

Buffalo Sewer Stakeholder Advisory Meeting

Date: 2.25.25

Location: Zoom

Time: 4pm - 5pm

Attendees:

- Art Hall (PMT/Hallmark)
- Courtney Kincannon (PMT/Hallmark)
- Katie Segarra (PMT/Hallmark)
- Annapurna Nayak (PMT/Hallmark)
- Walt Walker (PMT/TYLin)
- Aria Harris (PMT/TYLin)
- Rosaleen Nogle (PMT/BSA)
- Jaia Ruffin (PMT/Arcadis)
- Nadia Mugisha (PMT/Arcadis)
- Jennifer Taylor (SAC Member/Journeys End)
- Rev. Mark Blue (SAC Member/ NAACP)
- Dr. Cortasia Solomon-Carter (SAC Member/ Board of Block Clubs)
- Asantewa Holley (SAC Member/ Northland Workforce Training Center)
- Tyra Johnson-Hux (SAC Member/ LISC)
- Sandy Smith (SAC Member/ BNW)

Overview of SAC

- Art discussed who had joined the SAC and that the team will be reaching out to alternate members to increase our numbers.

W9/MOU

- Courtney asked that everyone turn in their MOU/W9 docs and that if they will not be accepting payment, they email Courtney to let her know.

Review of In-Person Planning Meeting

- Art informed the group that we would be putting together a metric of responses from the in-person planning session, and sending it out to everyone.
- Art reviewed some of the responses from the in-person activity and asked for further input from stakeholders
 - Rev. Mark Blue suggested that we add the Buffalo History Museum to partner with to get out information about the history of Buffalo Sewer.
 - Rosie suggested the use of a presentation she has that could be a good lead in for getting information on the history of Buffalo Sewer

- Aria suggested an online forum to utilize so that we could offer incentives to do a survey (such as an online prize wheel)
 - Dr. Solomon-Carter will get information on an online forum used to distribute incentives.
- Walt emphasized that this is just the beginning and we will continue to build on the responses as the program grows.

Overview of QCCW Public Participation Plan

- Rosie presented on Buffalo Sewers Public Participation Plan
 - Rev. Mark Blue asked that a copy of the Public Participation Plan be shared with the SAC, Rosie stated that the plan could be sent out after the meeting.
- Rosie explained that certain individual projects are larger and warrant their own Public Participation Plan so there may be multiple throughout this program.
- Rosie discussed that legal requirements for public participation are that they need to hold at least one public meeting in person and online, but they are planning on doing much more than that
- Walt indicated that certain components for public meetings are being considered, such as offering childcare at these meetings so that parents can bring their children.
- Rosie emphasized that public meetings will be specific to where they are held, therefore they will be going to each council district and focus specifically on the projects that will be occurring in those individual council districts. There are too many projects to go over them all for each meeting.
- Art stated that we will be reaching out to each council district to set meetings specific to their districts regarding the program.

Community Partnership Program

- Walt said that the CPP would seek meaningful partnerships and leverage the projects completed via QCCWI to ensure that they will benefit the community.
- Walt stated that the CPP will focus on 4 core areas:
 - Education
 - Workforce Development
 - Economic Development
 - Public and Environmental Health
- Art discussed the type of partnerships that could be created via the CPP (Say Yes, Northland Workforce Training Center, Buffalo Center for Health Equity, The Exchange at Beverly Grey, etc.)
- Tyra Johnson-Hux expressed concerns over how we describe things within the program. She stated that things are constantly changing and asked if there are any discussions on how we describe these initiatives within the community. We need to ensure that we remain mindful when utilizing certain terms such as equity, or justice. There may be some pushback from how things are described.

- Rosie stated that the majority of the program is funded from NYS
- Walt discussed further the specifics of the CPP
- Walt concluded discussions on the CPP by mentioning that the CPP framework document is still under review, but once it is finished it will be shared with the SAC.
- Tyra Johnson-Hux asked if we have had conversations with NYPA on how they are contracting MWBEs for their program, she suggested they may be able to share best practices. Art asked if Tyra could share a contact from NYPA to reach out to. Tyra stated that she can make an introduction. Asantewa Holley can also put us in touch with NYPA, she just needs a bit further info. Tyra also shared a flyer in the chat for an upcoming event for MWBE's. The flyer is attached to the end of this document. She also will be sharing a flyer with Courtney for an ambassador's breakfast on March 5th.
- Art mentioned that we have not spoken with NYPA, but we are working with the Buffalo Bills on their similar program.

Misc.

- Board of Block Clubs meeting is upcoming on Feb. 27th, at Roswell Comprehensive Institute
- Sandy Smith stated that she could give a spiel about some of the work Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper is doing on some of its projects
- Art asked Sandy to send an email with a list of their events
- Art mentioned that our engagement site is upcoming and will be revealed to the stakeholders in March sometime.



Division of Minority and Women's Business Development

NAMC University Western NY & Finger Lakes MWBE Business Growth Accelerator Program

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY FIRMS



Our Model



Eligibility Requirements

- **Industry Focus:** Must be a construction service firm, construction consulting firm, or firm in semiconductor fab construction trades
- **Certification:** Must be a currently certified NYS MBE, WBE, or MWBE
- **Business Tenure:** Must be in business for at least two years
- **Staffing:** Must have at least two employees
- **Revenue:** Demonstrate annual revenues between \$500,000 and \$5 million during the most recent year
- **Contracting/Project Experience:** Confirm at least 1 government or private project experience and award value level
- **Location:** Business must be located in the incubator region

Benefits

- **High Value Contracts** in industries like construction and semiconductor fabrication.
- **Resources, Funding Opportunities,** industry experts, and other valuable resources.
- **Customized Business Training** to accelerate growth and build capacity.
- **Mentorship, One-on-One Coaching, and Networking and Matchmaking** with state agencies, industry leaders, and prime contractors.
- **A personalized growth plan** and ongoing support to help you thrive.

The BGA 3.0 Program is an 18-month program in partnership with Empire State Development and is offered free-of-charge to eligible MWBE businesses in Western NY and the Finger Lakes region.

For any questions please contact secretary@namctristate.org or call us at (212) 235-1896

SCAN BELOW
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QUEEN CITY CLEAN WATERS



HALLMARK
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

QCCW Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Agenda

- 1 Overview of SAC
- 2 W9/MOU
- 3 Review of In-Person Planning Meeting
- 4 Overview of Public Participation Program
- 5 Overview of Community Partnership Program

Overview of SAC

The purpose of the **Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC)** for the Buffalo Sewer Authority's Queen City Clean Waters Initiative is to serve as a vital bridge between the project team and the diverse communities of Buffalo. The SAC ensures that community perspectives, concerns, and insights are actively incorporated into the initiative's planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Organizations & Agencies Represented

- Board of Block Clubs of Buffalo & Erie County
- Buffalo Center for Health Equity
- Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper
- City of Buffalo Office of Strategic Planning
- Buffalo Urban League
- Jericho Road
- LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corp.)
- Northland Workforce Training Center
- Buffalo NAACP
- PUSH Buffalo

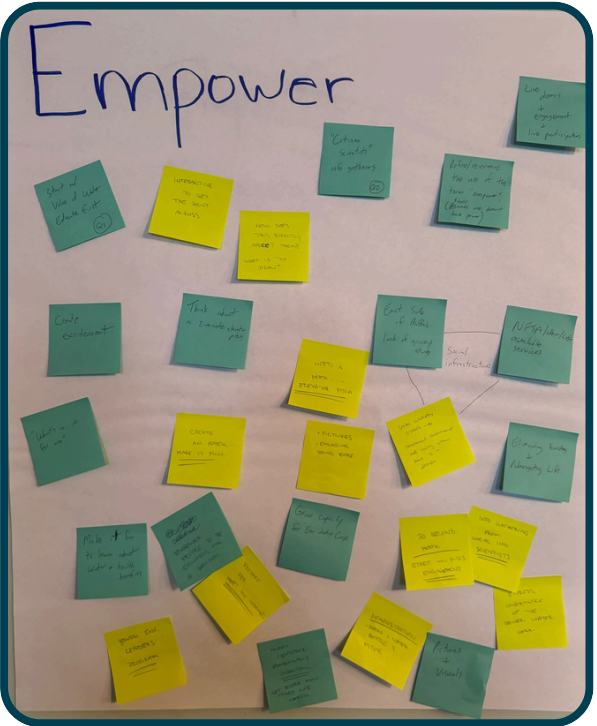
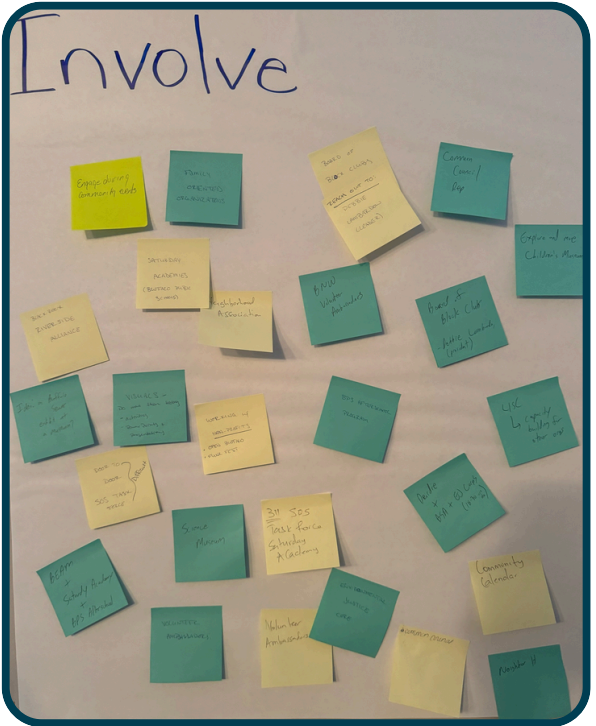
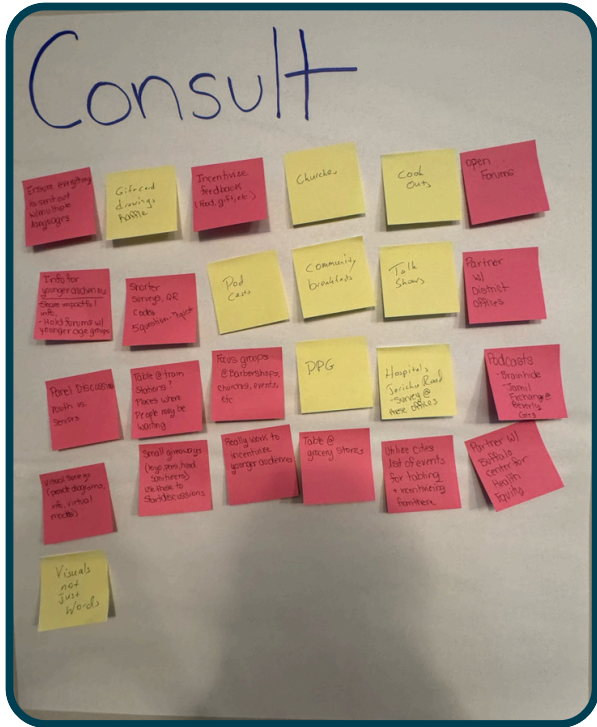
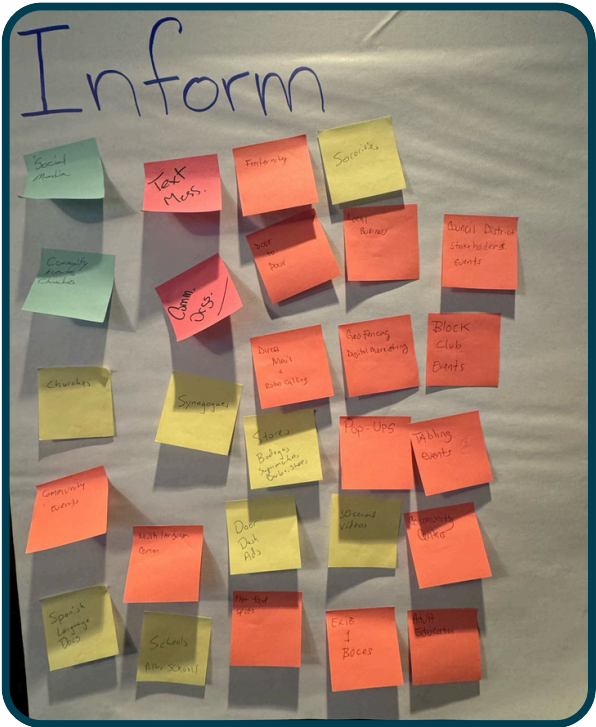


W9/ Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Review of In-Person Planning Meeting

Key Takeaways from In - Person Activity

Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
Social media outreach	Incentives	Reach out to community organizations/alliances	Engagement with ongoing planning efforts	Training/education programs
Community events	Visual/interactive displays	Create volunteer opportunities	Partner with City of Buffalo Agencies	Community investment
Multi-Language Communication	Focus groups/panel discussions	Work with museums (Explore & More/Buffalo Science) to have a Buffalo Sewer exhibit	Partner with grassroots organizations	Create excitement/teach about the value of water
Direct Mail	Survey (visual, short)	Create an urban farm/garden	Partner with nonprofits/community services	Facilitate informal interactions with program leaders (open door policy)



Overview of QCCW Public Participation Plan

Buffalo Sewer's *Public Participation Plan*



BACKGROUND



OVERALL PLAN



**SPECIFIC PROJECTS
WITHIN COUNCIL
DISTRICT**



**OPPORTUNITIES TO
STAY ENGAGED**

Types of Queen City Clean Waters Projects

\$
Projects to be funded through a combination of:
Federal and state funding administered through NYSEFC and NYSDEC (grants, zero to low interest loans), Environmental Impact Bond, and BSA capital budget

Bird Island Treatment Facility Upgrades



Green Infrastructure (GI)

Combined Sewer Offline Storage

Real-time Control Smart Sewers and Sewer Improvements & Modifications

Buffalo Sewer's *Public Participation Plan*

COMPONENTS

– **Stakeholders**

- Residents Adjacent to the Proposed Project Site
- Local Elected Officials
- Community-Based Organizations and Community Residents Located in Potential Environmental Justice Areas
- Stakeholder Advisory Committee

– **Communications, Information Access, and Events**

– **Public Information Meetings**

- Common Council Members, Community group Meetings, District Meetings, virtual meetings, SAC Meetings, QCCW Public Meetings

– **Community Partnership Program**

BUFFALO
SEWER AUTHORITY

BUFFALO SEWER AUTHORITY

Community Partnership Program





Buffalo Sewer wants to ensure construction and professional services contracts deliver a positive economic, environmental, and social impacts for residents.

Companies working with Buffalo Sewer are encouraged to support Buffalo nonprofits through volunteerism or financial contributions to defined community partners. The program will be included in contract terms and compliance monitoring to ensure effective participation.

**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
Coming in 2025**

Mission Statement

The Community Partnership Program (CPP) is designed to deliver long-lasting positive economic, environmental, and social impacts in our service area. Buffalo Sewer is dedicated to developing an equitable, inclusive, and comprehensive Community Partnership Program to better serve and foster partnerships within our local communities.

Through local partnerships, volunteering, and financial contributions, our goal is to grow a workforce talent pipeline that supports Buffalo Sewer's core services and ensures City of Buffalo residents experience public benefits, including opportunities for generational wealth creation, workforce/business development, education, and improved environmental health.

The Why:

Collaboratively, our aim is to create a meaningful and positive impact within the communities and neighborhoods served by the Authority by creating an avenue for community partnerships to form with consultants and contractors of the Buffalo Sewer Authority.



EDUCATION

Supporting educational programs and initiatives, particularly focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM). These programs aim to equip individuals with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in these fields. By fostering a strong foundation in STEAM, the program will inspire the next generation of innovators and problem-solvers who can contribute to the community's growth and sustainability.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Support of existing and creation of comprehensive job training programs that prepare individuals for employment. These programs will provide hands-on training, certifications, and career development opportunities. By building a skilled workforce, the program aims to support the local economy and ensure that our community has the expertise needed to maintain and improve essential infrastructure.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We are dedicated to promoting local economic growth by supporting infrastructure projects that create jobs and stimulate economic activity. Through strategic partnerships with local businesses, contractors, and community organizations, the program aims to drive economic prosperity and enhance the quality of life for residents. The efforts will focus on sustainable development that benefits both the economy and the environment.



PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Improving public health and environmental quality is central to the mission and serves as a key driver for enhancing overall well-being. This program is designed to support both community members and public spaces, fostering their care and development for a sustainable future.

The Who:

- Bidders for Professional Services and Construction Contracts
- Beneficiaries Will Include:
 - A nonprofit organization that has established and maintains valid nonprofit status under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3), as amended, along with all applicable rules and regulations.
 - Public schools and colleges in the Buffalo Sewer Authority's Service Area.

The When:

- Bidders for Professional Services and Construction Contractors will voluntarily participate in a Community Partnership Proposal through the Buffalo Sewer Authority's Procurement Process with Invitation to Bids over \$2,500,000 and Request for Proposals over \$500,000.
- Bidder's commitments must adhere to the policies set forth in the Community Partnership Framework Document currently being developed. The results of participation will be measurable and performed over the life of the agreement.

Status: In Process/Under Review



Framework Document
Outlining the Program



Program
Flyer



Educational
Outreach Plan



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Questions?



