



Lander Street Water
Renewal Facility Improvements

Lander Street Water Renewal Facility Improvements Community Workshop #1 Summary

DATE: June 2017
PROJECT NUMBER: LSP-070/684142

The City of Boise (City) is beginning the process of planning, designing, and constructing improvements to the Lander Street Water Renewal Facility. Over the next several years, the City will replace aging equipment and disinfection processes and put in place modern and sustainable water renewal practices at the facility. The current range of improvements will require expanding the Lander Street Water Renewal Facility, with potential impacts to the Boise Greenbelt and a large residential neighborhood north of the facility.

Because the City places a high value on local neighborhoods, community engagement will go above and beyond the required Conditional Use Permit process. A series of three workshops in Summer/Fall 2017 will give community members a formal opportunity to participate in the planning and design process. Input from the community also will help the City identify and respond to issues and concerns associated with construction.

Workshop #1 Overview

The City hosted Community Workshop #1 on June 7, 2017, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Lander Street facility. Twenty-one people attended the first workshop, and many more received notification of the Lander Street improvements and the opportunity to participate.

A formal PowerPoint presentation was given at 4:00 p.m. and repeated at 6:00 p.m. The presentation included:

- » An overview of the Lander Street Water Renewal Facility
- » Why Boise needs to improve the facility
- » Process and schedule
- » What improvements might look like
- » Possible changes to the area
- » Conditional Use Permit process
- » Questions, comments, and next steps

Residents were invited to ask questions throughout the presentation. Comments and questions are summarized on page 3.

Notification Process

The City invited community members to the workshop in multiple ways.

- » **Personal Letter** – A personal letter from the Boise Public Works Director was mailed to:
 - All property owners within 1,000 feet of the facility and 300 feet of the Boise Valley Canal bordering the facility.
 - The stakeholder database for the project.
 - The presidents of the Veterans Memorial Neighborhood Association and Collister Neighborhood Association. The City also placed a personal phone call and sent a follow-up e-mail to both presidents.
- » **Postcard** – A postcard was mailed via saturation drop to every business and residential address in the immediate vicinity of the Lander Street facility.
- » **Signage** – Sandwich boards were placed along the Greenbelt announcing the workshop.
- » **Social Media** – The City posted the workshop invitation on the project website and neighborhood Nextdoor site.

Comments and Questions

Meeting attendees were highly engaged and provided detailed, thoughtful input to the City of Boise. Participants were invited to ask verbal questions during the two presentations. Participants also had the opportunity to submit written comments through a comment sheet or e-mail. The City received nine written comments in addition to extensive verbal comments and questions during the presentations.

This section includes a summary of comments and questions from Workshop #1.

Construction Impacts

Comments included:

- » Many people expressed concerns about dust, noise, and other problems (for example, litter) during construction in the neighborhood.
- » Many people expressed concerns about increased traffic and speeding from construction and City vehicles.
- » It would cause a problem for residents if one of the neighborhood exits were dedicated to traffic from Lander Street operations.
- » During the Suez pipe replacement, cigarette butts and dust were everywhere and domestic water turned brown. There was a lack of respect for residents.
- » Could the City have another access point to the facility off Veterans Memorial Parkway?

Questions included:

- » What will the hours of construction be?
- » Will there be neighborhood meetings during construction?
- » How will the City handle effluent (wastewater) while the plant is under construction?
- » What is the timeframe for beginning construction?
- » How many workers will be onsite during construction?

- » How will the Veterans Memorial Parkway/36th Street/State Street Intersection Project construction affect Lander Street construction?

Greenbelt access and parking

Comments included:

- » Greenbelt access off Lander Street is extremely important and should be preserved during and after construction.
- » The parking lot is heavily used. The City should replace parking spaces for Greenbelt users. If not, Greenbelt users will use residential parking instead.
- » Elderly people park and access Greenbelt at this location.
- » Many entrances to the Greenbelt do not have major parking lots or signs.
- » Greenbelt access is consistent with the LIV district theme.
- » The planned ACHD Veterans Memorial Parkway/36th Street/State Street Intersection Project will force people to access the Greenbelt via Lander Street. The City needs to be aware of this project.

Questions included:

- » Could the community be involved in redesigning Greenbelt access?

Pond, park, and wildlife

Comments included:

- » The pond is an important spot for wildlife and water fowl.
- » I bought my house here due to the great location, nearby parks, and Greenbelt access. I hope this does not change.

Questions included:

- » Will the pond be filled in?
- » Can you skirt the edge on the southeast side without impacting the pond?
- » How would filling in the pond affect irrigation?
- » Will trees be preserved? Will the apple tree be preserved?
- » Will new trees (to replace trees removed during construction) be open for community decision?

Lander facility

Comments included:

- » Several people expressed support for keeping the Lander Street facility open.
- » Several people were complimentary to the Lander Street staff and crew.

Questions included:

- » What are the visual impacts of the improved facility?
- » Will odor at the new facility increase, decrease, or stay the same?
- » What are the City's plans for water reuse?
- » Is the cool façade going to be demolished? Please don't demolish.
- » Are there hazardous chemicals used at the plant?

- » Are other pathogens being removed at the plant that could be a risk to the community, such as MRSA?
- » Is stormwater treated at the plant?
- » In Phase I or II, will the round tanks be covered?
- » Could the boundary fence be less industrial-looking (not chain-link)?

Other comments

Other comments included:

- » The restrooms and parking lot, while helpful, are also used for drug dealing and homeless people. The restroom can also be a noise problem.
- » An emergency responder entrance gate would be necessary.
- » Replacing the public restrooms would be nice. They are one of the only restrooms open year-round on the Greenbelt.
- » The RV dump doesn't get used at all.
- » The City needs a spillway at Lucky Peak.

Other questions included:

- » Could the City get more cameras to make sure bad activity is recorded?
- » Will elevated levels of the river continue to cause problems? Is the City planning for that?