
Sewer Regionalization Implementation Committee

RESOLUTION 14-01

Coordination with ALCOSAN Governance Changes

WHEREAS, the Sewer Regionalization Implementation Committee (“SRIC”) was created through a partnership of 3 Rivers Wet Weather (“3RWW”) and the Congress of Neighboring Communities (“CONNECT”), with financial support from the Colcom Foundation, in order to implement a process for sewer regionalization in response to the charge of the ALCOSAN Sewer Regionalization Review Panel (“Regionalization Review Panel”), chaired by Carnegie Mellon University President Emeritus, Dr. Jared Cohon and administered by the Allegheny Conference on Community Development (“ACCD”). Specifically, in the Regionalization Review Panel’s formal findings, published in March 2013, it was recommended that the municipalities within the ALCOSAN service area should transfer “Intermunicipal Conveyance Lines and Wet Weather Control Facilities to ALCOSAN”, and charged those municipalities in its “Specific Action Steps” to “immediately initiate an expeditious process to determine how intermunicipal conveyance lines, other trunk lines and upstream wet weather facilities will be conveyed to ALCOSAN.” The SRIC was convened as a response of ALCOSAN, Allegheny County, and a number of municipalities and municipal authorities within the ALCOSAN service area to the charge of the Regionalization Review Panel.

WHEREAS, the SRIC recognizes that the Regionalization Review Panel likewise recommended that ALCOSAN undergo “Governance Changes to Reflect the Multi-jurisdictional Interests in ALCOSAN Decision-making and Performance”, and suggested, “[t]o promote a genuine partnership between ALCOSAN and the 83 contributing municipalities, the Allegheny County Executive and the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh should immediately and jointly call for the [University of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics] IOP to convene a stakeholder process for recommending the appropriate size and mix of ALCOSAN board membership.”

WHEREAS, the Allegheny County Executive and the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh did call upon the University of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics (“IOP”) to convene a stakeholder process, which resulted in the University of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics ALCOSAN Governance Committee (“IOP ALCOSAN Governance Committee”). After an expansive process, involving a number of stakeholders, the IOP ALCOSAN Governance Committee recommended, *inter alia*, that the ALCOSAN Articles of Incorporation should be amended so that the Board of Directors would be restructured as a Board of 9 members, with 3 members appointed by the Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh from within the City and 6 members appointed by the Allegheny County Executive from the municipalities within Allegheny County outside of the City of Pittsburgh.

WHEREAS, the SRIC further recognizes that the Regionalization Review Panel intended for the ALCOSAN governance changes and the transfer of sewer trunk lines to occur contemporaneously; to wit, the Regionalization Review Panel made the following observation: “As the 83 municipalities are in a partnership with ALCOSAN, the legitimacy of the partnership’s governance is indispensable to the success of the joint enterprise. Adequate municipal representation on the ALCOSAN board is crucial to the willingness of the 83 municipalities to take robust regionalization actions.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the SRIC recommends the transfer of intermunicipal conveyance lines, other trunk lines and upstream wet weather facilities from the respective municipalities or municipal authorities to ALCOSAN should be preceded by a governance change in the ALCOSAN Board consistent with the recommendation of the IOP ALCOSAN Governance Committee so as to maximize and encourage the support of the various municipalities and municipal authorities for regionalization within the ALCOSAN system.