

CESSPOOL CONVERSION WORKING GROUP (CCWG)

Main Group - Meeting Minutes

Date: December 14, 2021

Time: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: Webinar

Call in Details: Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86027898284>

Meeting ID: 860 2789 8284

Dial by your location
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Members Present:

Sina Pruder (SP)
Ted Bohlen (TB)
Mike Mezzacapo (MM)
Erica Perez (EP)
Eric Nakagawa (EN)
Dave Smith (DS)
Ken Hiraki (KH)
Stuart Coleman (SC)
Ramzi Mansour (RM)
Rep. Nicole Lowen (NL)
Lani Fernandez (LF)

Members Not Present:

Wesley Yokoyama (WY)
Elizabeth Char (EC)
Troy Tanigawa (TT)
Darren Lerner (DL)

Facilitation Support:

Christin Reynolds (CR)

AGENDA

- A. Call to order at 1:03pm
- B. Approval of October 19th and November 16th meeting minutes
 - o November 16th no quorum met, so no vote on minutes.
 - o October 19th TB moves to approve
 - o SP seconds
 - o All approvals, no opposition
- C. Discuss Data & Prioritization report distribution and communicating about the updated prioritization results
 - o Discussion points
 - o New prioritization considers more factors and results are at higher resolution than the 2017 dataset. The 2021 dataset is intended to replace the 2017 data set.
 - The prioritization scheme takes 15 factors and provides a score for each cesspool, the results are intended to be used

by this group. The results are a synthesis of the tool. The tool is specifically unbiased.

- Concern that the new prioritization for certain areas have prioritization as a lower level than other studies which prioritize those areas.
 - How to incorporate historic reports and other studies that are in communities that have previously been identified as a priority and has been well studied in the past?
- This prioritization scheme was using statewide datasets so as not to have a bias towards areas that have more studies or data than other areas.
- Prioritization is going to be controversial and scrutinized the most, need to be on solid ground when the results come out.
- If the tool will inform rulemaking and legislation then that will have a public process inherently embedded in that process, may not need to do more stakeholder engagement at this point can be tied to the rulemaking and legislative processes.
- We hired the experts and contracted them to provide an unbiased analysis, we can't tweak the results using other studies to change the conclusions.
- All cesspools will have to convert, the data and prioritization results aren't saying that some won't have to. So this shouldn't impact any previous efforts to convert cesspools.
- Concerned about the optics, we hired the best professionals and they came up with their results. The more we start changing it for certain interests that undermines the work of this group.
- There was discussion back and forth about the tool having weights for each of the factors, each factor was ultimately weighted equally and some express the need to not have all factors weighted equally.
- Sensitivity analysis shows that changing the weights on average would change it's rank on average by 7%.
- Need to share more about how the data and prioritization report is part of the process in the cesspool conversion plan. A lot of heavy lifting over the next few months is needed to get to a conversion plan, don't want to get stuck on a weighting exercise at a time when we need to focus on a lot of other tough issues.
- Goal to get cesspools closed by 2050, focus on converting as many cesspools as we can, let's be proactive and stay focused on getting as many cesspools converted as we can.
- TB makes motion, "release the report as is"
 - In Favor: SP, LF, KH, RM, EN
 - Opposed: TB, EP, LF
 - Abstain: MM, DS
 - Motion doesn't carry.

D. Discuss and approve the compilation of the Finance Subgroup

- Pushed to next meeting.

E. Questions and Comments

- Share data with Finance Subgroup from past cesspool conversions that BOH has processed.
- Have been getting requests from Legislators to have updates on conversion, NL will schedule a briefing.
- Report is public record and will have to be shared as a contract deliverable without bias and without comment or additional “gloss”.
- Next meeting is on the 3rd Tuesday, January 18th 1:00pm.

F. Adjournment at 2:53pm.