

WORK GROUPS

One Water Partnership Member Outreach Program

INTEGRATED WORK GROUPS

One Water Partnership: Meets quarterly to review activities and progress of the water, wastewater and integrated work groups with a focus on regional cooperation. The *One Water Partnership* mission is to collaboratively ensure a One Water System approach to our regional water and wastewater system that will be economically, socially and environmentally responsible and sustainable. The *One Water Partnership* is represented by a co-chair group comprised of one GLWA representative, one Detroit Water and Sewerage Department representative, and member community representatives. The co-chairs set annual goals and keep activities and discussions aligned with established goals and provide clarification when needed. Typical meeting topics include updates on GLWA initiatives, regional concerns and industry best practices.

Asset Management & CIP Work Group: Meets up to ten times a year to provide input and support to the Asset Management program and the development and execution of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The work group generates feedback from members and consultants alike regarding improvements to, and execution of, the associated business processes and activities. Recent activities have resulted in improved Business Case Evaluations (BCE), CIP project prioritization criteria, and a Strategic Asset Management Plan. Future activities are focused on improvements and coordination of project execution and delivery.

Communications Work Group: Meets up to eight times a year to discuss topics related to communication within the GLWA service area. This work group was recently created and is currently focused on developing communication processes between GLWA and its members. Members identify other topics or events they would like to discuss or work through at the work group meetings. Typical meetings include review of materials to aid in communication and debriefing of recent events in the region that affected members, and how the communication around those events was handled.



Public Education Work Group: Meets up to six times a year to manage publication of Operation Clean Water articles, develop educational materials for member communities to use, and undertake activities to support water and wastewater work groups. The work group supports public education efforts for GLWA's Surface Water Intake Protection Programs (SWIPPs) and works with the Wastewater Best Practices Work Group to publish Retention Treatment Basin (RTB) Performance Reports. Members identify topics for Operation Clean Water articles and individuals to interview, provide feedback on draft articles, identify groups to partner with in republishing articles, and support reuse of materials within their communities.

WATER WORK GROUPS

Water Analytical Work Group: Meets up to ten times a year to address issues relating to water service contracts, level of service, capital project updates, system planning and the Wholesale Automated Meter Reading (WAMR) program. Engineering, operational and planning issues are discussed in detail and posi-



tion statements developed on specific operational concerns. Goals have included addressing reliability and redundancy concerns, planning of large construction projects, providing input to the Master Plan Update, reviewing water main break issues, and developing a process to review GLWA non-revenue water data. The Water Analytical Work Group also reviews contract exceedances at the November and December meetings.

Water Management Best Practices Work

Group: Meets up to six times a year to promote regional water management best practices, approaches, applications and benchmarks, and to provide information and recommendations to the *One Water Partnership*. Current focus is establishing training opportunities to prepare workers for new responsibilities as people retire and job descriptions change, finding ways to connect to elected officials, and hosting workshops to address regional issues.

Water Charges Work Group: Meets up to seven times a year and members also typically attend the Charges Rollout meetings held from October through January. Members discuss and provide input/recommendations to the charge methodology, provide education on the methodology, financial statements, other metrics, and the Master Plan/CIP financial review. This is a forum where members bring issues to discuss for incorporation into the charge setting process. Detailed discussions are undertaken on components of the methodology used to determine individual member charges. The group has developed issue papers on topics like the Rate of Return, and developed materials to explain the water charge methodology.

WASTEWATER WORK GROUPS

Wastewater Analytics Task Force: Meets up to ten times a year and serves to provide analytics on related wastewater sewer system items or issues to focus on a broader view of the system beyond just metering data. Additional responsibilities include making recommendations to GLWA on the best manner to resolve current metering issues, reviewing recommendations for application of meter verification results, and providing input on analytical data/studies from the Master Plan.

Wastewater Best Practices Work Group:

Meets up to five times a year to exchange information and share experiences relating to the operation and maintenance of Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) RTB

facilities. The region's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits require each municipality that operates a CSO RTB facility to have a representative attend the work group meetings on a quarterly basis. Recent storm events and facility performance are discussed, as well as technical topics such as plume studies, sampling and testing procedures, and operator training. The NPDES permits also require the work group to prepare an Annual Report to the MDEQ summarizing the work group's efforts. The work group regularly partners with the Public Education Work Group to publish CSO RTB Performance Reports, which are posted on the outreach portal.

Wastewater Charges Work Group: Meets up to six times a year to review SHARE allocations and other issues related to customer charges. Members also typically attend the Charges Rollout meetings held from October through January to review upcoming budgets and charges. Wastewater Charges Work Group meetings are frequently scheduled to follow charges rollout meetings.

HOW DO I JOIN A WORK GROUP?

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