



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING #2
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
TOWN OF NORTH READING
June 25th, 2015
9:00 AM

MEETING MINUTES

In attendance:

Paul Brinkman- Wright-Pierce, Senior Project Manager
James Hoyt- Wright-Pierce, Project Engineer
Joe Lobao- Town of Wilmington, Utility & Business Manager
Pam Heidell – MWRA, Policy and Planning Manager
Karen Martin- Town of Andover, Environmental Compliance Coordinator
Jane Krieger- North Reading Resident
Danielle McKnight- Town of North Reading, Community Planning Administrator
Keith Saxon- Andover Resident
Wayne Castonguay- Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA), Executive Director

1. Introduction of attendees and Project
 - a. Sign-in sheet passed around and enclosed for reference
 - b. Project phase: Wastewater needs and Water/Wastewater Alternatives
2. Presented Meeting Powerpoint:
 - a. Questions and comments during presentation:
 - i. Wayne Castonguay clarified his comments regarding 50 gpcd for water use. Wayne acknowledged that regulating agencies are not requiring 50 gpcd for municipal water use; however, local communities are achieving this. North Reading should consider how it is achieved in these communities, so similar strategies can be used locally.
 - ii. Jane Krieger asked where current well users were captured in the water demand calculations. *Wright-Pierce indicated that under existing conditions, existing well users are not included; however, in the projections for future water demand for buildout, it is assumed that all well user will be converted to a municipal water supply.*
 - iii. Jane Krieger asked where the report can be viewed. *Wright-Pierce indicated that the report is still in progress, but the presentation and associated information will be posted on the town's website.*
 - iv. Keith Saxon asked if the IBTA could be increased above 1.5 MGD. Karen Martin, Town of Andover, indicated that there is limited capacity. *Wright-*

Pierce stated that it is possible, but as indicated by Karen, Andover must consider its own long term needs. This option will be discussed in the presentation in a few slides.

- v. Pam Heidell, MWRA, stated that wastewater capacity issues exist in their collection system. The MWRA is not actively expanding its service area. She also stated that there have not been any recent large connections to the system.

Wright-Pierce asked about the recent Lynnfield sewer connection.

Pam indicated this was a unique case due to an existing agreement. Wright-Pierce indicated that they believed the possibility of connection to MWRA needed to be evaluated until it is found to not be viable.

- vi. Danielle McKnight, Town of North Reading, asked if in addition to looking at risk factors, if development for economic reasons was evaluated. *Wright-Pierce stated that it did not specifically look at development to establish wastewater needs, but some development is captured in the needs evaluation. The report would encourage smart growth.*
- vii. Danielle McKnight, Town of North Reading, asked for clarification of where sewer would be proposed. *Wright-Pierce indicated that the focus would be on the four “red” needs areas, but not every parcel would be assessed for a municipal wastewater option.*
- viii. Jane Krieger asked if the recommended plan would include phasing or allow for future expansion. Wright-Pierce stated that there currently is no phasing or specific allowance for expansion, however, if future conditions change, the Town could revisit its needs, and the recommended plan would not prevent any future expansion.

3. Solicited feedback from presentation

a. Feedback from Wayne Castonguay- IRWA:

- i. The Ipswich River will push for in-basin disposal of wastewater and requests significant analysis of in-basin disposal options.
- ii. Consideration for wastewater disposal sites should also be given to private lots. Land acquisition is common in projects like this.
- iii. If it is found that a WWTF is desirable, sewer flows should be maximized to take advantage of the full capacity of the site. Perhaps some Wilmington properties could be captured.

b. Feedback from Danielle McKnight- Town of North Reading

- i. North Reading requires some development. Planning studies show the Town is not walkable and infrastructure is stunting growth. *Wright-Pierce indicated that development may meet resistance. Studies like those by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) have identified concerns with growth in communities not currently serviced by municipal infrastructure.*
 - ii. Danielle indicated that she was involved with the MAPC process and that the MAPC encourages smart growth. Sewer in North Reading did not make the regional priority list, but it was identified as a local priority.
- c. Feedback from Karen Martin- Town of Andover
 - i. Karen asked if the next phase of the project will include looking at collection system needs to transport wastewater through Andover to Greater Lawrence Sanitary District (GLSD). *Wright-Pierce replied: Yes. We will begin that process over the next month.*
- d. Feedback from Keith Saxon
 - i. Keith asked is the next phase of the project will include looking at what options are able to be permitted. *Wright-Pierce replied: Yes. Permitting will be considered in the alternatives analysis.*
 - ii. Keith asked what North Reading's unaccounted for water (UAW) percentage was. *Wright-Pierce indicated that they did not have the value with them, but they believed it was approximately 17%. (Note: the value was 17.2% in 2013)*
 - iii. Keith stated that Andover has 24% UAW, and may be able to increase available water for North Reading if UAW was reduced.
- e. Wright-Pierce asked if the notification process was working well and if sufficient notice is being provided. *Everyone indicated that the process was working well.*