



**Draft Minutes of the
Miracle Mile Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) Site
Community Advisory Board (CAB) Meeting – 35th Meeting**

October 28, 2008, 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center
1660 W. Ruthrauff Road
Tucson, Arizona 85705

CAB Members Present: Gary Abrams, Robert Brobeck, David Crockett, Alison Jones, Karen Ramage, Jan Randolph

CAB Members Absent: George Hembree

ADEQ Staff Present: Gretchen Wagenseller, Project Manager, SRO; Tina Le Page, Project Manager, SRO; Eileen Palese, Community Involvement Coordinator, SRO

Members of the Public Present: Fred Bass, Henry Madrid, James Vieregg, Carol Lane, Brenda Limon

The meeting began at 6:10 p.m.

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Co-chair Gary Abrams conducted introductions of the CAB members and public participants.

2. Approval of Minutes for 5/12/08 CAB Meeting

David Crockett motioned to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2008, CAB meeting. Bob Brobeck seconded the motion. The CAB voted. All were in favor; none opposed.

3. Vote on CAB Applications for Membership: Fred Bass and Henry Madrid

The CAB interviewed the candidates. They described their backgrounds and where they live in the neighborhood. Gary Abrams asked if anyone had objections to Fred Bass and Henry Madrid becoming members of the Miracle Mile CAB. Jan Randolph motioned to approve the applications before the board, David Crockett seconded the motion. All were in favor; none opposed. Eileen Palese invited the new CAB members to join the others at the table and provided each with a notebook of CAB materials.

4. Nomination and Election of CAB Co-Chairs

The CAB discussed the co-chair election. Gary Abrams invited anyone to self-nominate. The term of co-chair runs for one year. Alison Jones said she might consider it in the future, but not at this time. Bob Brobeck was not interested at this time. A motion was put forth to re-elect both Gary Abrams and David Crockett as co-chairs. Each has served for nine years. No one else wished to be

nominated. Alison Jones seconded the motion to re-elect Gary Abrams. Jan Randolph seconded the motion to re-elect David Crockett. The CAB voted to re-elect both by a unanimous vote.

5. Site Update

Tina Le Page introduced Gretchen Wagenseller as the new Project Manager for the Miracle Mile WQARF Site. Tina Le Page said she has been reassigned to other projects but will still be at working at ADEQ. Gretchen Wagenseller introduced herself and provided additional information on her background. She said that once the Remedial Objectives Report is completed for the Miracle Mile WQARF Site, the Remedial Investigation (RI) can be finalized. She said right now data gaps need to be filled so ADEQ is planning to install a monitor well in the northwest above the edge of the plume boundary. She pointed out the area on a map. Gretchen Wagenseller also reported that she is reviewing a workplan from URS, consultants for the site, to do more work at the former Spring Joint facility where hexavalent chromium was found in the soil and ground. She said more sampling needs to be done after access is granted by the property owner. The property is located at Romero and Prince.

Alison Jones asked if there was new information about the sewer investigation ADEQ conducted in the area of the site.

Tina Le Page said there were two goals in looking at the sewer system in the area. First, she explained that the site has a perched aquifer layer, which is not continuous throughout the site. This perched zone is on the west side of Romero, and is south of the site, but diminishes north of the site. It is not a continuous water-bearing unit. So the investigation was to see what was actually supplying the water to the perched area. She said ADEQ thought perhaps it might be a leaking sewer, or irrigation taking place in the area. She said it does not make sense that it was dry on one side of the street, and wet on the other.

Tina Le Page said the second goal of the sewer investigation was to see if the sewer, which runs in a north/south direction at the Fairfax Industrial Park, was a possible conduit for contamination in the groundwater. She said the only thing they found was that one section of the sewer in the southern section had some roots growing along the clay pipes. She said the report has not been finalized, but the consultants did not find anything that would explain how the water is reaching the perched aquifer.

Dave Crockett, Flowing Wells Irrigation District superintendent, provided an update on the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) unit at the Roger Road treatment system. He said the treatment system takes the volatile organic compounds out of the groundwater using a GAC system. He described how the GAC breakthrough and replacement takes place using a diagram. He said that the design predicted the carbon would last approximately two years, and it did. He said the carbon that is removed is sent off to be reconstituted and then it will be used in an industrial application.

6. CAB Discussion of Proposed Remedial Objectives Report

Eileen Palese explained the process of review and comment on the Proposed Remedial Objectives (RO) Report for the Miracle Mile WQARF site. She said the 30-day public comment period began October 28, 2008, so the CAB was provided with the report to review at the CAB meeting. She said the report is also on a CD on the handout table, which includes the Land and Water Use Study. She

suggested the CAB take a few minutes to review the remedial objectives, in bold type, before the discussion.

Tina Le Page explained the review process. She said after the 30-day comment period, all comments that are received are then included in a Responsiveness Summary document, which then becomes part of the final Remedial Objectives Report. This will then finish the RI process and begin the Feasibility Study (FS) phase. The FS looks at site remediation strategies. She said the RO report looks at "what are we going to clean up." Jan Randolph asked if there will still be ongoing monitoring throughout the WQARF process. Tina Le Page said that ADEQ will still monitor wells because data gaps may be found. But they want to keep the process moving beyond the FS.

Alison Jones asked about the first remedial objective relating to groundwater. She questioned why PCE was not mentioned as a site contaminant. Gretchen Wagenseller said that ADEQ is looking at the Silverbell Landfill WQARF site across the river as a possible source of the PCE. She said the PCE contamination is still considered separate from the Miracle Mile WQARF site. She explained that the remedial objectives in the report address any contamination found to be above regulatory levels at the site. The first remedial objective is meant to protect the groundwater used by Flowing Wells Irrigation District.

The CAB took several minutes to read through the report.

Alison Jones noted that the report mentions a private well where the owner wants to use groundwater for irrigation in the future. She wondered why there is no remedial objective addressing this well. Tina Le Page explained that the well in question is an old well. The owner thought he could use the well for irrigation only but decided not to because of the potential contamination. He is hooked up to Flowing Wells Irrigation District for drinking water. She said there is no law that would prevent him from using the well, if he wanted to. He might have to disclose the contamination in a real estate transaction, however.

Alison Jones asked what the Land and Water Use Study is based on. Tina Le Page said it is based on where the plume has been in the past and the study goes beyond the plume boundaries to cover worst-case scenarios.

David Crockett asked if sampling can still take place at the former Spring Joint property due to the asphalt cover. Tina Le Page said that it can be done in the future by drilling through the asphalt. She said ADEQ put an asphalt cap in the northeast corner of the property where some soil was exposed, for safety. That was the only area where high levels of chromium contamination were found close to the surface.

David Crockett asked why 1,1 dichloroethylene (DCE) was not mentioned in the remedial objective relating to groundwater. The project managers discussed this question and said the remedial objective may need to be changed to reflect potential DCE contamination. David Crockett said that he will submit a comment on this.

Karen Ramage asked about the perched zone, if the chromium is a continuing source. She wanted to know why nothing will be done to remediate the perched aquifer. Tina Le Page said deeper soil sampling is going to take place if ADEQ can get access. Deeper borings would be installed to find

out where the chromium is located. She said if high concentrations were found, then a cleanup might have to take place.

7. Call to the Public

No one wished to comment.

8. Formulation of CAB Comment on Proposed Remedial Objectives Report

Gary Abrams asked if the CAB wished to write a comment to the Proposed Remedial Objectives Report as a group. The CAB discussed the report and agreed that they believed the objectives were adequate. They thanked ADEQ staff for getting the report completed. They decided that they would not comment as a group, but some may submit a comment individually to ADEQ.

9. CAB Outreach Reports

Eileen Palese announced that there was a change in staff in Phoenix. Samantha Roberts, Remedial Projects Section manager, left ADEQ and Julie Riemenschneider took her place. Eileen Palese said there were several outreach activities to report. She first thanked the CAB members that recruited the two new members. She welcomed Fred Bass and Henry Madrid. A significant outreach step was taken by adding a section to the Flowing Wells Irrigation District's website about the Miracle Mile CAB which includes an invitation to the community to join the board. She said she was also able to post the agenda for the meeting at the Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center and at the new Flowing Wells Library across the street from the center. She said ADEQ also asked Ellie Towne to include information about the Miracle Mile CAB in her online newsletter for the Flowing Wells Neighborhood Association and Community Coalition.

Tina Le Page said ADEQ wishes to thank the Flowing Wells Irrigation District for hosting the Miracle Mile CAB meetings for so many years at their offices. The CAB also offered their thanks.

10. Other Administrative Business

The CAB greeted the public participants attending the meeting. No other business was brought forward.

11. Next Meeting Date/Agenda Discussion

The CAB decided to hold the next meeting of the Miracle Mile Community Advisory Board on Tuesday, February 24, 2009 [the meeting was later changed to Tuesday, March 10 due to room availability] at the Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center, 1660 W. Ruthrauff Road, Tucson, AZ. Call Eileen Palese, ADEQ Community Involvement Coordinator, SRO, at (520) 628-6712, or email at palese.eileen@azdeq.gov, for meeting information and proposed agenda.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

This meeting was recorded on a digital device as a record of the proceedings. To listen to a recording, or for additional documents mentioned in these minutes, contact ADEQ's Southern Regional Office, Community Involvement Office, 520/628-6712.