

DRAFT

Lander Street Water  
Renewal Facility Improvements

# Lander Street Water Renewal Facility Improvements Community Open House Summary

DATE: December 2017

PROJECT NUMBER: LSP-070/684142

The City of Boise is in 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 facility, with potential impacts to the Boise Greenbelt access and a large residential neighborhood north of the facility. The expansion will require a Conditional Use Permit to be issued by the City of Boise.

Because the city places a high value on local neighborhoods, community engagement has been designed to go above and beyond the required Conditional Use Permit process. Community engagement has primarily occurred through a series of workshops. The first two workshops occurred in June and August 2017. A third will be held in early 2018.

## Open house overview

The city hosted a community open house from 4 - 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 6, 2017 at the Lander Street Water Renewal Facility (790 Lander St.). With fifteen people attending, the open house provided an opportunity for community members to ask questions and speak directly to project staff. In addition, it provided an opportunity for those who had not participated in the previous workshops to hear an overview of the Lander Street project and give input on the range of potential improvements. Those who had participated in prior workshops could provide additional comments about the alternatives.

## Notification process

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

- » **Postcard** – The city sent a postcard with a project update, open house invitation and details about various activities in the neighborhood, such as the installment of new water mains. The postcard was mailed to:
  - » A saturation drop to every address in the immediate vicinity of the Lander Street facility.
  - » 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.
- » **Website** – The city posted the open house invitation on the project website.
- » **Emails** – The city sent an email invitation to the residents of the Veteran’s Park and Collister neighborhood associations.
- » **Nextdoor** – The city posted an open house invitation for nearby neighborhoods on Nextdoor.

## Open house format

Upon arriving at the open house, attendees were greeted at the door and encouraged to sign in. Materials from the first two workshops were available on tables. Those who had not participated in either of the previous community workshops were directed to a staff member who gave an overview of the improvements. Participants from past workshops could also review the displays and speak one-on-one with staff.

Several participants asked for a tour of the water renewal facility. Facility Manager Royce Davis arranged for participants to tour the facility during the open house.



Participants were given a tour of the Lander Street facility on request.

Attendees were welcome to stay for as little or as much time as needed, and no formal presentation was included. Comment sheets were available for anyone who wished to submit written input or questions.

## Community input

Attendees at the open house expressed a variety of comments, questions and concerns. Open house staff took notes during one-on-one conversations and encouraged attendees to submit written comment sheets. Topics included:

- » Concerns about truck traffic on Lander Street, particularly during construction.
- » Support for Veteran's Memorial Parkway access to the water renewal facility.
- » Support for native wildlife and/or trees, especially around the pond near the facility.
- » A general preference for Alternative A for the new Greenbelt access path.

Other individual comments included concerns about noise and odor, a variety of opinions about parking, and thanking the project team.

## Questions

Many asked specific questions about the project status and current activities. Questions included:

- » Has anyone looked into how an improved facility might increase residential land values around it by reducing its impact (noise, smells, etc.)?
- » What is the city intending to do with the Greenbelt route?

- » Will the berm on the north side of the facility (behind Bell Lane) remain?
- » Why has Willow Lane not been talked about?
- » What are the current activities happening around the site – i.e., geotechnical work, surveys, etc.?
- » What is the status of the 36th and State intersection project and how will it affect the Lander St. project?
- » Will the Greenbelt changes happen before the construction fence goes up?

Materials from the open house, including a transcription of comments, are included in an appendix to this document.

## Appendix

- » Transcription of written and verbal comments
- » Transcription of sign-ins
- » Invitation postcard
- » Postcard mailing list:
  - Stakeholder database
  - Property owner mailing list: 1,000-foot radius around Lander facility
  - Property owner mailing list: 300-foot radius around Boise Valley Canal
- » Nextdoor post