

## 2016-2017 MCES Customer Task Forces

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) is committed to collaborating with our community customers as we work through wastewater policy issues, address challenges, and develop opportunities for better partnerships. We have facilitated the following task forces in the recent and current period.

### *2017 Wastewater Reuse Policy Task Force*

The Wastewater Reuse Policy Task Force is reviewing the Council's existing wastewater reuse policies and will recommend clarifications needed to respond to opportunities for wastewater reuse. The task force membership is drawn from MCES's community customers, and represents a range of large and small ratepayers, geographic diversity, and communities with or without previously expressed interest in wastewater reuse. We will obtain stakeholder input from the business community, regulatory agencies and other groups as needed in a panel-type format.

We expect the task force will meet four times starting in the spring and summer of 2017. Metro Cities will participate, and Sandy Rummel, Chair of the Metropolitan Council's Environment Committee, will chair the group.



For more information, contact Deborah Manning, Assistant Manager, Plant Engineering at [Deborah.Manning@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:Deborah.Manning@metc.state.mn.us) or 651.602.1114.

### *2016 Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Task Force*

Council Member Sandy Rummel chaired this task force, which included staff from Metro Cities and representatives from 19 communities with public works, wastewater utility, finance, or city manager experience. The membership was diverse in terms of community size, geographic location, and experience with the Council's I/I program. The Council has previously convened task forces to work with regional communities to address inflow and infiltration.

The Task Force met five times in 2016 and concurred with the findings of the resulting report of their deliberations. In summary, the task force recommended that MCES:

1. **Continue the regional planning policy of balancing regional standards with the needs of local communities** to tailor programs to their individual circumstances.
2. **Develop a robust public outreach program** that would include proper maintenance of wastewater collection systems, ownership of sanitary sewer service laterals, and impacts of excessive I/I during wet weather events.

3. **Support efforts to secure funding for public and private I/I mitigation projects** including State Bond and Clean Water Legacy Funds. Consider the provision of financial assistance through regional sources, such as a portion of the wastewater fee, to assist communities for private property I/I mitigation.
4. **Develop a model ordinance for a private property service lateral inspection program** in conjunction with the League of Minnesota Cities, Metro Cities, and local communities.
5. **Develop best practices for a private property service lateral inspection program** in conjunction with the League of Minnesota Cities, Metro Cities, and local communities.
6. **Investigate the ability to develop master contracts** held by MCES that could be used by communities for private property I/I inspections and service lateral repairs.
7. **Design and implement a private property I/I mitigation demonstration project** that would provide additional opportunity for measurement of impact on wastewater base and peak flows.
8. **Review the peak-hour factors used to develop I/I goals** at the time that the 2050 Water Resources Policy Plan is prepared.

[More information about the I/I Task Force \(https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Publications-And-Resources/WASTEWATER/Inflow-Infiltration/Inflow-Infiltration-Task-Force-Report,-2016.aspx\)](https://metro council.org/Wastewater-Water/Publications-And-Resources/WASTEWATER/Inflow-Infiltration/Inflow-Infiltration-Task-Force-Report,-2016.aspx). Or contact Jeannine Clancy, Community Programs Manager, MCES at [jeannine.clancy@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:jeannine.clancy@metc.state.mn.us) or 651.602.1210.

## 2016 SAC Task Force

MCES convened the 2016-17 SAC Task Force to review current policies, examine different approaches, conduct financial and other impact analyses, and make final recommendations. Key topics of review:

- Current outdoor seating policy
- Discounts for manufactured homes
- Options to simplify SAC Determinations
- Options to simplify credits

The task force consists of representatives from communities around the region including finance directors, public works managers, and building officials. Metro Cities also participates, and Council member Wendy Wulff chairs the task force. It has met a total of six times since December 2016. Currently, MCES staff is conducting a detailed financial analysis of task force recommendations and will review the findings with the task force in summer 2017.

The analysis will determine the financial impacts of the task force's proposed modifications to SAC determination criteria. The new criteria will utilize "gross" square footage of a building as the basis for the SAC assignment instead of use-specific "net" square feet. The study will also identify types of uses that would be conducive for the new methodology and determine the impact on revenue collection such a methodology change would have on the program. The task force is expected to reconvene once this study is completed in summer 2017.

For more information, contact MCES Finance Director Ned Smith at [Ned.Smith@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:Ned.Smith@metc.state.mn.us) or 651.602.1162.