



Environmental Quality & Public Works (EQPW) Committee

October 7, 2025

Summary and Motions

Chair Hannah LeGris called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Committee Members James Brown, Tyler Morton, Emma Curtis, Liz Sheehan, Joseph Hale, Amy Beasley, Dave Sevigny, and Hil Boone were present. Committee Member Lisa Higgins-Hord was absent. Council Members Shayla Lynch, Whitney Elliott Baxter, and Jennifer Reynolds were present as non-voting members.

I. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 12, 2025 COMMITTEE SUMMARY

Motion by Sheehan to approve the August 12, 2025 Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee Summary. Seconded by Curtis. Motion passed unanimously.

II. LIVE GREEN LEXINGTON UPDATE

Angela Poe, Public Information and Engagement Program Manager, provided an update, starting with an overview of the Public Information and Engagement (PIE) section. The purpose of PIE is to inform the public about the services offered by Environmental Quality & Public Works and encourage community-friendly behaviors. The marketing team handles traditional mass marketing (press releases and paid ads), social media, mailings, website maintenance, and outreach design. Marketing is never the only outreach method; it supports the efforts of community and educational teams. She explained that marketing efforts are coordinated with other outreach activities to create a consistent flow of information. She concluded with an update on composting, which has been in operation for four years. When asked about centralized marketing for the entire city, Poe said various PIO staff members collaborate. **No action was taken on this item.**

III. COORDINATION OF ONGOING MAINTENANCE FOR PROJECTS

Brandi Peacher, Complete Streets Coordinator, discussed the roadway design and delivery process, emphasizing the importance of improving integration with operations and maintenance. Lexington's roadway projects follow a standard design and delivery process; however, Operations & Maintenance (O&M) is not always prioritized during project planning and execution, which risks compromising our ability to sustain the project's lifecycle. The aim is to incorporate O&M considerations earlier in the project process to enhance its longevity. When O&M is integrated early, we can develop longer-lasting assets, reduce life-cycle costs, clarify cross-departmental responsibilities, improve budgeting for future O&M needs, and build public trust through transparency and well-maintained results. She outlined the typical process and the divisions involved in designing and implementing a project.

Nancy Albright, Commissioner of Environmental Quality & Public Works, reviewed the case studies, highlighting lessons learned from the lack of coordination. She mentioned the public right-of-way asset guide to help inform designers on how to transition into the maintenance phase and who is responsible for maintaining what across the city. When asked how to proceed with formalizing action items, Albright said they have set the stage and will now move forward to implement a policy or guide. Speaking about the responsibility for trails, Peacher said that trails are becoming more popular, and the system is growing and changing, so they continue to review what a trail program entails, as one division is not fully committed from start to finish. **No action was taken on this item.**

IV. ANNUAL SNOW AND ICE CONTROL PLAN

Rob Allen, the Director of Streets and Roads, explained that the goal for the 2025-26 winter season is to complete roadway snow plan routes within 48 hours and sidewalk snow plan routes within 96 hours. He reviewed the snow season expense comparison from 2021 to 2026. Routes are ranked from one (primary arteries) to four (local roads). Service levels are ranked from 1 (1 to 4 inches of accumulation) to 3 (8 inches or more). Changes for this year include adding three tanker trucks to the fleet for brine and additives, which will enable pre-treatment when possible. A custom blender and truck fill were added at the West Hickman brine station. Three additional contractor trucks were added, raising the total to eight, to support neighborhood routes and fill vacancies. A landscape contractor was also added to provide service levels two and three, utilizing up to eight trucks as needed. More roads were added to address gaps and growth. Fayette County Public Schools (FCPS) is expected to provide data for current bus routes. The Division of Environmental Services primarily handles snow removal from sidewalks. Snow accumulation is expected to reach one inch before removal begins on sidewalks, with clearing starting after the snowfall stops. He reviewed the finalization schedule for the plan and stated that the final plan will be published on the city's website at the end of the month.

When asked how communication with FCPS works if their system doesn't connect with ours, Allen explained that they are working to integrate their GIS system, and the data received from them is helpful. When asked about the ranks and where freezing rain and ice fall, Allen clarified that addressing freezing rain or ice is difficult. The plan is to use a blender to improve beet brine treatment and help prevent freezing. Regarding steps to expand bus routes, Allen noted that schools close for various reasons, not solely because roads aren't being plowed. They cannot treat every road, but there is a plan in place to utilize resources efficiently. During significant snowstorms, many areas become inaccessible, creating safety concerns. They prioritize treating main roads before secondary roads. **No action was taken on this item.**

V. ITEMS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

No action was taken on this item.

The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.