

CSO Stakeholder Meeting

Division of Water Quality

CSO Program

October 6, 2022

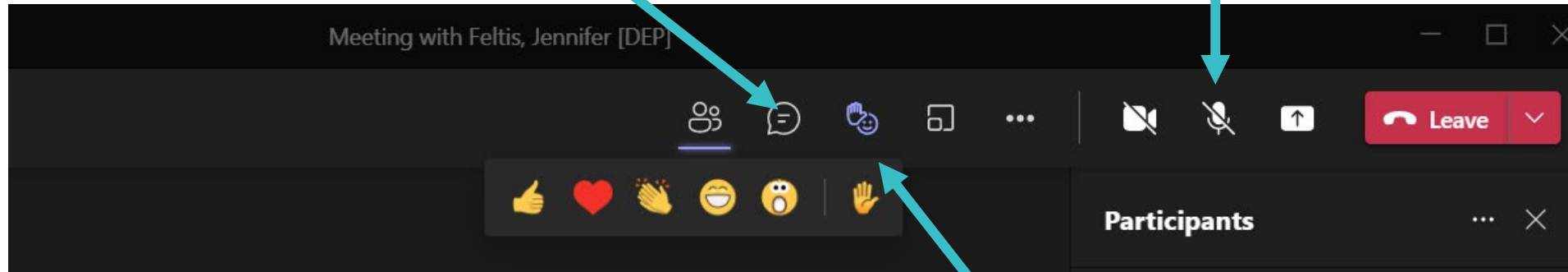


Paterson, NJ

During the Meeting

Please put your name and affiliation in the chat for our records.

Please remain on mute.



Use the raise hand function to be called upon to speak.

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Presentation Overview

- Feedback from CSO stakeholder process
 - ✓ Permit Concepts
 - ✓ What we Heard
 - Process moving forward
-

Overview of Some Permit Conditions Developed as a Result of **Public** Input Throughout the LTCP Implementation

- ✓ **CSO Executive Summary** – A one-page non-technical summary of the highlights of the CSO permit.
- ✓ **Enhanced Public Engagement** – Requires meetings held with public accessibility; posted in advance; website as information clearinghouse; requires CSO Coordinator.
- ✓ **Environmental Justice** – Continue to identify and focus on addressing CSO-related flooding areas.
- ✓ **Green Infrastructure** – Inclusion of additional GI projects will not require modification of the LTCP; require installation of GI early in the LTCP implementation; encourage public input on locations of GI.



What We Heard on Public Engagement – 12/7/21

What the CSO Permit Can Require Under the Clean Water Act

- Designation of a CSO coordinator for public engagement and have based on various design phases (planning/design/implementation) with a contact for major construction projects;
- Permittee should have a website as an information platform to provide connection between the public & permittee and public signage identifying LTCP projects;
- Permittee must advertise meetings in advance with locations, times and agendas;
- Restart the CSO Supplemental Team with a request for new members representing different groups;
- Permittee must select meeting locations that are accessible to the local community with meeting materials in other languages.
- Require a Regional level CSO Supplemental Team as well as Municipal teams (at the community level).

What the CSO Permit Does Not Have Regulatory Authority to Require

- Permittees to fund community groups to do public outreach;
- Establish methods to prove that outreach efforts will result in engagement from the affected community.



What We Heard on Environmental Justice – 1/13/22

What the CSO Permit Can Require Under the Clean Water Act

- Overburdened communities should be prioritized to reduce CSOs;
- Consider Environmental Impact Assessment requirement on major CSO projects;
- Operation and maintenance of the collection system to minimize flooding;
- Require annual certification of collection system cleaning and/or proper operation.

What the CSO Permit Does Not Have Regulatory Authority to Require

- Host communities for POTWs should be given a monetary benefit;
- Prioritize Environmental Justice communities for workforce development;
- Require resolution of community complaints regarding construction-related issues.



Source: Groundwork Elizabeth

What We Heard on Climate Change – 2/10/22

What the CSO Permit Can Require Under the Clean Water Act

- Projects should be designed in a resilient manner to address climate change (resiliency);
- Projects should be prioritized for flooding areas;
- NJ Water Bank resiliency requirements should be followed for Water Bank funded projects;
- NJ PACT (Protecting Against Climate Threats) process should be used to inform project placement;
- Effectiveness of projects should be reevaluated regularly (i.e., through Adaptive Management).

What the CSO Permit Does Not Have Regulatory Authority to Require

- CSO projects should be required to incorporate renewable energy;
- Require permittees to use renewable energy for on-site (backup) power;
- Wastewater Treatment Plants should be required to use renewable energy and to report and reduce their energy usage;
- Mandate an additional 5% reduction in impervious cover to counteract climate change.



What We Heard on CSO Metrics – 2/17/22

What the CSO Permit Can Require Under the Clean Water Act

- Continuation of Monitoring Report Forms and Progress Reports to track precipitation trends and CSO overflows;
- Dedication of a permittee website to show project progress;
- Performance/Compliance report every 5 years with description of completed projects, a projection of the next permit cycle and any project adjustments needed via Adaptive Management;
- Final report after all construction that assesses meeting the Clean Water Act and require additional projects if needed.

What the CSO Permit Does Not Have Regulatory Authority to Require

- Measure emissions from construction;
- Mandate local job training for green infrastructure;
- Require Triple Bottom Line analysis to incentivize selection of green infrastructure;
- Requirements to be placed on development and redevelopment.



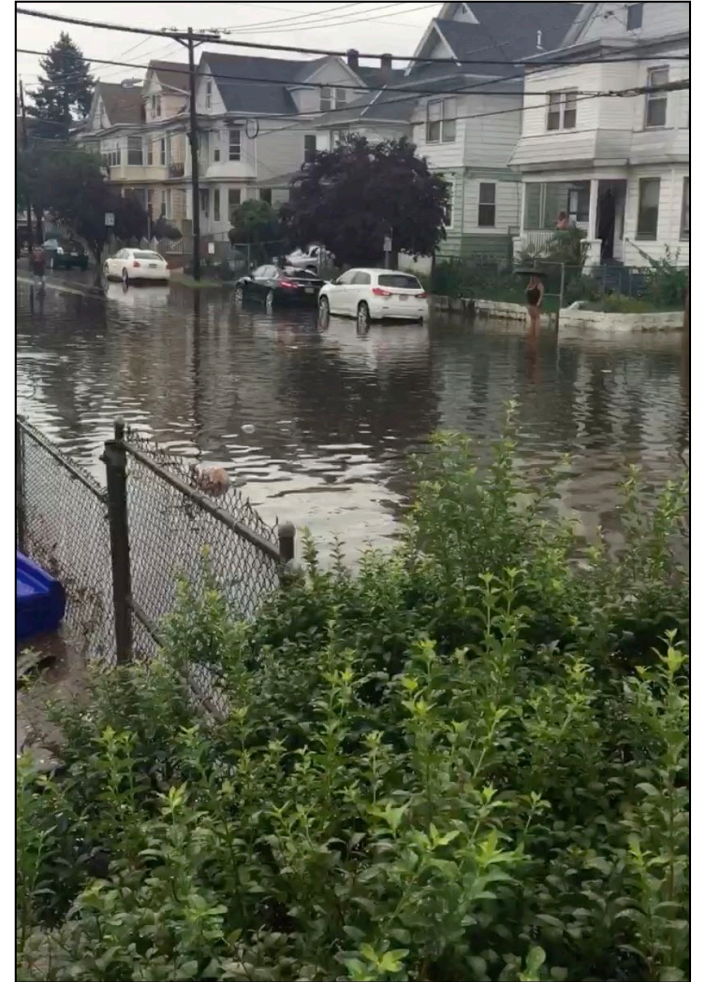
Permit Process in 2022

- Permits will be drafted by hydraulically connected system starting this year (North Bergen/Guttenberg)
- Draft permits will have a CSO Executive Summary
- Draft permits will announce a public hearing with a 60-day public comment period
- Final permits will be issued by hydraulically connected system
- Comments received will be combined into a Response to Comment document common only to the hydraulically connected system's permits



WHAT'S
NEXT?

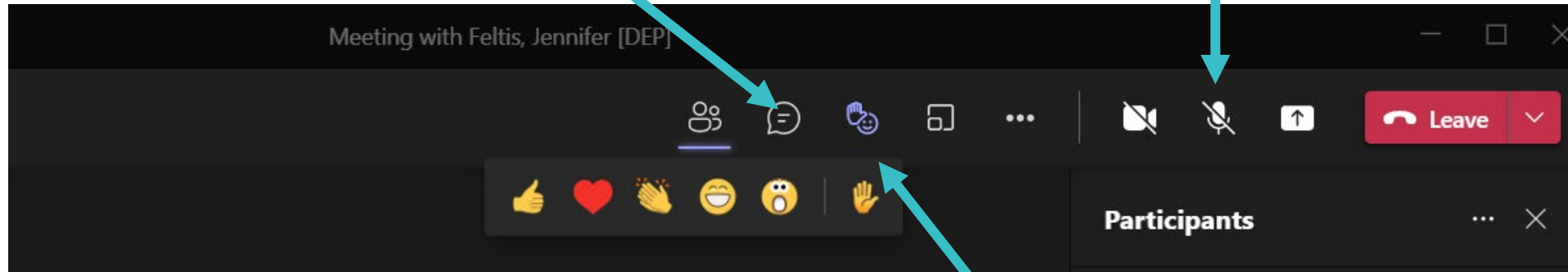
The End



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THANK YOU

If you have additional
comments or suggestions,
please reach out to
NJCSOProgram@dep.nj.gov.

