System**

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for its combined sewer system. Approximately 1/3 of the District (12,640 acres) is served by combined sewers, while the remaining area is served by separate sewers. The majority of the area served by combined sewers is in the older developed sections of the District. There are a total of sixty (60) CSO outfalls listed in the District's existing permit from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

### **CSO Facts**

- "CSO" stands for Combined Sewer Overflow
- About 1/3 of the District is served by combined sewers
- Combined sewers have not been built in the District since the early 1900's
- Combined sewers overflow when rainfall exceeds their capacity

### **Demonstration Project - Netting System Planned For Anacostia River CSO**

The aesthetic appeal of a water body is reduced by the presence of floating litter and debris. While much of the floating material in the Anacostia River comes from sources upstream of the District boundary, a portion of the material comes from CSOs. The materials are called "floatables" and can consist of paper, plastic, metal foil, styrofoam, and natural vegetation. To reduce this material, WASA will be demonstrating a floating end-of-pipe netting system at a CSO on the Anacostia River. The technology consists of a set of netted

bags mounted in a floating pontoon at the end of the outfall. CSO is passed through the system, and floatables are retained in the bags. The bags are periodically removed for disposal. The demonstration is scheduled to be initiated by the end of April 2000. Look for updates in future Newsletters.

### **Long Term Control Plan – Status Update**

In 1994, the EPA issued a national CSO Policy which requires municipalities to develop a long term plan for controlling CSOs (i.e. a Long Term Control Plan or LTCP). WASA is in the process of developing this plan. The approach to developing the LTCP is specified in EPA's CSO Control Policy, and typically involves four distinct steps. A description of each step and WASA's progress to date is summarized in the table below:

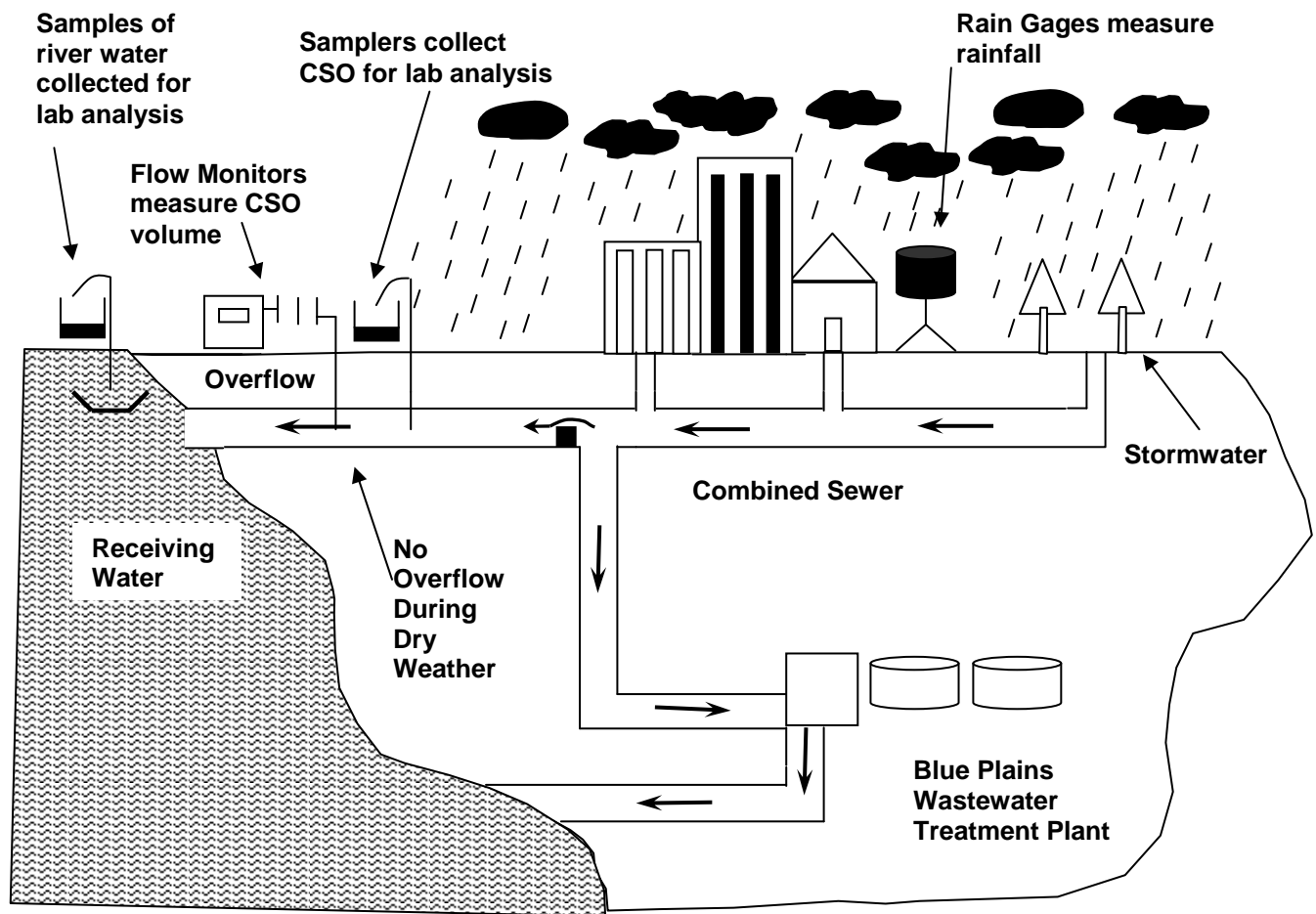
<b>LTCP Development Step</b>	<b>Status (as of Mar. 2000)</b>
1. Establish Existing Conditions	Completed
2. Characterize System (Monitoring & Modeling)	In progress
3. Identify & Evaluate Alternatives	To be completed
4. Select Plan	To be completed

### **Monitoring = Data Collection**

The second step in LTCP development includes monitoring. Monitoring means collecting data on the sewer system and the receiving waters. WASA has a comprehensive monitoring program to collect data on rainfall, the magnitude, frequency and duration of CSO overflows, separate storm water system discharges, and the quality of water in the receiving waters during both wet and dry weather.

Monitoring program components are illustrated on the back of this page:

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## MONITORING COMPONENTS

### Stakeholder Advisory Panel

WASA has established a Stakeholder Advisory Panel (Panel) to provide regular consultation and input on the development of the LTCP. The Panel met in October and December 1999 and in February 2000. Additional meetings are planned about 3 or 4 times per year over the next 2 years. The Panel has spent the first several meetings on background issues related to the LTCP.

### Public Meetings- Get Involved!

Public meetings will be held at intervals over the next two years, concluding with a Public Hearing to present the conclusions and recommendations of WASA's LTCP. Public Meetings will be held as progress is made in developing the LTCP. A tentative schedule for Public Meetings is as follows:

Meeting No. and Topic	Date
No. 1 – Introduction to LTCP	June 7, 1999
No. 2 – Monitoring & Modeling	May 2000
No. 3 – Potential CSO Control Alternatives	Winter 2000
No. 4 – Final CSO Control Alternatives	Spring 2001
Public Hearing to select LTCP	Winter 2002

Meeting schedules may change depending on actual progress. WASA will provide updates in subsequent bulletins.

### More Information

More information is available from the following sources:

- Write, call or e-mail WASA as follows:

Dr. Mohsin Siddique, Program Manager  
D.C. Water and Sewer Authority  
5000 Overlook Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20032  
Tel: (202) 787-2424  
e-mail: Mohsin\_Siddique@dcwasa.com

- Review information relevant to the first public meeting, which has been placed on reserve at the following libraries: **Martin Luther King, Jr., Capitol View, Mount Pleasant, Northeast, Southeast, Shepherd Park, Tenley-Friendship, and Washington Highlands.** Ask for the "Information Document".



## **NEWSLETTER NO. 3**

**April 2000**

### **Combined Sewer System**

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is in the process of developing a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for its combined sewer system. Approximately 1/3 of the District (12,640 acres) is served by combined sewers, while the remaining area is served by separate sewers. The majority of the area served by combined sewers is in the older developed sections of the District. There are a total of sixty (60) CSO outfalls listed in the District's existing permit from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

### **CSO Facts**

- "CSO" stands for Combined Sewer Overflow
- About 1/3 of the District is served by combined sewers
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The aesthetic appeal of a water body is reduced by the presence of floating litter and debris. While much of the floating material in the Anacostia River comes from sources upstream of the District boundary, a portion of the material comes from CSOs. The materials are called "floatables" and can consist of paper, plastic, metal foil, styrofoam, and natural vegetation. To reduce this material, WASA will be demonstrating a floating end-of-pipe netting system at a CSO on the Anacostia River. The technology consists of a set of netted

bags mounted in a floating pontoon at the end of the outfall. CSO is passed through the system, and floatables are retained in the bags. The bags are periodically removed for disposal. The demonstration is scheduled to be initiated by the end of April 2000. Look for updates in future Newsletters.

### **Long Term Control Plan – Status Update**

In 1994, the EPA issued a national CSO Policy which requires municipalities to develop a long term plan for controlling CSOs (i.e. a Long Term Control Plan or LTCP). WASA is in the process of developing this plan. The approach to developing the LTCP is specified in EPA's CSO Control Policy, and typically involves four distinct steps. A description of each step and WASA's progress to date is summarized in the table below:

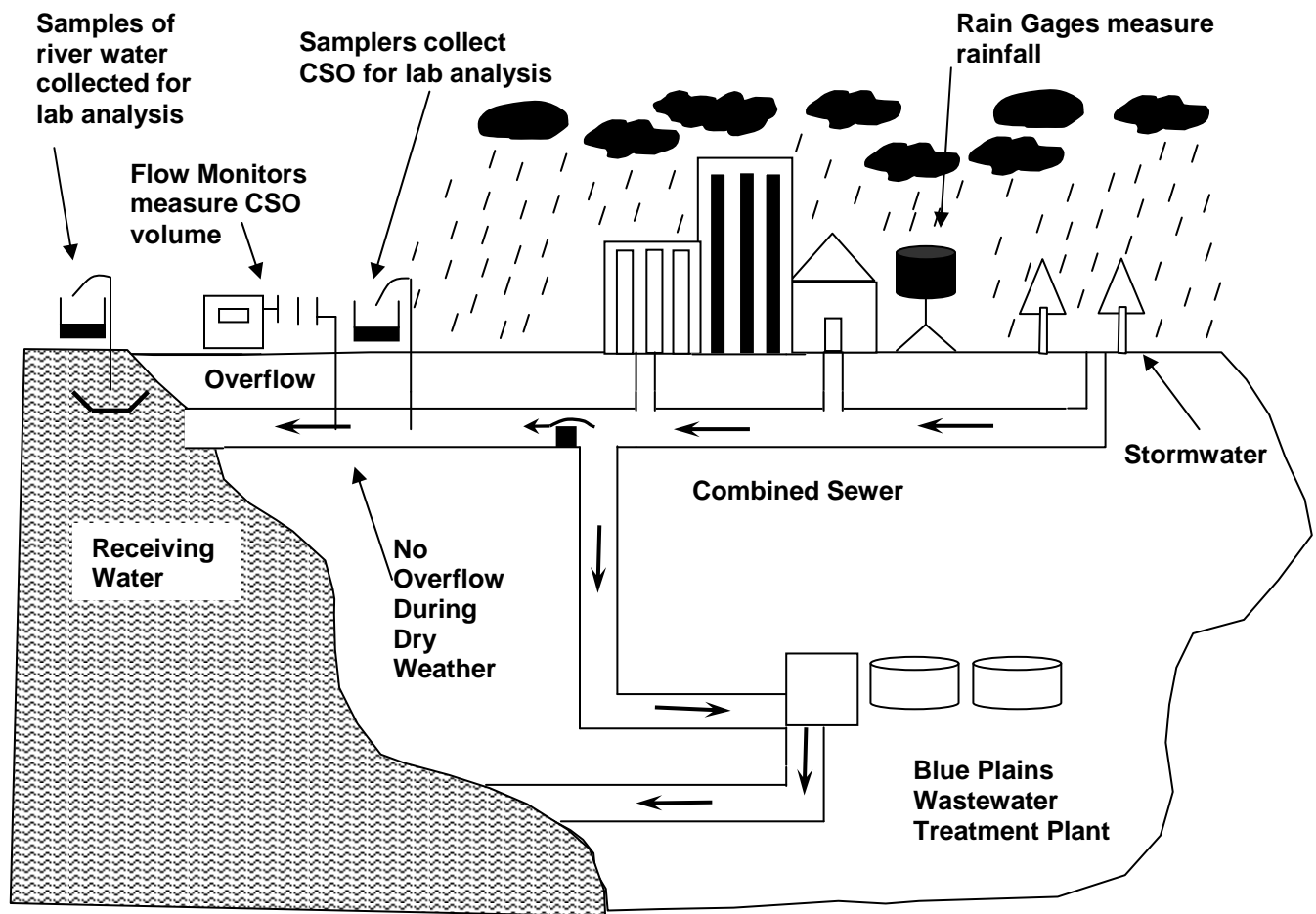
<b>LTCP Development Step</b>	<b>Status (as of Mar. 2000)</b>
1. Establish Existing Conditions	Completed
2. Characterize System (Monitoring & Modeling)	In progress
3. Identify & Evaluate Alternatives	In progress
4. Select Plan	In progress

### **Monitoring = Data Collection**

The second step in LTCP development includes monitoring. Monitoring means collecting data on the sewer system and the receiving waters. WASA has a comprehensive monitoring program to collect data on rainfall, the magnitude, frequency and duration of CSO overflows, separate storm water system discharges, and the quality of water in the receiving waters during both wet and dry weather.

Monitoring program components are illustrated on the back of this page:

(over)



## MONITORING COMPONENTS

### Stakeholder Advisory Panel

WASA has established a Stakeholder Advisory Panel (Panel) to provide regular consultation and input on the development of the LTCP. To date, the Panel has met 10 times since its formation in October 1999. In the 10 meeting, the Panel has covered background issues through potential alternatives related to the LTCP. Additional meetings are planned about 3 or 4 over the next year.

### Public Meetings- Get Involved!

Public meetings will be held at intervals over the next year, concluding with a Public Hearing to present the conclusions and recommendations of WASA's LTCP. Public Meetings will be held as progress is made in developing the LTCP. A tentative schedule for Public Meetings is as follows:

Meeting No. and Topic	Date
No. 1 – Introduction to LTCP	June 7, 1999
No. 2 – Monitoring & Modeling	May 4, 2000
No. 3 – Potential CSO Control Alternatives	May 8, 2001
No. 4 – Final CSO Control Alternatives	Summer 2001
Public Hearing to select LTCP	Winter 2002

Meeting schedules may change depending on actual progress. WASA will provide updates in subsequent bulletins.

### More Information

More information is available from the following sources:

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Dr. Mohsin Siddique, Program Manager  
D.C. Water and Sewer Authority  
5000 Overlook Avenue, S.W.  
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Tel: (202) 787-2424  
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