

Vector and Code Enforcement Advisory Committee Minutes
City of Portland, Mt. Hood Conference Room 01/13/09 @ 1:00 pm

11/18/08 MINUTES

MOTION: A motion was made to approve 11/18/08 minutes.

SECOND: The motion was seconded.

MOTION PASSED The 11/18/08 minutes were approved.

Introductions:

Introductions were done with the Mult. Co. Vector Control & Code Enforcement staff.

Old Business Updates:

Economic Climate- Lila Wickham discussed economic climate with Wheeler and he is suggesting 15% cuts from the county, taking cuts for the last 9 years. There are multiple county priorities and vulnerable populations who will lose services due to the economic climate. Lila Wickham has been working on housing initiatives for affordable housing to low income people, no new programs no new initiatives due to the budget. The Governor's budget currently supports education, "green initiatives, and children's health. Vector and Nuisance Control was asked to take a 7% reductions for environmental health and Chris Wirth prepared the 7% reduction.

Chris Wirth discussed the budget. The budget will be finalizing budget this week with a 7 % reduction. The reduction has to come from programs that are general fund programs such as vector control and code enforcement.

Budget Projections and Service Impacts

Chris Wirth distributed the budget. An approximate \$80,000 reduction and personnel affected. Personnel maintain a field vacancy; reduce office staff from 2.0 to 1.5. Reduce overtime, temp staff to go into surveillance work. Storm water work for city and county schools has been eliminated. Rodent surveillance will be reduced by \$13,000 paying for 4 difference diseases at OSU, Aerial surveillance will be reduced to \$116,000. A reduction of fleet vehicles by \$20,000.

Budget scenarios discussion and feedback

Ideas to offset services cut?

- Partner with science school teachers to monitor storm water structures.
- MPH interns help offset staffing and service loss
- Bonamiche legislation (require all schools in OR will need to have IPM program) train those who so school IPM work
- Stimulus package from federal government, create shovel ready proposal for Vector Services to get funds from stimulus package
- Agreement with Portland parks and recreation that we oversee surveillance but they contact with someone else to do it?
- What are MC employees willing to contribute to offset losses?
- Rent cars to save fleet costs (Ruth to send info to Chris Wirth)

- Partnership to leverage resources/services to replace services lost.
How do we market volunteerism/partnerships in this climate? Use angle of care principles (no one likes rats/mosquitoes)
Access home/Community fairs
Education
- Property owners where catch basins are contract with me to do work or contract with private pest control.
- Partnership with Water Bureau (Susan Kelly)
- Can we evaluate the outcome of stopping catch basins treatment? Need to prove impact of our prevention.
Track complainant
Can use dead birds
Can't use # of mosquitoes. Not enough baseline data to do random samples.
- Partnership with outdoor school
- Interns to offset No Health education position funded
- VISTA Application
- VNAC help write /input grants/VISTA/Letter to chair to offer suggestions to weather economic climate.
- Share knowledge with landscapes/master gardeners
- Educational mailing/sewer bills/soil water conservations

Prioritization of key program components

- Immature Control, rodent surveillance until project done, and education. Services will do.
- How do we respond to ---break in this climate? Deal with it and figure out reimbursement.
- Really fund surveillance well
- We are shifting from preventative to reactive model.
- Need to keep helicopter treatment
- Concept of approaching people to share they agreed to help out, bios well districts, focus on core principles as talk points, community fairs, core messages, education

Communication Strategies

Lila Wickham asked advisory committee to give opinions to Wheeler in form of a letter from committee. Lynn George drafted a letter for committee to look at to give to Chair Wheeler. Ideas to include on letter

- To summarize offset and ideas,
- Develop shovel ready models to capture stimulus package (subsurface work) use springboard to partner,
- VISTA/grass roots,
- MCVNC has specialty knowledge and we are willing to share,
- Summarize cuts,

- Stormwater going away but maybe partner with schools,
- Acknowledge Multnomah County employees are looking for ways to offset loss of positions.

Next step, redraft letter with provided introduction and closure and send electronically with minutes by 01/20/09. Have VNAC look at draft and approve. Final letter USPS to Chair Wheeler with a copy to Lillian Shirley by 01/28/09. *Use mosquito/rat graphic

Identification of agenda items for next meeting

- Budget update-Chris Wirth
- Rodent strategic planning briefing and get committee update-Chris Wirth
- Catch basins in City of Portland, Portland Parks and Recreation-John Reed
- Metro driving force storm water management-green spaces
- New development, Bioswales, Management plans and agenda
- Mandates

Next meeting Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 1-3 p.m. at Southeast Health Center.