

Resilience Project Design Committee Meeting
June 30, 2016 at 2:30 PM
8th Floor Conference Room, City Hall
1300 Perdido Street, New Orleans, LA

Roll Call:

1. Cedric Grant, Executive Director, Sewerage and Water Board
2. Jeff Hebert, Executive Director New Orleans Redevelopment Authority
3. Vicki Rivers, Sewerage and Water Board
4. Tyler Antrup on behalf of Robert Rivers, City Planning Commission
5. Daniel McElmurray – Parks and Parkways
6. Bruce Adams, Sewerage and Water Board
7. Vince Smith – Capital Projects (Acting Chair)
8. Chad Cramer - on behalf of Bill Gilchrist – Director of Placed Based Planning

Opening Remarks

- ❖ Members request that staff make available, to project designers, a copy of member’s comments on project proposals
 - ❖ Members request a standard presentation format be used; request Katie Dignan work with presenters on establishing a standard format
 - ❖ Antrup requests that his comments at the June 3, 2016 regarding pervious pavement at Pontilly be sent to the Pontilly Project Team
 - » **Motion to Amend the Agenda (Antrup); 2nd by Adams**
 - » **Amendments add: Public Comment, Other, Motion to Adjourn**
 - » **Motion to approve by Adams (Unanimously); Voice Vote Passes without Objection**
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Agenda Items:

- I. Reconsideration: Review of Pontilly Stormwater HMGP Project 100% Design Plans
- II. Consideration: Design of City Hall Bioswale Project
- III. Design Review of Hagan/Lafitte 30% Project Scope Report Contact
- IV. Consideration: Design Review of Mirabeau Gardens 30% Design Report

Presentations & Discussion:

- I. **Reconsideration: Review of Pontilly Stormwater HMGP Project 100% Design Plans**
 - ◆ Location Pontilly Area
 - ◆ Submitted By: CDM Smith
 - ◆ Contact: Jessica Watts wattsjl@cdmsmith.com
 - ◆ Department/Agency: NORA

Discussion:

- **Green Alleyways:**
 - Mow strips will be added next to the fence lines to reduce maintenance along the fence lines. Katie Dignan is assigned to research if the cost of mow strip is HMGP eligible.
 - Tru-grid with Grass is not ADA compliant however Tru-grid with Gravel is but requires more maintenance. The proposal is to put an alternate for permeable pavement to determine how much additional cost will be incurred.
 - The Committee discussed the option of returning the alleyways to the adjacent property owners with an easement so that they would be responsible for maintaining. Jeff Hebert indicated he would task one of his team members to determine *how many properties we are talking about; how many parcels; then do some engagement with those owners and then parallel with what we would have to define the transfer process* with Property Management.
- **Pervious Pavers**
 - *The materials are covered under a 3 year maintenance warranty. Resilience Project staff will research if the warranty can be extended and what type of equipment will be required once the warranty period is over.*
- **SUNO Construction Schedule**
 - *The committee members informed the design team of future construction planned on SUNO's campus and requested that the project team coordinate with SUNO to ensure that the staging, traffic plan, and construction activities align with the Pontilly Project and do not damage the interventions, such as permeable pavers, after the Construction of this project is complete. Mr. Grant asked City Planning to ensure that this is accounted for when SUNO applies for thire construction Permit and submits their stormwater management plan.*
- **Curb Pavement:**
 - Bruce Adams requested the materiel proposed for the curb and ensure that the trees will be protected.
- **Congress Drive issue of removing interventions- Bump Outs- because of DOTD work done in last 5 years:**
 - After research the issue the bumpouts can be installed however DPW plans to reconstruction some of the feeder roads connecting to bumpouts therefore this work will be coordinated.
- » **Tyler Antrup makes motion to approve the design**
- » **Second by Daniel McElmurray**
- » **Motion Carries Unanimously**
- » **Public Comment: No Comments**

II. Consideration: Design of City Hall Bioswale Project

- ◆ Location: City Hall 1300 Perdido
- ◆ Submitted by Dana Brown & Associates
- ◆ Contact: Dana Brown & Danielle Duhe
- ◆ Department/Agency: CPC

Discussion:

- **Landscaping:**
 - ? **Daniel McElmurray:** Property Management has a landscaping contract to maintain City Hall therefore this work needs to be cordinated with them. Make sure that the plant materials that will be under the rain drain are durable enough. Some of these areas you have plants have arrows pointing in multiple places and none of them are the right places. Also when a tree is proposed to be removed we ask them to be replaced in kind.
 - ? **Vince Smith:** looking at this picture it just looks extremely overly planted; property management does not have the expertise. We need to come up with some sort of plant material palate; we are working to build a greenhouse with park and parkways; we need to make sure Daniel (McElmurray) reviews this and approves the type of plants to be used; we need a recommendation from the sponsoring departments on how they will administer this.

Katie Dignan: as part of the G.I. Toolkit we are developing a menu of plants to be used in all of these projects; Tyler (Antrup) if we do go forward with this we will need property management to start routing a cooperative endeavor agreement.

- **Utility Concerns**

- ? **Chad Cramer:** we should answer really quickly what some of these utility features are – we need to know worst case scenarios – I think that is one of the first passes we should make on this – to determine if is feasible.

- ? **Cedric Grant:** Work with Property Management to address any utility concerns – we need to know as much as we can know about this – especially considering the volatile nature of the project – I am concerned about if we are introducing something into the environment that may become a problem down the line.

- ? **Tyler Antrup:** we have requested a survey a few times from your office Vince (Smith) – we have not received it.
 - Vince agreed to provide whatever documentation was available.

- **Signage**

- ? **Jeff Hebert–** What is the plan for signage?

- **Danielle Duhe:** WEF is going to install signage, we do not have a design yet, but we will have funding.

- **Jeff Hebert:** I need to be involved in the decision process of what the signage looks like; we don't have signage around city hall so it will be extremely important that the signage is consistent with what this facility is.

- » **Tyler Antrup motions to approve subject to receiving the requested information**

- » **Daniel McElmurray seconds the motion.**

- » **Motion unanimously carries.**

- » **Public Comment: No Comments**

III. Design Review of Hagan/Lafitte 30% Project Scope Report

- ◆ Location: Bayou-St. John/Hagan-Lafitte neighborhood (bounded by the St. Louis Canal, N. Broad St, Orleans Ave, and Hagan Ave)
- ◆ Submitted by Stantec
- ◆ Contact: Dan Grandal: dan.grandal@stantec.com
- ◆ Department/Agency: DPW

Discussion:

- ? **Chad Cramer:** I am looking at the diagram that shows the disconnection of the Orleans Canal Section.

- **Dan Grandal:** By gravity it goes to the part first, overflow then to St. Louis canal, the park will be equipped with a small irrigation pump to send to a bioswale in the Lafitte Greenway.

- ? **Daniel McElmurray:** The proposed interventions at Easton Park will need to be coordinated with NORD.

- **Vince Smith:** CPA will also need to review the proposed detention pond, pumps and field design.

- **Dan Grandal:** these are small pumps, they are not large stormwater pumps, and there is also the opportunity to add irrigation.

- ? **Daniel McElmurray:** your details aren't showing permeable sidewalks – you really need to make sure your details and what you are calling out for are the same.

- **Dan Grandal:** the geotechnical analysis will inform what we use.

- ? **Daniel McElmurray:** you need to make sure that your aggregate is not a non-carbonate aggregate that doesn't increase the PH.

- ? **Bruce Adams:** on the utility conflicts, what offsets are required to existing sewer and water lines?

- **Dan Grandal:** *we are going to try to stay 10 ft. away from any existing utility if possible; we are going to take a look at putting smaller pipes thru the system to avoid impact to utilities.*
- ? **Bruce Adams:** no sewer siphons? The street corner raingardens; they are not going to last.
 - **Dan Grandal:** *we will be placing a curve in that area – we will do large truck turning radii.*
- ? **Bruce Adams:** the St. Louis Canal you mentioned under certain conditions it does overflow
 - **Dan Grandal:** *based on the model – it is able to handle more water from the basin*
 - **Bruce Adams:** *my concern is perception wise... when this is built – if we flood somebody due to high water when they didn't flood before – we've failed.*
- ? **Vicki Rivers:** you mention that you are doing to use native planting.
 - **Dan Grandal:** *the listing of G.I. plants.*
 - **Vicki Rivers:** *look at the G.I. toolkit and consider those.*
 - **Katie Dignan:** *our goal is to have the toolkit done by the end of August.*
- ? **Cedric Grant:** we have to figure out a way as we introduce water into people's communities this is one of the reason we built the city in the first place.
- ? **Vince Smith:** I ask that CPA get information about when these projects will be able to move forward.
 - **Katie Dignan:** *all projects will not get NTP until this committee approves so once the NTP is issued we will have revised schedules.*
 - » **Daniel McElmurray motion to approve.**
 - » **Tyler Antrup seconds the motion.**
 - » **Motion carries unanimously**
 - » **Public Comment: No Comments**

IV. Consideration: Design Review of Mirabeau Gardens 30% Design Report

- ◆ Location: Mirabeau Ave – Owens Blvd, St. Bernard Ave – Cartier Ave
- ◆ Submitted by Waggoner and Ball Architects
- ◆ Contact: David Waggoner david@wbarchitects.com
- ◆ Department/Agency: DPW

Discussions:

David Waggoner: This project may not meet the timeframe that the city would like.

Katie Dignan: One of the reasons the schedule is very long is to account for the extensive National Environmental Policy Act requirements.

- ? **Cedric Grant:** If we do this, then we have to do the O&M calculations on this. It means what do we not have to do in our current system on drainage pump station 4. We also need to consider the cost estimates of what it will cost to maintain and its impact on the S&WB operation.

- **Jim Remlih** (*Sherwood Design Firm, sitting in audience*): we did a cost estimate in the range of about a million dollars – it decreases the upstream drainage – we are looking at the range.
- ? **Daniel McElmurray**: we need to see a tree protection plan, what is drawn on here does not accurately reflect the tree canopy – talking about every single tree that is going to remain. Also make sure if the gravel is not going to be in there that it is out of the details – if not then you are going to need a maintenance crew in there every day.
- ? **Chad Cramer**: this presents itself with some great opportunities for people to enjoy the area (if it is done in a way that is similar to the Watergraafsmeer polder¹ (Amsterdam).
- ? **Bruce Adams**: what quantity storage for a 10 year event?
 - **David Wagoneer**: 6 or 7 million gallons net gain will be gained on the site.
- ? **Daniel McElmurray**: how do you access it other than the parking lot?
 - **David Wagoneer**: there is going to be an ally way – we are looking at putting in limited foot bridges – we are trying to concern access issues to avoid having to put in fencing.
- ? **Daniel McElmurray**: I would emphasize that you have at least have access from the corners.
 - **Jeff Hebert**: there could be a concession hut at the entrance – the use of space at the site has yet to be determined.
- ? **Daniel McElmurray**: you have to be careful about changing the hydrology of what the trees are used to in this area.
- ? **Bruce Adams**: do you have access points for maintenance vehicles to get on the site?
 - **David Waggoneer**: yes
- ? **Katie Dignan**: Can you just clarify that there will not be any swimming pools on this site?
 - **David Waggoneer**: There will not be swimming pools the highest water will get in some areas is up to 2 feet.
 - » **Bruce Adams motions to approve.**
 - » **Chad Cramer seconds the motion.**
 - » **Motion carries unanimously.**
 - » **Public Comment: No Comments**

Vince Smith: Going forward the Committee request that for any intervention proposed on property that is under the jurisdiction of another department, agency, or entity that a letter of support from the respective entity be provided to the committee.

Jeff Hebert: We are in the process of finalizing our O&M calculator; that is something that will bring another resource to the committee. In terms of who will maintain the projects Katie Dignan and myself are still researching the cost and labor required to develop a recommendation to Mr. Grant.

Katie Dignan proposes July 21st as date for the next committee meeting.

- » **Bruce Adams motions to adjourn the meeting.**
- » **Tyler Antrup seconds the motion.**
- » **Motion carries unanimously.**

¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Watergraafsmeer>