

Kensington Community Meeting Regarding EBMUD Construction
October 30, 2019, 6 p.m. Kensington Park Bldg E.
Meeting Summary

Attended by:

Contra Costa County Supervisor, John Gioia

EBMUD Board Director, Andy Katz

EBMUD Staff members, Tom Bullock, Rolando Bueno, Bryan Miller, Kevin Smith, David Rehnstrom, and Sharla Sullivan and Mona Favotite-Hill

Contra Costa County Public Works, Slava Gospodchikov

Kensington community members

County Supervisor Gioia:

- Welcome and goal of meeting – to work collaboratively with EBMUD to address community concerns.
- Explanation that the County does not have jurisdiction over EBMUD projects for water treatment, transmission and storage. County does have some oversight of roadway work in the form of a ministerial encroachment permit.
- Recommended that any planting plans developed by EBMUD have input from El Cerrito/Kensington Fire.

EBMUD design engineer, Kevin Smith:

- Overview of project design and explanation of components:
 - San Pablo Clearwell – a reservoir that has reached the end of its useful life and will be replaced to current seismic standards.
 - Going from one 5.4 million gallon earthen dam reservoir to two 3.5 million gallon concrete reservoirs with a pipeline vault located between them.
 - Concrete reservoirs will be mostly buried.
 - New San Pablo Rate Control Station (RCS) – a buried valve that transmits water from a higher pressure zone to a lower pressure zone, has reached the end of its useful life and will be replaced..
 - The old RCS is located north of the existing pump building and the new RCS is located southwest of the existing pump building.
 - The old RCS will be demolished once the new RCS is in service in approximately spring 2020.
 - While the old RCS vault extends approximately 3 feet above ground, the new RCS will extend approximately 6 inches above ground and will include additional sound buffering inside the structure.
 - Transmission pipeline replacement – almost 100 years old and in need of replacement.
 - Install an inlet/outlet pipeline on the San Pablo Water Treatment Plant property serving water from the San Pablo Clearwell tanks to the distribution system via the transmission pipeline on the 200 block of Coventry Road.
 - Replace the transmission pipeline in the 200 block of Coventry Road with a new larger pipeline.

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EBMUD Manager of Water Distribution Planning Division, David Rehnstrom:

- Explained EBMUD is hiring a Landscape Consultant to prepare plans for the landscaping removed by PG&E along Berkeley Park Boulevard.
- Landscaping could include berms, hardscape, and drought/fire resistant plantings.
- Consultant will prepare different options that will be presented to the community for input at a meeting to be held in early 2020.

EBMUD Director Katz:

- EBMUD commitment to addressing community concerns about landscaping, noise and truck traffic.
- EBMUD is eager to work with the community to come to a solution.

EBMUD construction manager, Tom Bullock:

- Clearwell and Rate Control Station Replacement timeline is from approximately spring 2019 to spring 2023 and will be completed in phases.
 - Phase 1 – RCS replacement, spring 2019 to spring 2020
 - Phase 2 – Coventry Road transmission pipeline replacement, fall 2019 to winter 2019
 - Phase 3 – San Pablo Clearwell Demolition, replacement, and valve structure construction, early 2020 to spring 2023

Community Questions:

- What is the exact height of the new reservoir tanks and how much of them will be exposed?
 - New Clearwell tanks will have an upper elevation of approximately 247 feet and the ground level surrounding them will be at an elevation of 240 feet except at the vault structure where additional clearance is needed for access.
- What is the decibel level for the new RCS?
 - See attached FAQ question #10
- Can the Landscape Consultant weigh in on EBMUD's existing planting plan?
 - Yes.
- Can EBMUD replace 250 trees?
 - No. EBMUD's current plan shows that 44 trees will be installed within the site, six trees at the two site entrances (total) and one tree on Coventry Road. The Contractor is obligated to replace any additional trees they remove on Coventry Road.
- Is EBMUD going to stabilize the soil stockpiled on Coventry Road and other stockpiles of dirt that will be located onsite?
 - Yes. October 15 marks the beginning of the rainy season and before a rain event, the contractor will employ its storm management plans which include stabilizing loose soil prior to a rain event.

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- What planting plans are already in place and which ones still need developing?
 - EBMUD has a planting plan for the entrances to the site on Berkeley Park Boulevard and Colusa Avenue As well as and inside the site just below the lower access road and near the existing Filter Building. There is also some landscaping going in around the new Clearwell tanks. There is not a specific planting plan for Coventry Road. The Contractor is directed to protect the Sycamore trees along Coventry Road and is required to replace any trees they remove for the pipeline work.
- Could the community weigh in on the planting plan on Berkeley Park Boulevard?
 - Yes, EBMUD's Landscape Consultant will develop landscape and hardscape concepts for community input.
- What is the timeline for a planting plan and installation on Berkeley Park Boulevard?
 - EBMUD will retain a Landscape Consultant in November 2019. Concepts will be developed and rendering ready for community input in early 2020.
 - Upon completion of a final landscape plan, EBMUD will work with its contractor to determine the best schedule to implement the landscape plan.
- What the scope of restoration on Coventry Road?
 - EBMUD and its contractor are working with Contra Costa County to determine the scope of road restoration for Coventry Road and all repairs will be done to the agreed upon restoration..
- Could EBMUD's landscaping plan on Berkeley Park Boulevard look something like what has been done at EBMUD's Summit Reservoir site?
 - EBMUD will work with its Landscape Consultant to examine landscaping options for Berkeley Park Boulevard. If there is a viable design that looks similar to the one at Summit Reservoir, it will be presented to the community.
- Can all of the traffic entering and exiting the site take place at the Colusa Avenue access road?
 - EBMUD evaluated the possibility of having trucks come in and out of the Colusa Avenue entrance and found that trucks turning left into the Colusa Avenue access road would create dangerous traffic conditions for residents in the area, those traveling on Colusa, and drivers accessing the site. In addition, the access road is not wide enough to allow two-way truck traffic. Attempting to route all traffic through the Colusa Avenue access road would result in significant safety issues and costly project delays. .
 - The existing entrance to the San Pablo Water Treatment Plant is on Berkeley Park Boulevard, which has been the entrance for nearly 100 years, will remain the entry point for the project and for Water Treatment Plant operations. Major truck traffic will be routed in through the Berkeley Park Boulevard entrance and out of the Colusa Avenue access road. This plan effectively splits the traffic between the two access points, reduces congestion in either location, eliminates significant safety concerns and allows for proper site access for a timely contract completion.

Next steps:

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- Post FAQ and meeting minutes on EBMUD's San Pablo Clearwell and Rate Control Station Replacement Website.
- Meet with residents in early 2020 to collect input on landscaping options for Berkeley Park Boulevard.
- Post the completed landscaping plan for inside the plant and the entrances on the San Pablo Clearwell and Rate Control Station Replacement Website and notify residents who attended the meeting.
- Post final landscaping plans for Berkeley Park Boulevard on the San Pablo Clearwell and Rate Control Station Replacement Website after meeting with the community and collecting input in early 2020.
- Answer specific questions from community members as needed.
- While Sharla Sullivan is on maternity leave, beginning in January 2020, the community contact for the project will be Sr. Community Affairs Representative, Mona Favorite-Hill. Mona can be reached at mona.favorite-hill@ebmud.com or 510-287-0135.