



## Meeting Notes

### TREE Community Advisory Committee

Monday, June 20, 2005

Committee Members Attending:

*Karen Pollard*, Economic Development Manager City of Rochester; *Lorie Chase*, Coheco River Watershed Coalition; *Bill Howard* representing Waste Management; *John Larochelle*, Rochester City; *Kenn Ortmann*, Rochester Planning Dept. Representative, *George Jenness*, Rochester Business Representative.

#### I. Meeting Notes

The committee accepted "Meeting Notes" of the Community Advisory Committee's previous meeting.

#### II. Review of Odor Complaint Log Data

Karen Pollard began the discussion of the odor complaint log by noting that the overall level of odor complaints remains low.

The committee discussed the "Monday morning phenomenon," the fact that more odor complaint calls seem to occur on Monday than any other day. Bill Howard of Waste Management was asked whether or not accumulating refuse during long weekend holiday periods may be the cause.

Bill noted that all refuse brought to the landfill site is covered in some form daily. However, refuse which may be collected following a long holiday weekend maybe more odors than usual depending on certain factors (weather, refuse type, etc.)

Kenn Ortmann noted that May was a cooler month than normal. Bill Howard agreed but pointed out that the month was much wetter than unusual as well with a long period of low pressure which typically exacerbates landfill odors. The fact that the month did not have a high number of landfill odor complaints was viewed as a positive sign landfill gas extraction improvements are working.

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Lori Chase noted that, in her view, the landfill has been making substantial improvements.

John Larochell, who developed the vernacular of odor frequency, intensity and duration to assist the committee more effectively characterize landfill odors, indicated that it might be helpful to add odor “type” to the classification. This is because there are varieties of odors experienced including but not limited to rubbish, landfill gas, municipal waste sludge, etc.

The following represents a review of odor complaints as compiled by the DES:

Month	No. of Complaints (1)	No. of Complainants (2)	Odor Description(3)	
			Garbage(4)	Landfill Gas(5)
Jan-04	12	4	0	8
Feb-04	7	6	2	2
Mar-04	6	6	1	2
Apr-04	24	10	0	9
May-04	24	15	1	5
Jun-04	17	9	0	4
Jul-04	21	9	1	6
Aug-04	39	18	7	20
Sep-04	97	44	13	28
Oct-04	51	21	9	26
Nov-04	20	10	2	11
Dec-04	5	4	0	1
Jan-05	2	1	1	1
Feb-05	17	6	3	10
March-05	1	1	1	0
April -05	3	3	2	1
May - 05	1	1	1	1
June - 05	0	0	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>347</b>		<b>44</b>	<b>135</b>

III. Rochester Planning Board Meeting Review

The committee discussed Waste Management’s presentation before the Rochester Planning Board as part of the process to extend the landfill permits from 2012 to 2020 and includes phases 9 to 14.

Kenn Ortmann stated that the committee should not be viewed as advocating a position regarding the planning board process and that the Community Advisory Board was principally involved in the review of landfill odors.

It was generally agreed, however, that the committee should report to the Planning Board with respect to its work and its view of the landfill odor progress.

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Kenn Ortmann indicated he had prepared a chart overlaying current odor log with 2004 and would make that available to the entire committee.

IV. Community Communications

It was suggested that Waste Management take an active role in communicating to individuals who have complained in the past about landfill odors. Specifically, the committee suggested it might be helpful to advise this group when special construction is taking place which might result in intermittent occurrences of unpleasant odors.

Mark Bodi indicated he would review that data and capability with Alan Davis, as well as updating the Waste Management landfill website to possibly include an information sign-up section for residents to be periodically notified of events relevant to the landfill.

V. Discussion of Other Issues

The committee briefly discussed other potential areas of review.

VI. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be held on Monday July 18, 2005.