

A Guide to CSO Public Engagement

for New Jersey's Combined Sewer Overflow Permits and Long-Term Control Plans



**NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

Water Resource Management
Division of Water Quality – CSO Program



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DISCLAIMER: This document is intended to assist NJPDES CSO permittees in developing public engagement processes in accordance with the NJPDES CSO permits at Part IV.G.2 and applicable statutes and regulations. Note that NJPDES CSO permittees are required to adhere to the terms of their permit, not the terms and conditions of this document, which exceeds the minimum public participation requirements as set forth within the NJPDES CSO permits. However, compliance with the terms and conditions of this document is one way in which NJPDES CSO permittees may satisfy public engagement requirements. The requirements for NJPDES CSO permittees are determined by statutes, regulations, NJPDES CSO permits, and other legally binding requirements, and this document does not replace or amend these requirements. In the event of a conflict between the discussion in this document and any statute, regulation, or NJPDES CSO permit, this document would not be controlling.

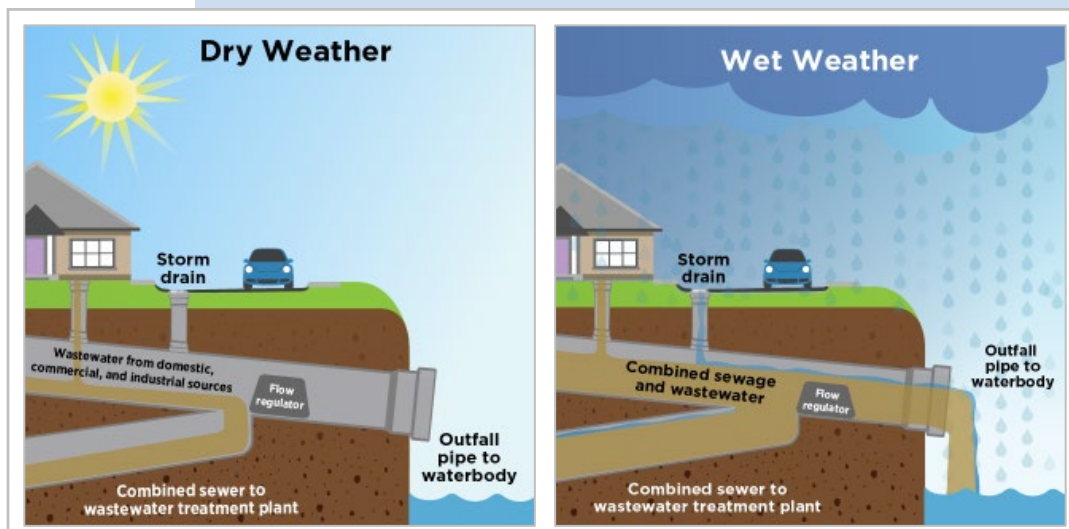


Introduction

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has issued New Jersey Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) permit renewals (hereafter “the permit”), beginning in 2023. These permits serve to improve water quality by implementing the Long Term Control Plans (LTCPs) mandated by the 2015 NJPDES CSO Permits. The LTCPs and permits require control measures to reduce combined sewer overflow discharges. The permits expand upon the public participation requirements found in the 2015 NJPDES CSO Permits to encourage public engagement throughout implementation of the LTCP. Permits can be found at: <https://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/cso.htm>.

Whereas public engagement should be an integral part of implementing the LTCP, the 2023 NJPDES CSO permit renewals have specific requirements in Part IV.G.2 of the permit for public engagement activities. The CSO Supplemental Team has been adapted from the 2015 NJPDES CSO permit to include new responsibilities related to implementation rather than development of the LTCP. The 2023 NJPDES CSO renewal permits also now require the designation of an LTCP Outreach Coordinator to further engage affected communities and interested public. The Public Engagement requirements as contained in the permit require certain elements; however, permittees may build upon and customize public engagement efforts to the specific needs of their affected community.

This guidance provides permittees with resources and best practices to engage effectively with the affected communities and interested public, as well as meet public engagement requirements. Given that public engagement needs are unique to each community, it is important for permittees to self-guide their public engagement process and utilize the practices and strategies within this guidance as is most appropriate to their needs and affected communities. Permittees are not required to utilize every strategy provided in this guidance; however, utilizing the strategies within this document is one way in which NJPDES CSO permittees may satisfy public engagement requirements.



**Illustration of a
Combined
Sewer System**
Source: EPA



Municipalities with Combined Sewer Overflows

Bayonne	Hackensack	Paterson
Camden	Harrison	Perth Amboy
East Newark	Hoboken	Ridgefield Park
Elizabeth	Jersey City	Trenton
Fort Lee	Kearny	Union City
Gloucester	Newark	Weehawken
Guttenberg	North Bergen	West New York

Acronyms

CSO	Combined Sewer Overflow
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
GI	Green Infrastructure
LTCP	Long Term Control Plan
NJPDES	New Jersey Pollution Discharge Elimination System
OBCs	Overburdened Communities



Definitions for the Purpose of this Guidance

CSO Supplemental Team: A team developed to serve as a liaison between the affected community, interested public and the decision makers for the permittee regarding the implementation of the CSO control alternatives.

Implementation Schedule: This refers to the permit specific LTCP construction schedule outlined in the NJPDES CSO permit.

LTCP Milestones: This refers to the projects identified on the permittee's Implementation Schedule found in the NJPDES CSO permit.

LTCP Outreach Coordinator: A person designated by the permittee to be available to maintain regular communication with the affected community and interested public.

Overburden Communities: As defined in the Glossary of Environmental Justice Terms which can be found at <https://dep.nj.gov/ej/glossary/>.



2023 NJPDES CSO Permit Requirements for Public Engagement: Part IV.G.2

Excerpt from NJPDES Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Permit Part IV.G.2 describing public engagement.

2. Public Engagement

- 2.a The permittee shall conduct a public engagement process to inform, educate and engage members of the hydraulically connected communities. The goal of this process is to generate participation and collect input from the affected community and interested public.
- 2.b The permittee shall develop a CSO Supplemental Team to serve as a liaison between the affected community, interested public and the decision makers for the permittee regarding the implementation of the CSO control alternatives. The CSO Supplemental Team shall be reconstituted with the goal of including members of the following groups, at a minimum, where possible: mayor's office, local planning board, local community groups and residents from the affected areas and from any affected areas that are also overburdened communities. The permittee shall solicit members of its community to join the CSO Supplemental Team through various outreach and public notice activities. The permittees' efforts to recruit CSO Supplemental Team members shall be documented on the permittee's website.
- 2.c The permittee is required to hold regular CSO Supplemental Team meetings that are open to the public (virtual, in person or a combination of both) in order to:
 - 2.c.i Inform the affected community and interested public of the ongoing process of implementing the LTCP including reports of project status and its present impact on the local community including consideration of locating specific meetings in the affected neighborhood.
 - 2.c.ii Continue to identify areas of combined sewer-related flooding.
 - 2.c.iii Allow the affected community and interested public an opportunity to provide input on the siting of GI as required by the permit.
 - 2.c.iv Engage the affected community and interested public in solutions they can implement to reduce CSOs. Examples may include an adopt-a-catch-basin program, rain barrels, water conservation, the removal of impervious surfaces, and the installation of green infrastructure projects.
 - 2.c.v Neighborhood specific information on construction of CSO control projects throughout the process including before and during construction in order to receive feedback from the community. This should include the posting of information on scheduling of street closures as well as any other potential impacts to the residents in the vicinity of any CSO mitigation projects.
- 2.d The frequency of CSO Supplemental Team meetings that are open to the public shall be determined by the milestones in the Implementation Schedule (See G.8.) and by input from the affected community and interested public. Meetings should be held with accessibility for the interested public in mind. This may include varying start times and attendance options (availability of public transit or parking and virtual meetings), as fits the needs of interested public and affected community.



2023 NJPDES CSO Permit Requirements for Public Engagement: Part IV.G.2 (Cont'd)

Excerpt from NJPDES Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Permit Part IV.G.2 describing public engagement.

- 2.e The permittee shall engage with overburdened communities (OBC) within combined sewer service areas in order to solicit representation and engagement, ensure the OBCs' awareness of the meeting schedule, and encourage participation. The Department published a list of overburdened communities in the State and associated electronic mapping available at <https://www.nj.gov/dep/ej/communities.html>.
- 2.f The permittee must designate one LTCP outreach coordinator. This coordinator (or any another person designated by the permittee) should be available to maintain regular communication with the affected community and interested public including, but not limited to:
- 2.f.i Maintain a website that acts as a clearinghouse for information regarding implementation of the LTCP.
 - The website shall contain public engagement information and include a platform for the interested public to sign up and attend any meetings.
 - The website shall contain any progress reports required to be submitted by this permit.
 - The website shall also list the construction status of any project identified in the Implementation Schedule in Section G.8. below.
 - 2.f.ii Engage the affected community and interested public in order to solicit individuals who are willing to become involved.
 - 2.f.iii Post meeting invitations (including dates and times) on the website at least one month in advance.
 - 2.f.iv Post handouts or other meeting materials on the website within one week after the meeting.
 - 2.f.v Make data available on the amount of public feedback received including the number of meeting attendees.
 - 2.f.vi Any project identified in the Implementation Schedule in Section G.8. below must display signage indicating that the project is required by the LTCP.
- 2.g The Department's Office of Environmental Justice (see <https://dep.nj.gov/ej/>) shall be given 30 days advance notice of the meeting schedule so that it can be shared with Environmental Justice community leaders.
- 2.h Public meetings shall be live streamed and made available to the affected community and interested public for viewing afterwards including materials in the language(s) appropriate to the majority of community demographics.
- 2.i Outreach materials, including physical handouts and websites, should be produced in the language(s) appropriate to the majority of community demographics.



CSO Supplemental Team

The CSO Supplemental Team is a requirement of the 2023 NJPDES CSO Permits. It is ultimately the permittee's responsibility to ensure that the CSO Supplemental Team is conducted and facilitated so that all permit requirements are met. The CSO Supplemental Team may be led by the LTCP Outreach Coordinator, staff within the organization or municipality, or by hired professionals. Whomever is chosen to lead the CSO Supplemental Team should have facilitation skills such as experience engaging with the public and the ability to translate complex issues.

A. Role of the CSO Supplemental Team

The role of the CSO Supplemental Team as described in the permit, is to serve as a liaison between the affected communities, interested public and the decision makers for the permittee regarding the implementation of the CSO control alternatives. The role of the CSO Supplemental Team and its participation with LTCP implementation measures may differ among permittees; however, the CSO Supplemental Team should serve the entire hydraulically connected system and should represent the communities within that system. Members of CSO Supplemental Teams are likely to be members of other networks and can be conduits for sharing information with their peers and neighbors. These members can facilitate the exchange of information, strategies, public dialogue, etc.

The CSO Supplemental Team should be utilized to develop and implement a larger public engagement process and increase public awareness, buy in, and feedback on local water quality issues and solutions.

B. Forming the CSO Supplemental Team

The members of the CSO Supplemental Team should be customized to meet the needs of the community. Individuals or group representatives who have been involved in past public participation efforts or who are currently involved with or concerned about CSOs and related issues should be invited to participate in the CSO Supplemental Team. Such issues could include redevelopment, environmental improvement, waterfront access, community engagement, stormwater, and/or economic development.

The structure, organization, and responsibilities of the CSO Supplemental Team should represent the community's diverse perspectives and address the needs of the affected public. The optimum size of the CSO Supplemental Team may be determined by the permittee but each team should be diverse, and representative of the population served yet still be small enough to have effective meetings and dialogue among the team members.



*Clean Waterways Healthy Neighborhoods
CSO Supplemental Team Public Meeting*



The permit requires permittees to solicit members of its community to join the CSO Supplemental Team through various outreach and public notice activities. The permit also requires that all efforts to recruit CSO Supplemental Team members be documented on the permittee’s website. When inviting the public to participate as a member of the CSO Supplemental Team, be sure to share any known expectations regarding participation and time commitments needed for this effort. Keep in mind that the public engagement process could involve more than the CSO Supplemental Team. Therefore, if there are members of the public that are unable to commit to the CSO Supplemental Team, they may still participate by attending meetings, participating in outreach and in other broader public engagement efforts.

The CSO Supplemental Team can be rebranded or renamed to better relate to the affected community and interested public.

As stated in the permit requirements, when reconstituting the CSO Supplemental Team, the goal shall be to include members from the following groups at a minimum, where possible:

- Mayor’s office representative
- Local planning board
- Local community groups
- Residents of the affected area
- Any affected areas that are also overburdened communities

In addition, permittees may also consider outreach for membership to including representatives from the following groups:

- Environmental groups
- Environmental commissioners
- Recreational water users
- Watershed groups
- Business, industry, and redevelopment community
- Local small businesses
- Representatives of local government
- Department of Public Works employees
- Faith-based and social service-based organizations.
- Local institutions (ex: academic, business, healthcare)



CSO Outfall Signage
Weehawken, NJ
Photo Credit: NJDEP



C. CSO Supplemental Team Meetings

CSO Supplemental Team meetings must be open to the public. The schedule for meetings should be communicated to the affected community and interested public. When preparing for CSO Supplemental Team meetings, a clear structure and a well-defined process for handling public feedback and making final decisions is important. A meeting agenda should be posted to the website and made available to the public prior to each meeting date.

The permittee is required by the permit to hold regular CSO Supplemental Team meetings that are open to the public in order to:

- Inform the affected community and interested public of the ongoing process of implementing the LTCP including reports of project status and its present impact on the local community including consideration of locating specific meetings in the affected neighborhood.
- Continue to identify areas of combined sewer-related flooding.
- Allow the affected community and interested public an opportunity to provide input on the siting of GI as required by the permit.
- Engage the affected community and interested public in solutions they can implement to reduce CSOs. Examples may include an adopt-a-catch-basin program, rain barrels, water conservation, the removal of impervious surfaces, and the installation of green infrastructure projects.
- Neighborhood specific information on construction of CSO control projects throughout the process including before and during construction in order to receive feedback from the community. This should include the posting of information on scheduling of street closures as well as any potential impacts to the residents in the vicinity of any CSO mitigation projects.

Additional agenda items that may be considered:

- Current and upcoming projects
- Milestones and timeline updates
- Communicating the current and future impacts of construction on neighborhoods
- Current or new financing opportunities
- Progress with public engagement
- Volume of CSO reduction and where reductions are occurring

In accordance with the terms of the permit, CSO Supplemental Team meeting occurrences shall be determined by the milestones in the LTCP Implementation Schedule and by input from the affected community and interested public. Meetings may be held on a consistent schedule and at a convenient location to enable continued and consistent participation. Evening meetings may work best for CSO Supplemental Team members.



The CSO Supplemental Team should maintain accessibility by adapting to the evolving needs of the affected community and interested public. For example, the permit notes that this may include varying start times and attendance options, as well as that the availability of public transit or parking should be considered when planning meetings. Permittees might increase accessibility with a language translator for non-English speakers to promote engagement and enable open dialog between the affected community and the CSO Supplemental Team.

While meeting types and locations may differ from one permittee to another it is advised that CSO Supplemental Team meetings be a hybrid of both in-person and virtual (with a call-in number) to provide the greatest accessibility for attendees. The permit states that public meetings shall be live streamed and made available to the affected community and interested public for viewing afterwards, including materials in the language(s) appropriate to the majority of community demographics. In addition, handouts and other meeting materials must be posted to the permittee’s website within one week after each meeting.

The permit requires that CSO Supplemental Team meeting schedules shall be communicated to the Department's Office of Environmental Justice with 30 days advance notice so that it can be shared with Environmental Justice community leaders.



What is the purpose or goal of the event?



How many attendees are you expecting?



Who are you trying to reach and what is the best venue?



How much time and/or other resources do you have to prepare for the event?



What languages and literacy level are most appropriate?



Will the event be virtual?



How will those without internet access be able to attend?

***Things to Consider When Planning
CSO Supplemental Team Meetings***

Source: EPA



D. Public Engagement and Communication

There are other methods that may be helpful to share information and gain feedback from the CSO Supplemental Team and the affected communities or interested public, such as conference calls, emails, online surveys, and website updates, among others. The CSO Supplemental Team should consider the following when engaging with members of the affected communities:

- Offer educational and informational resources about the LTCP and its impacts, such as fact sheets, infographics, or presentations, to help the public better understand the context and importance of the projects being implemented. This can facilitate more informed participation and feedback from the affected community and stakeholders.
- Tailor communication and outreach materials to suit the needs and preferences of the affected community and interested public. Additional communication channels to assist in information sharing and feedback from the community include:
 - Social media
 - Newsletters
 - Mailers
 - Local media
 - Conference calls
 - Emails
 - Online survey
 - Website updates
- Offer interpretation services for non-English speakers.
- Collaborate with key members and organizations within affected communities, such as community leaders, neighborhood associations, and advocacy groups.
- Engage in various methods to solicit information from the public involving combined sewer-related system flooding, including but not limited to:
 - Survey a public forum after rainfall in potential risk areas.
 - Use CSO Supplemental Team public meetings to solicit information on flooding locations.
 - Have a designated form on the CSO website for the public to submit flooding locations.
 - Work with community organizations to identify flooding locations and collaborate with the permittee to determine if any identified flooding locations are combined sewer-related.

These combined efforts will foster a transparent and collaborative environment, ultimately strengthening the LTCP's implementation and effectiveness.



Public Participation Virtual Room
Sewer Utility – City of Perth Amboy



LTCP Outreach Coordinator

The Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) Outreach Coordinator (hereafter the Coordinator) is a requirement of the 2023 NJPDES CSO Permits. The permittee is responsible for selecting the Coordinator and ensuring that all permit requirements are met. The responsibilities and strategies of the Coordinator may differ across permittees, their communities, and the nature of their LTCP.

A. Role of the LTCP Outreach Coordinator

The Coordinator should serve as a key communicator between the permittee, CSO Supplemental Team, affected community and interested public during the implementation of the LTCP. The Coordinator should engage with the affected community and interested public to encourage involvement as well as maintain a website to be used as a clearinghouse for information regarding implementation of the LTCP.

The Coordinator should be responsible for facilitating communication and promoting public engagement throughout the implementation of the LTCP, including attending CSO Supplemental Team meetings to educate interested parties about the details of the LTCP, permit requirements, and progress regarding the implementation schedule. They should be the main point of contact for the affected community and interested public to reach out to regarding the LTCP and implementation projects and should consequently be knowledgeable about the LTCP and permitting requirements. A designated email or phone number for the Coordinator with the ability to leave a message should be posted on the website and on other outreach materials.

When selecting a Coordinator, permittees should seek individuals who demonstrate the following skills:

- Effective communication
- Community outreach
- Conflict resolution mindset

B. Public Engagement and Communication

The Coordinator should engage the affected community and interested public to solicit involvement and feedback and serve as the main point of contact. This will allow opportunities for the public to participate in CSO Supplemental Team meetings, including the exchange of ideas and sharing of feedback. The process of engaging the affected communities and interested public might vary based on factors such as local context, specific concerns, cultural differences, and the nature of the projects being implemented.



Clean Waterways Healthy Neighborhoods
CSO Supplemental Team Meeting



The Coordinator may consider the following best practices to ensure meaningful public engagement and communication:

- Work closely with the CSO Supplemental Team, government agencies, and the affected community and interested public to develop and execute outreach and education programs, such as public meetings, workshops, and the distribution of informational materials. This ensures that the affected community and the interested public stay informed about the LTCP's implementation progress while also gathering valuable feedback and input.
- Devise public engagement strategies in coordination with the CSO Supplemental Team, including identification of affected communities and interested public, organization of public meetings, and determination of meeting dates and topics coinciding with the implementation milestones.
- Develop engagement strategies that coincide with the impact of projects. The public should be notified through established communication channels about inconveniences such as temporary lane closure, short term parking restrictions, noise, and the presence of construction equipment and materials.
- Regularly evaluate and update public engagement strategies based on community feedback, changing circumstances, or project developments to ensure that the process remains effective and responsive to the needs and interests of the affected community and interested public. It is suggested that outreach tools being utilized are tracked to enable the Coordinator the ability to monitor success and make recommendations on new methods of outreach if they are not drawing sufficient participation from the community.
- Build partnerships with local government, community organizations, environmental groups, and other relevant stakeholders to encourage coordination and expand the reach of engagement. For example, the Coordinator may be involved in municipal, county, or regional planning activities to incorporate the LTCP projects into their planning processes.

Things to Consider When Selecting and Designing Communication Tools Source: EPA



Who needs the information?



What is the target audience's current level of knowledge and understanding about the subject?



What information is needed for the public to be able to understand and provide meaningful input?



What are the most direct and effective ways to communicate this information?



What are the public's preferences for receiving information?

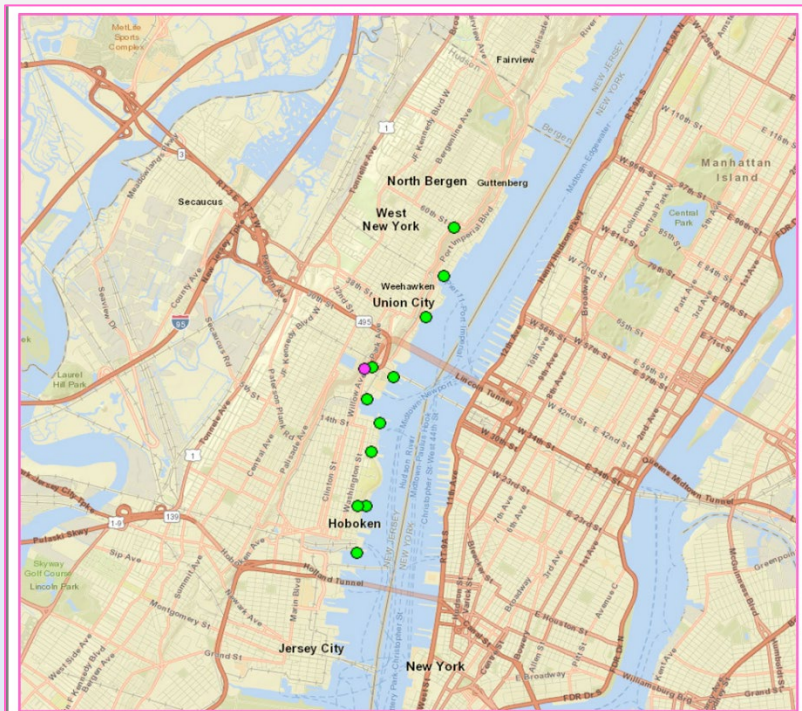


C. Website Management and Educational Materials

The permit states that the Coordinator maintains a website that acts as a clearinghouse for information regarding implementation of the LTCP. The website should also be used as a communication resource for public engagement.

As stated in the permit, the website should contain the following:

- Public engagement information
- A platform for interested public to register for and attend meetings
- All progress reports required to be submitted by the permit
- Construction status of projects identified in the Implementation Schedule
- CSO Supplemental Team recruitment efforts
- CSO Supplemental Team meeting invitations (one month prior)
- All Handouts or meeting materials (within one week of the meeting)
- Data on public feedback, including the number of meeting attendees
- CSO Outfall Warnings
- Signage requirements for projects identified in the Implementation Schedule
- Recordings of CSO Supplemental Team meeting



Waterbody Advisory System
North Hudson Sewerage Authority



CSO Outfall Warning



The Coordinator should utilize the website as a communication resource for both LTCP implementation information and public engagement. Website content should be organized in a user-friendly manner, ensuring easy navigation for the affected community and interested public and ensure content is understandable to a wide range of audiences.

Consider the following best management practices for development and maintenance of the website:

- Avoid jargon and unexplained acronyms. Whenever necessary, provide explanations or definitions for technical terms, and consider incorporating multimedia elements such as videos or images to clarify complex concepts.
- Include information regarding CSOs within the system, a map of their locations, and other CSO related documentation. The list of projects identified in the Implementation Schedule may be included as well as summaries of the projects, their purpose, and the expected benefits. Timelines and other graphics may more effectively convey information.
- Ensure visibility and accessibility of the CSO overflow notification system used by the permittee. The website's home page can feature a link to the notification system.
- Include a dedicated webpage that explains the purpose of the CSO Supplemental Team, outlining its role, responsibilities, recent activities, and clear instructions for joining or participating.
- Provide educational and informational resources about the LTCP and its impacts to help the public better understand the context and importance of the projects being implemented to foster informed participation and feedback from the affected community and stakeholders. These resources should be made available to be viewed and downloaded from the website. Consider posting these documents prior to meetings to allow the effected community and interested public time to familiarize themselves with the content. Resources may include fact sheets, infographics, community specific FAQs, and/or presentations.



Educational Brochures
Clean Waterways Healthy Neighborhoods



Public Engagement

This section provides additional guidance for fostering effective collaboration and communication between the permittees, the affected community, and interested public throughout LTCP implementation. The LTCP Outreach Coordinator and CSO Supplemental Team play adaptable and interrelated roles in ensuring public engagement activities are conducted successfully.

A. Engaging Overburdened Communities (OBCs)

Many combined sewer systems are in overburdened communities (OBCs). The permit requires the permittee to engage with OBCs within combined sewer service areas in order to solicit representation and engagement, ensure the OBCs' awareness of the meeting schedule, and encourage participation. To identify an OBC, visit the Department's Office of Environmental Justice at <https://dep.nj.gov/ej/communities/>.

As stated in the permit, the Department's Office of Environmental Justice (see <https://dep.nj.gov/ej>) shall be given 30 days advance notice of the meeting schedule so that it can be shared with the Environmental Justice community leaders. Please visit <https://dep.nj.gov/ej/contact/> for the Office of Environmental Justice contact information.

OBCs should be involved in the public engagement process. Permittees should consider the following practices to increase engagement with OBCs:

- Identify groups and representatives of OBCs that can act as conduits to communicate about LTCP implementation and seek feedback from the community.
- Utilize community-specific communication methods, such as local newspapers, radio stations, or social media groups, to reach affected communities more effectively and increase engagement.
- Provide information and resources in formats and languages appropriate to the community demographics, ensuring accessibility for all community members.
- Develop and maintain a centralized contact database to keep track of key stakeholders and organizations, allowing for targeted communication and outreach efforts.



City of Elizabeth & JMEUC

*Public Engagement –
Future City Environmental Day 2019*



B. Green Infrastructure (GI) Engagement

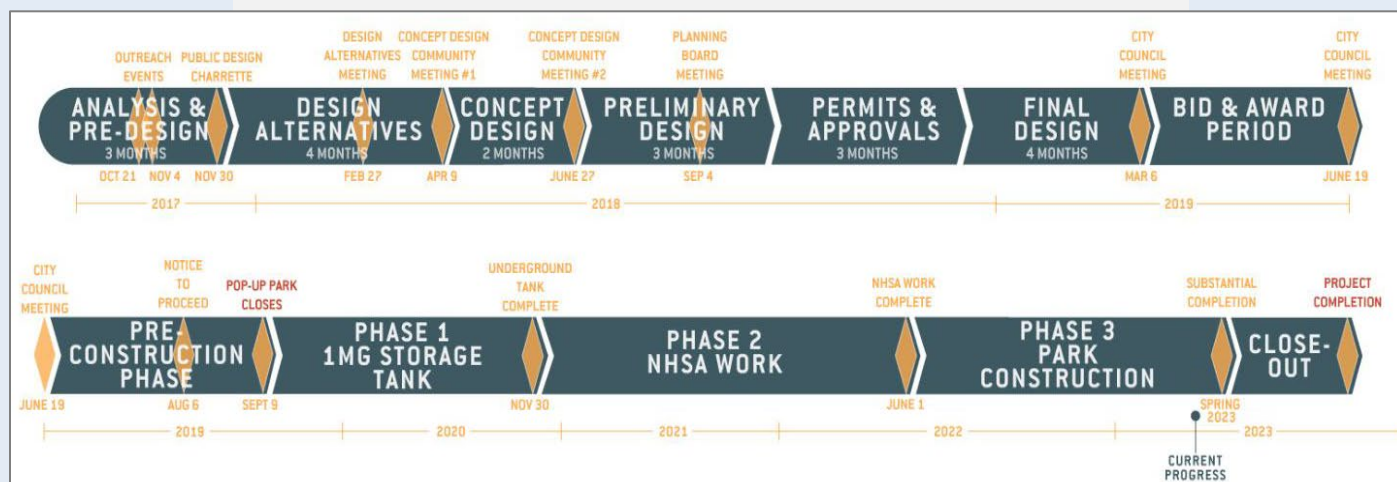
As a component of many LTCPs, GI in combined sewer communities can provide multiple benefits such as improving local water quality, enhancing urban green spaces, mitigating the urban heat island effect, supporting climate resilience and reducing CSOs. It is important to educate the public about the benefits of GI and its positive impacts on a community's social, recreational, and public health.

The following strategies may be used to enhance public engagement regarding GI:

- Include information on GI issues, options, and solutions being presented in the LTCP during CSO Supplemental Team meetings and other engagement opportunities, such as workshops and open houses.
- Encourage community-driven GI initiatives by providing affected communities with information on how they can implement GI projects in their neighborhoods, such as rain gardens, bioswales, permeable pavements, and green roofs.
- Establish partnerships with local government agencies, planning boards, environmental organizations, academic institutions, and private sector entities to identify, plan, and execute potential GI projects and maximize their benefits.

For additional information on GI benefits visit the EPA website at www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure/benefits-green-infrastructure.

*Northwest Resiliency Park
and Construction Schedule
Hoboken, NJ*





- Utilize the CSO Supplemental Team to gather community input on GI preferences and ideas. Collaborate with planning departments, environmental organizations, and local stakeholders to identify GI opportunities for integration and shared benefits.
- Monitor and evaluate the performance of implemented GI projects and share the results with the community. Use this feedback to improve future projects and adapt GI strategies to better meet the needs of the affected communities. For more information on maintaining GI projects visit the EPA website at www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure/green-infrastructure-operations-and-maintenance.

Information regarding potential GI funding opportunities can be found through the sources below. Note, these programs have their own set of specified requirements, as funding/grants are not guaranteed.

NJ DEP | Watershed & Land Management | 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution Grants

<https://dep.nj.gov/wlm/watershed/319-grants/>

NJ DEP | Water Infrastructure Investment Plan

www.nj.gov/dep/wiip/water-bank.html



Elizabeth City Clean Water Project
Trumbell St. CSO Green Infrastructure Project

Community-Driven Green Infrastructure
Left to right: Rain Barrel, Downspout Disconnection,
Pervious Pavement, Rain Garden





Other Public Engagement Resources

The resources in this section are for reference and provide greater detail to support Public Engagement efforts and can be used in conjunction with this guidance.

A. US EPA | Public Participation Guide

- <https://www.epa.gov/international-cooperation/public-participation-guide>

B. US EPA | Tools to Inform the Public

- <https://www.epa.gov/international-cooperation/public-participation-guide-tools-inform-public>
- Resources for selecting and designing appropriate communication tools

Remote Tools to Inform

Tool	# of Participants	Best Suited for
<i>Printed Information (Fact Sheets, Newsletters and Bulletins)</i>	Unlimited, but printing and mailing costs could be a consideration	Projects with manageable numbers of stakeholders if printing and mailing are to be done. May not appropriate where literacy is an issue.
<i>Web Sites</i>	Unlimited	All projects and audiences where access is available. Literacy issues can be overcome by using voice and video.
<i>Information Repositories</i>	Unlimited, but can be geographically constrained by location.	Localized projects where access to a physical site is possible. Repositories can also be established on-line.
<i>Information Hotlines</i>	Unlimited	All projects and audiences, especially those where internet access is an issue.
<i>Information Kiosks</i>	Unlimited, but geographically constrained by location.	Local projects.
<i>Press and Media</i>	Unlimited	Larger projects of widespread interest; use of press and media should form part of the overall communication strategy.
<i>Social Media</i>	Unlimited	Larger projects of widespread interest; social media use should form part of the overall communication strategy.



In-Person Tools to Inform

Tool	# of Participants	Best Suited for
<i>Public Meetings</i>	Limited by room size.	Smaller communities and communities where stakeholders are willing to attend meetings.
<i>Briefings</i>	Generally designed for smaller groups.	Reaching out to established groups.
<i>Telephone Contacts</i>	Generally, one person at a time.	All projects but require sufficient manpower to answer and/or return calls.

C. Clean Waterways, Healthy Neighborhoods

- www.njcleanwaterways.com
- A variety of educational materials have been distributed and continue to be available at the Clean Waterways, Healthy Neighborhoods website. These materials are available in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

D. North Hudson Sewage Authority

- www.nhudsonsa.com
- Provides construction updates, educational resources, public engagement and more!

E. Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority

- <http://www.ccmua.org/index.php/long-term-control-plan/>
- Provides LTCP documents, community resources, green initiatives and more!

F. NJ DEP | Environmental Justice Resources

- <https://dep.nj.gov/ej/resources/>
- Provides links to various resources, tools and trainings pertaining to Environmental Justice in NJ.

G. US EPA | Superfund Community Advisory Groups

- <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-community-advisory-groups>
- Information on EPA's CAG



H. NJ DEP | Green Infrastructure

- <https://www.nj.gov/dep/gi/>
- Provides links to the New Jersey Stormwater Best Management Practices Manuals

I. US EPA | Green Infrastructure

- <https://www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure>
- Resources on various GI topics such as implementation, operation and maintenance, community benefits, and education resources.

J. Rutgers | Water Resources Program | Green Infrastructure Guidance Manual for New Jersey

- <http://water.rutgers.edu/GreenInfrastructureGuidanceManual.html>
- The Green Infrastructure Guidance Manual for New Jersey will act as a tool for planning and design professionals looking to retrofit green infrastructure practices into existing development.

K. New Jersey Future | New Jersey Green Infrastructure Municipal Toolkit

- <https://gitoolkit.njfuture.org/>
- Resources for education and guidance on various GI topics such as implementation, maintenance, and community benefits.