

Final Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2012

The Unified Community Advisory Board
Meeting started at 5:50 p.m.

The following list of attendees is annotated, where possible, to indicate any affiliations.

Yolanda Herrera, UCAB community co-chair	Ryan Jacob, AECOM
Henry Vega, UCAB	Jeff Biggs, Tucson Water
Rich Kessler, UCAB	Fernando Molina, Tucson Water
Gerald Korte, UCAB	Alan Forest, Tucson Water
Margie Mortimer, UCAB	Kyle Johnson, ERM
Carrie Merkle, UCAB	Shona Garcia, ERM
Alex Richards, UCAB	Mike Knutson, 162 nd FW
Janice Crist, UCAB	David Bell, USAF AFCEE
Bill Jeffers, UCAB	Edwin Oyarzo, USAF
Maryfrances Bruckmeier, UCAB	Fred Tillman, USGS
Donald Matthieu, UCAB	George Warner, USAF ASC
Martin Zeleznik, EPA and UCAB governmental co-chair	Estella K. Holmes, USAF ASC
Helen Gutierrez, UCAB	Denise Moreno, UASRP
Gerry Hiatt, EPA	David Barraza, City of Tucson
David Cooper, EPA	Lisa Cuestas, City of Tucson
Fred Brinker, Tucson Airport Authority	Sarah Wilkinson, University of Arizona
Donna Creech, Alliant Corp	Josué Licea, Pima County CDNC
Marc Herman, ADEQ	James MacAdam, Tucson Mayor's Office
Corin Marron, Malcolm-Pirnie/ ARCADIS	Jim Szumski, Julia Keen Neighborhood Association
Monte Stroud, AECOM	Daniel Tylutki, Pima County

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Community co-chair Yolanda Herrera opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance. Attendee introductions were made.

MINUTES FROM APRIL 2012 MEETING

Upon motion made and seconded, the minutes for the April 2012 meeting were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Update on the Five-Year Review of the Tucson International Airport Area (TIAA) Superfund Site, by Martin Zeleznik

Mr. Zeleznik described the upcoming Five-Year Review (Review) for the TIAA Superfund Site. This Review is an evaluation required by the EPA every 5 years. The Review will accumulate and assess the most recent relevant information for the project and includes the inspection of the treatment plants, interviews of persons involved with the TIAA Superfund Site, etc. The first Review for the TIAA Superfund Site will occur in 2013. In October 2012, the EPA will request that UCAB or the community members volunteer to be interviewed. The purpose of the UCAB/community member interviews is to assess the public opinion of the Superfund Site. Mr. Zeleznik introduced David Cooper to further discuss the Review.

Mr. Cooper explained that because EPA employees often do not live near cleanup sites, the EPA depends on interviews with community members to provide information and local insight. The EPA will conduct community or stakeholder interviews consisting of a small number of questions. Mr. Cooper noted that the interview answers are confidential, and the EPA will conduct the interviews wherever it is convenient for the interviewee. Mr. Cooper also said that, prior to the start of the Review, a fact sheet will be sent out to those on the site's mailing list soliciting interviewees and notifying recipients of the start of the Review. At the end of the Review, another notice will be mailed to let the public know whether the remedy at the TIAA Superfund Site is still effective.

Question: Ms. Herrera regarding whether the interviewee sampling size will be too small.

Mr. Cooper said that the EPA would be happy to use resources outside of the mailing list, if available.

Ms. Herrera suggested an additional outreach to the neighborhoods in the vicinity of the TIAA Superfund Site, so they could perhaps add information in their community

newsletters. Mr. Cooper liked the idea, and asked that Ms. Herrera provide him with any such contacts.

Mr. Zeleznik noted that a contractor will be conducting all of the calls for these interviews and also reiterated that if anyone has any recommendations for potential interviewees, to please share those with the EPA.

Question: Gerald Korte regarding whether all UCAB members were on the EPA's mailing list.

Mr. Cooper said that he believed so, but Mr. Zeleznik noted that a separate invitation would be sent to UCAB members. Ms. Herrera added that past UCAB members should be included on the mailing list.

Question: Mr. Vega regarding whether the UCAB would be privy to what communities the EPA is already targeting, so they don't target the same communities.

Mr. Cooper deferred to Mr. Zeleznik. Mr. Zeleznik noted the suggestion.

Tucson Water - Introduction to Alan Forest, new Director of Tucson Water

Mr. Forest introduced himself and explained that he has a history with the Tucson area, having been a resident since 1983 and previously worked at Tucson Water from 1985 to 1994. He thanked those attendees at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Tucson Water advanced oxidation process (AOP) plant.

Tucson Water Update on 1,4-Dioxane, by Jeff Biggs

Mr. Biggs said that since the startup of the Tucson Area Remediation Project (TARP) in September 1994, Tucson Water has produced 41 billion gallons of drinking water and removed 4,660 pounds of trichloroethene (TCE). Since June 2002, Tucson Water has collected and analyzed almost 1,500 1,4-dioxane samples. The average concentration of 1,4-dioxane in these samples is 1.47 parts per billion (ppb). The average 1,4-dioxane concentration in water leaving the TARP facility is 1.52 ppb, and the average concentration in water coming into the facility, via the Santa Cruz Reservoir, is 1.02 ppb. Mr. Biggs said that all distribution sampling points, except three, had non-detectable levels of 1,4-dioxane in June 2012. The three exceptions contained 1,4-dioxane at 0.2 ppb, which is the detection limit.

Mr. Biggs said that the AOP project has been divided into two "packages." The first "package" consists of the chemical treatment equipment (ultraviolet lights, hydrogen peroxide, granular activated carbon equipment, etc.) that has been negotiated and priced. The price for this "package" totals approximately \$4.2 million of the roughly \$15 million total. The second "package" includes everything else – such as building, piping, equipment installation, etc. – and will cost \$9 to \$10 million. This second package is currently being developed. Mr. Biggs said that construction is scheduled to begin in late

summer 2012, perhaps in August 2012. The construction period will last 12 to 14 months.

Question: Ms. Herrera regarding if there is a safety net in place in the event the AOP plant goes over budget.

Mr. Biggs reminded attendees that Tucson Water is a separate entity from the City of Tucson and is financially self-sustaining from its water rates and miscellaneous fees and has its own capital improvement program (CIP). The AOP project is part of Tucson Water's CIP and has been approved by the City Manager's office and Mayor and Council. Mr. Biggs said Tucson Water's 5-year CIP breaks down to approximately \$55 to \$60 million per year, and the AOP plant is part of that 5-year plan.

UCAB Update on Co-Chair Election, by Margie Mortimer

Ms. Mortimer said that the nomination committee is recommending that Ms. Herrera continue as UCAB Co-Chair. The motion was made and seconded, and Ms. Herrera was unanimously voted to continue as UCAB Co-Chair. Ms. Herrera thanked the nominating committee and the UCAB.

UCAB Update on UCAB Tour Follow-Up

Alex Richards said the tour of the TARP facility, held on May 19, 2012, was very nice and his son also enjoyed it.

Mr. Vega said it was his second tour in the last 7 or 8 years. He noted it was very extensive and included a tour of the laboratory. He said it was nice to see some younger adults in the crowd. He thanked Mr. Biggs and Tucson Water and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity.

Donald Matthieu stated that he found the tour educational and said it was beneficial to see the facilities in person. He thanked Tucson Water.

Bill Jeffers said the tour was very informative and dispelled a lot of rumors and myths he had heard about the facility. He was impressed by the efficiency of Tucson Water and its efforts to improve.

Ms. Mortimer thanked Fernando Molina for the additional time he spent answering questions.

Ms. Herrera thanked Tucson Water and expressed the importance of being able to take these kinds of tours and for Tucson Water to be so receptive to questions.

Mr. Vega introduced meeting attendee, Helen Gutierrez, who was a former and long-time UCAB member. Ms. Gutierrez expressed her desire to become involved in UCAB again. Ms. Herrera announced that Ignacio Gomez had resigned from UCAB and invited Ms. Gutierrez to re-join the board if she so desired.

UCAB Update on Community Outreach

Janice Crist mentioned that whenever there is a neighborhood function, the UCAB sets up an information table.

Mr. Matthieu said he and Christine Krikliwy have been working with Manor Baptist Church and have told them about the UCAB. He also said they are going to have a meeting with the pastor to discuss the TCE contamination in the church's well and to help the pastor find a new water source for the property. Mr. Matthieu explained that the current pastor has not been at his post long, and he was unaware of the history of TCE in the area. He said that the pastor was glad to be made aware. Mr. Matthieu hoped there would be more information about Manor Baptist Church by the next UCAB meeting.

Question (to Tucson Water): Ms. Herrera regarding if there was anything the UCAB could do to assist Tucson Water in transitioning Manor Baptist Church to a water supply other than its well.

Fernando Molina responded that Tucson Water was not directly familiar with the situation at Manor Baptist Church, but he said that Tucson Water would be willing to talk to the pastor and its board or members.

Mr. Forest encouraged attendees to inform Tucson Water if there were any other private well owners/users in the area. He said that Tucson Water would be asking stakeholders about private wells during the Five-Year Review.

Mr. Vega suggested contacting Mitch Wright and inviting him to the next UCAB meeting.

Mr. Vega thanked David Barraza of the City of Tucson for his support of water quality issues in the area.

UCAB Update on 1,4-Dioxane Treatment Facility Groundbreaking

Ms. Crist said the groundbreaking was well-attended and informative.

Ms. Mortimer appreciated the speakers and was excited about the new plant, that it represented the start of a new relationship between the City of Tucson and some of its critics.

Mr. Jeffers was impressed by the presence of Pima County Supervisor Richard Elias and his talk of government transparency.

Ms. Herrera said she thought the ceremony was impressive and that she was extremely moved by Mr. Elias' comments about her father and Lorraine Lee, both who led efforts to improve water quality in Tucson. Ms. Herrera added, however, that she was unsure

if the media and public fully understood the reason for the new facility, and she wants continued efforts to raise awareness.

Mr. Forest said Tucson Water was pleased with the turnout and thanked everyone who came. He said he was looking forward to the ribbon cutting.

Ms. Herrera conducted a drawing for a commemorative shovel that was donated by Mr. Elias. Carrie Merkle was the winner of the drawing.

CALL TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Mr. Barraza summarized the City of Tucson and Pima County's past efforts to become part of the EPA's Brownfields grant program. These grants provide funding for environmental site assessments (ESAs) for property owners interested in developing their sites. The ESAs would provide a cursory search of records to determine any potential environmental impacts from previous activities at the site. Mr. Barraza said they have successfully secured grants with the EPA Region IX for the past 12 years.

Mr. Barraza introduced Lisa Cuestas, Daniel Tylutki, Josué Licea, and Mick Jensen.

Question: Ms. Herrera regarding how this grant relates to the UCAB's mission.

Mr. Barraza said the grant provides funding for developing sites that are underutilized, blighted, or otherwise affected by environmental impacts, and that this grant cycle will be aimed at areas in southern Tucson.

Ms. Herrera expressed her desire to ensure Mr. Barraza's presentation was relevant to the UCAB's charter. She said she didn't believe it was relevant to the charter, but felt Mr. Barraza should present anyway because City of Tucson/Pima County representatives had taken the time to attend the UCAB meeting and ask for a spot on the agenda.

Fred Brinker felt the grant process was a good thing for the community because when the consent decree for the TIAA Superfund Site was signed, property sales in the area were negatively affected by concerns of environmental impacts. Mr. Brinker said the ESAs funded by the grant would allow property owners to further demonstrate that their properties are not impaired by the Superfund site. Because of this, he felt it was appropriate for the UCAB to support Mr. Barraza's efforts.

Mr. Matthieu and Ms. Crist both wondered if the ESAs would determine which wells in the area contain TCE. Mr. Barraza clarified that the grants would only fund Phase I ESAs, which do identify things like wells, underground storage tanks, etc., but do not involve actual sampling. Mr. Barraza stated that part of the grant process is community involvement, which was why he was at UCAB. Mr. Barraza deferred to Mr. Tylutki.

Mr. Tylutki introduced himself and described his history with the area. He explained the difference between Superfund sites and Brownfield sites, saying that all Superfund sites are Brownfield sites, but not vice versa. He expanded on Mr. Brinker's thought that grant-funded ESAs could help owners of commercial/industrial properties within the TCE plume boundary to identify and resolve any on-site environmental impacts and make the property more marketable. He said Pima County's Brownfield efforts are typically aimed at unincorporated communities like Ajo, Why, Lukeville, and Flowing Wells.

Mr. Tylutki said the grant being pursued is a highly competitive coalition grant in which three jurisdictions must participate. The focus will be on commercial corridors along South 6th Street into Old Nogales Highway to the Airport, 29th Street through the Stravenues down Country Club to the Airport, and some of the new proposed rights-of-way on the map (attached). The \$1 million grant has been divided into three phases. Mr. Tylutki said the grant closely mirrors the proposed bond projects to expand the airport, and it will increase the aerospace corridor, the biosciences corridor, and the rights-of-way through Old Vail Connection to the highway. Mr. Tylutki felt that the focus on these corridors, along with the support of the UCAB, would enable the grant application to be successful.

Ms. Cuestas added that the grant guidelines have not yet been released by the EPA, but that they expected them to be released in September 2012, with an application deadline of October/November 2012. The grant would not be awarded until the summer of 2013. She said that, if they were awarded the grant, they could start using those funds in October 2013, at the start of the federal fiscal year. Ms. Cuestas stressed the importance of the community outreach component of the grant process and expressed her desire that the UCAB write a letter of support for their efforts.

Question: Mr. Vega regarding if there is a breakdown of administrative costs of the proposed grant activities.

Mr. Tylutki responded that a 20-percent overhead is allowed for personnel to conduct the surveys along the corridors, but they might leverage their staff time to make the application more attractive. Ms. Cuestas added that they might not use their personnel allowance.

Question: Mr. Vega regarding what property owners could expect if their sites were selected for an ESA.

Ms. Cuestas responded that the Phase I ESA would include a contracted consultant to research the property through the databases/records of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and Environmental Data Resources, Inc., using Sanborn maps, change-of-title searches, etc., to find the history of the site. The ESA Report will either determine that there are no environmentally recognized concerns (i.e., the site is believed to be clean) or there might be a recognized environmental condition that

requires further investigation, such as a Phase II ESA that includes sampling, removing underground storage tanks, etc.

Mr. Zeleznik applauded the grant application and noted the City of Tucson and Pima County's past success in securing grants from the EPA.

Ms. Herrera said a motion could be made to draft a letter of support for the application. Mr. Barraza suggested that the City of Tucson could draft the letter on behalf of the UCAB.

Question: Mr. Matthieu regarding if a budget has been drafted that breaks down the cost per ESA.

Mr. Barraza said that ESAs typically cost between \$3,000 and \$5,000, but it depends on the complexity of the property, the history, and whether it is a single property or multiple properties. He noted there are guidelines (such as American Society for Testing and Materials standards) that must be followed during a Phase I ESA that feed into the budgeting.

Question: Ms. Mortimer regarding if Mr. Barraza would return to UCAB if a letter of support were drafted.

Mr. Barraza said he attends every UCAB meeting, but he would be glad to update the UCAB of the grant application's progress, as appropriate.

Rich Kessler made a motion to support the grant application, using a letter of support drafted by the City of Tucson and Pima County. Ms. Mortimer seconded the motion. Mr. Korte stated that he felt it was not part of the UCAB's charter to officially support such an application. Ms. Herrera suggested that Donna Creech work with Mr. Barraza to draft the letter. Mr. Barraza agreed. Estelle Holmes reiterated that it is not strictly appropriate for the UCAB to be involved in the grant application, because the UCAB's mission is limited to cleanup of the Superfund Site. Mr. Barraza, Ms. Creech, and Ms. Herrera were going to work together to ensure the letter of support does not conflict with the UCAB's charter.

CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Ms. Creech handed out the UCAB charter and asked members to sign a listing of members signifying they had received a copy and return the list to her.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION ITEMS

There was none.

OPEN DISCUSSION/NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Question: Ms. Mortimer regarding the cutoff for adding agenda items.

Ms. Herrera said that Ms. Creech typically requires a month's notice.

Upon motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

