



Environmental Quality & Public Works (EQPW) Committee

February 11, 2025

Summary and Motions

Chair Hannah LeGris called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Committee Members Dave Sevigny, James Brown, Tyler Morton, Emma Curtis, Liz Sheehan, Denise Gray, Joseph Hale, Amy Beasley, and Hil Boone were present. Vice Mayor Dan Wu and Council Members Shayla Lynch and Jennifer Reynolds were present as non-voting members.

I. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 3, 2024 COMMITTEE SUMMARY

Motion by Sevigny to approve the December 3, 2024 Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee Summary. Seconded by Fogle. Motion passed without dissent.

II. NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (NTMP)

Roger Mulvaney, LFUCG Traffic Engineer Manager, presented an overview of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP). He reviewed Traffic Engineering, which is divided into 3 sections: computerized traffic signals; new development, street lighting, and signal construction; and signs and NTMP. NTMP was enacted in 2000 and is managed by the Division of Traffic Engineering. This has been Lexington's primary traffic calming program for the last 25 years. Traffic calming helps achieve safer speeds for local streets and vulnerable roadway users. NTMP is targeted at traffic calming efforts on Local and Collector roads in residential zones, and funding for this program typically comes from the Traffic Engineering budget. Traffic calming efforts are not limited to residential roads; funding for these projects is not usually part of Traffic Engineering's budget.

Mulvaney reviewed the NTMP process, which includes 3 tiers of traffic calming: conventional interventions, horizontal and vertical deflections, and diversions and closures. Moving forward, they are working with a consultant to streamline and modernize how NTMP notifications are processed. The Citizen Connect Portal project is intended to provide a user-friendly interface for the public to share traffic-calming concerns. The portal is designed to provide project tracking and progress information. It intends to show the public where active and past projects have occurred via mapping features.

Addressing where funding comes from for non-NTMP projects, Mulvaney explained that sometimes funding comes from the Council or the administration for traffic calming projects. To distinguish between NTMP and non-NTMP projects, Mulvaney said an NTMP project goes through the NTMP process, which is initiated by a citizen who reaches out to Traffic Engineering and has a petition to support the project, then Traffic Engineering does an analysis. A non-NTMP or traffic calming project may not have all those elements and may be managed outside Traffic Engineering. Mulvaney said the Citizen Connect Portal will be available later this year and will funnel all traffic-calming requests to one place. Regarding the breakdown of NTMP projects by council district, Mulvaney thinks they can break this down, and the council members are typically included in communications regarding the progress of projects in their district. No action was taken on this item.

III. ODOR CONTROL PROGRAM UPDATE

Charlie Martin, Division of Water Quality Director, explained that this item was a result of a significant increase in complaints about sewer odor in 2023. Webster Environmental Associates was hired under an emergency declaration to assist with corrective action. In 2023, the focus was on (2) Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP): Town Branch and West Hickman. He reviewed 2024 accomplishments, including equipment improvements, an evaluation documenting the effectiveness of chemicals used to control odor, and transitioning from a reactive to a proactive state of mind. At Town Branch, a contract was awarded in late 2024 to construct a bio scrubber. At West Hickman, a process modification was implemented, the chemical scrubber was rehabilitated, and a contract was awarded to upgrade/replace the activated carbon units. For the collection system, they monitored the air release valves on eight different force mains, which are believed to be primary contributors to odor issues. They also pilot-tested alternative chemicals to determine cost/benefit effectiveness. Martin introduced Rick Bowman, Odor Control Manager, who was hired to assist with monitoring the odor.

The goals for 2025 include placing newly constructed plant improvements into service, implementing remote pilot studies to evaluate chemical application effectiveness, developing unit price service contracts, implementing the next set of recommendations found in WWTP warm-weather modeling reports, and continuing to implement a long-term monitoring program to address odors proactively. Throughout this process, Martin has developed relationships with constituents who will call him directly, and he will go to the specified location to see firsthand what the issue is and work to resolve it. Regarding the estimated cost associated with the 2025 goals, Martin said they started with \$6 million allocated to this program under the mayor's emergency declaration. He said funding is less of an issue than the supply chain, which holds projects up. Martin added that the best way to file a complaint is to call 3-1-1 and provide as much information as possible. No action was taken on this item.

IV. ANNUAL REVIEW OF COMMITTEE ITEMS

Motion by Sevigny to remove *Microtransit* from the list of committee items and move to the Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee. Seconded by Gray. Motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Sevigny to remove *Recycling Practices* from the list of committee items. Seconded by Gray. Motion passed without dissent.

Motion by Sevigny to remove *Division and Program Reviews* from the list of committee items. Seconded by Gray. Motion passed without dissent.

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.