



## **Advisory Committee:** Minutes of Regular Meeting – April 28, 2015

### *IN ATTENDANCE:*

Gilbert A. Herrera, Chair – **Present**  
Jeri Brooks – Absent, with notice  
Frances Castaneda Dyess – Absent  
Kathryn Easterly – **Present**  
Scott Elmer – **Present**  
Vernita Harris – **Present**  
Bert Keller – Absent, with notice  
Jeff Ross – **Present**  
Edward Taravella – **Present**  
Council Member Oliver Pennington, Ex-Officio – **Present**

### **1. Call to Order / Welcome**

Chairman Gilbert Herrera called the meeting of the ReBuild Houston Advisory Committee (RHAC) to order at 10:35 a.m. and thanked all in attendance. Also present were Council Members Larry Green and Stephen Costello.

### **2. Approval of the Minutes**

Motion to approve the March 24, 2015 meeting minutes was made by Ms. Kathryn Easterly and seconded by Ms. Vernita Harris. Motion carried.

### **3. Discussion for FY17 – FY26 Plan**

#### **“Project Selection, Process Methodology & Recommended Changes”**

Mr. Dale Rudick (Director of Public Works and Engineering) stated that now is the time to be considering revisions to the *CIP Process Manual* and asked committee members to compile suggestions for the June 2015 RHAC meeting. He noted that last year, the word ‘draft’ was removed from the document being that we have now had several years to work toward refining this document. He also stated that PWE continues to improve our processes and will continue review the Manual annually and refine where

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necessary. An example of a previous year's improvement to the *CIP Process Manual* is the addition of the open ditch data set to evaluate with the underground storm sewer network to ensure all areas are being considered objectively. Mr. Rudick stated that we are currently reviewing ways to complement the Mayor's *Houston Complete Streets and Transportation Plan* executive order such as a method for scoring bicyclist and pedestrians when considering candidate projects. He commented that PWE's efforts will tie into the proposed citywide Bike Plan that is currently being written and will go before Council for approval when finalized. Ms. Easterly inquired about the process by which PWE assesses City accepted alleys. Mr. Rudick stated that alleys are now reviewed in the same manner as other City of Houston public infrastructure assets. Ms. Easterly asked if the process for publicly accepted alleys will be added to the updated CIP Process Manual. Mr. Rudick stated that was something PWE could add to the Manual, however, we have already made that determination and have been implementing it since last June.

Mr. Ross asked about street overlays and if PWE can project out how long overlays will last and when overlays may be replaced. Mr. Rudick stated the difficulty in projecting the life of an overlay due to so many factors such as amount of traffic, type of traffic, condition of pavement or sub-base, etc. He also highlighted the growing stream of reliable funding sources for reconstruction and rehabilitation projects. Mr. Ross suggested there might be a way to balance long-term expectations for our infrastructure.

Mr. Rudick offered that if there are specific topics that committee members might want to discuss outside of advisory committee meetings to please call his office directly. Council Member Pennington asked for if PWE had a list of issues they were specifically considering such as current pedestrian and bicyclist counts. Mr. Rudick responded that we look at all modes of travel during pre-engineering of the collector/thoroughfare. The future Bike Plan will help address this as well.

Mr. Scott Elmer asked what specific standards we use in the design/construction of projects. Mr. Rudick stated that PWE is implementing a more context sensitive design approach and is working directly with the communities affected. This context-sensitive design approach gives the users of the asset and PWE more flexibility. Mr. Elmer also asked if PWE was incorporating the data from other regional and mobility studies into their assessment. Mr. Rudick replied affirmatively.

Mr. Herrera quoted numbers and figures from the Mayor's State of the City Address. He then asked how these measures and numbers are affecting Pavement Condition Rating (PCR) scores. Mr. Herrera stated that he would like to include a method of measurement for ReBuild Houston's progress. Council Members Pennington and Costello both agreed that a means of measurement would be helpful to better communicate with the public, as well as highlight the many accomplishments of ReBuild Houston.

Council Member Costello inquired about the Quarterly Financial Reports and why the amount spent for the year is so low at \$27 Million. Mr. Rudick replied that that number is based on different spend rates and should increase in the coming months.

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Mr. Herrera inquired about various operations and maintenance processes and the 3,900 outstanding work orders that PWE had. Mr. Rudick updated the committee that the work orders were now down to about 2,500 and that PWE is now being smarter about our maintenance activities in concert with proposed ReBuild Houston reconstruction.

Mr. Herrera asked if PWE has spent any money on measurement activities in recent years aside from PCR scores. Mr. Rudick replied that PWE has spent money on the open-ditch assessment and traffic counts among other studies. Mr. Herrera asked how PWE monitors the performance of storm water lines and open ditches aside from FEMA flooding reports. Mr. Rudick responded that our performance metric is whether or not the storm water system is adequate or not utilizing our current design standard as the reference. Mr. Herrera followed up by asking if there was a dollar amount PWE could calculate to estimate the cost of improving the pavement conditions across all of Houston up to a 70 percent standard. Mr. Rudick replied that we are on our way to such an estimate but we are not there as of yet. Ms. Easterly suggested that curbs around the city's esplanades be addressed in the Manual as well.

Mr. Rudick asked committee members to refer to the Transportation, Technology, and Infrastructure Committee PowerPoint (PPT) presentation (attached). In the PowerPoint, it states that 2015 was the first time in at least 12 years (since 2002) that the Street & Drainage Division received an increase in their operation & maintenance budget. The budget increase was approximately 25%. He also stated that one factor to keep in mind is that there are four sources of funding for ReBuild Houston; each of which has limited specific uses.

Mr. Elmer asked how that additional budget money was spent between its internal workforce and outside contractors. Mr. Rudick stated that PWE makes every attempt to maximize its current operation & maintenance workforce resources and utilizes private contractors to perform additional work that we are not equipped to perform.

Mr. Rudick reiterated that he is always available to discuss any ideas committee members may have on improving the project selection and/or the process methodology.

#### **4. 2015 Meeting Schedule**

Mr. Rudick reiterated his request from the previous meeting for input to the RHAC calendar for workshops that committee members would like to have at future meetings. Mr. Herrera requested that one of the future workshops focus on metrics and monitoring for projects. Council Member Green added that it may be difficult to create a standardized metric or report based on how the program is funded and how annual funding allocations may differ from year-to-year. Ms. Harris suggested the idea to explain how projects are put out for bid and how contractors are selected.

**5. Executive Report**

Mr. Rudick shared that the Department of Public Works and Engineering as a whole is making a concerted effort to further engage with Houston communities regarding high profile street and drainage projects. He announced that PWE will be conducting multiple project-specific community meetings over the course of the year focusing on context sensitive design. The first meeting is on May 7, 2015 regarding the Greenbriar Improvement Project and will be held at Roberts Elementary at 6000 Greenbriar, 77030. He also stated that more information on the meeting and project can be found on the web at [www.rebuildhouston.org](http://www.rebuildhouston.org). Mr. Rudick shared that PWE is looking at several cost saving initiatives such as constructing 11-foot lanes instead of 12-foot lanes.

Mr. Taravella stated that the American Council of Engineering Companies – Houston has some shared some concerns with him about proposed design standard changes for pavement life that may result in construction cost increases.

Mr. Rudick offered a brief overview of the quarterly financial documents, as well as the monthly spigot report (attached). He also stated that there will be no May advisory committee meeting due to the Memorial Day holiday.

**6. Old Business/New Business**

None

**7. Public Comments**

None

**8. Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

**Attachments:**

- City Council TTI Committee PowerPoint Presentation (April 14, 2015)
- Advisory Committee CY15 Draft Meeting Schedule
- Drainage Utility Collections/Expenditures – Inception to Date (as of March 31, 2015)
- Quarterly Financial Reports (2) for quarter ending December 31, 2015



# STREET MAINTENANCE

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APRIL 14, 2015

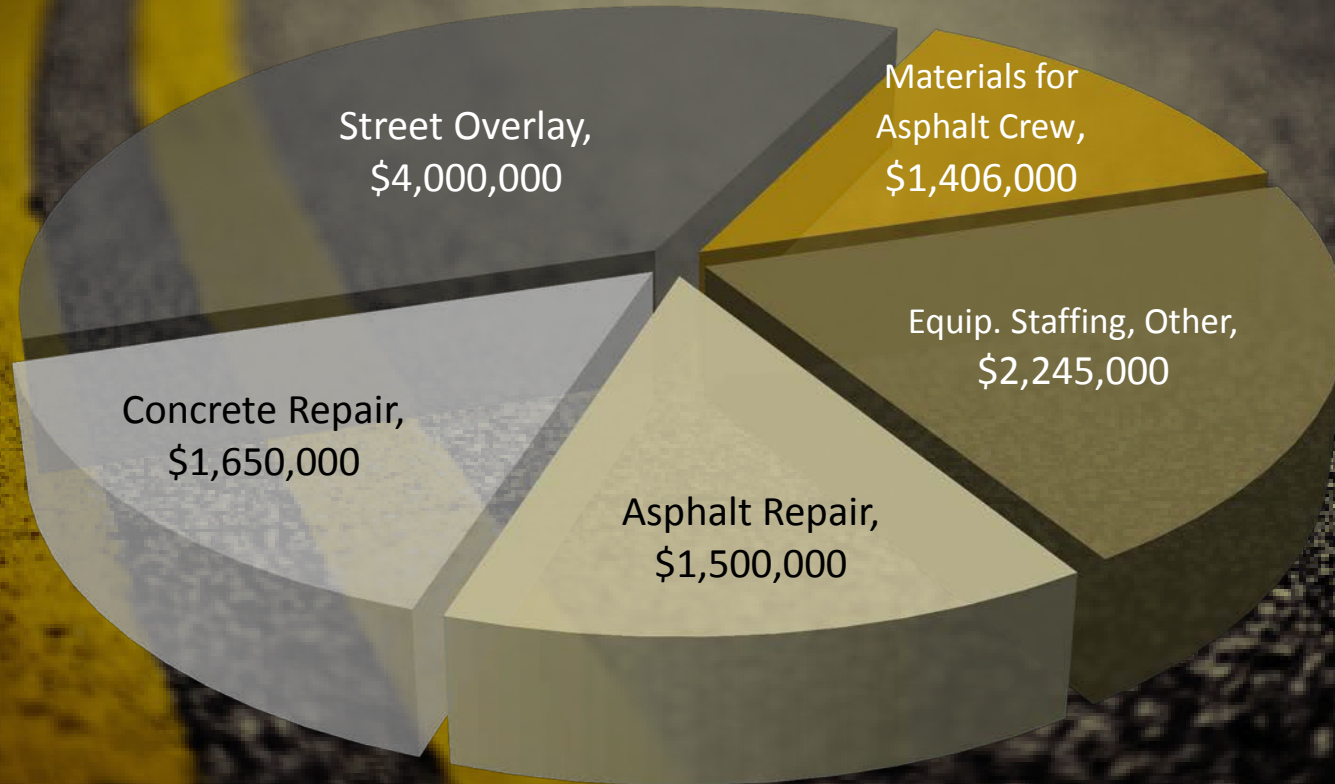
# BACKGROUND

- Backlog of work orders began to rise for skin-patch street maintenance
- (Jan 2014) Initial backlog 3878 open work-orders
- (Jan 2015) Backlog 3794 open work-orders
- \$10.8M increase to FY2015 Budget to help address overall street conditions.
- 1st O&M Budget increase since FY2002



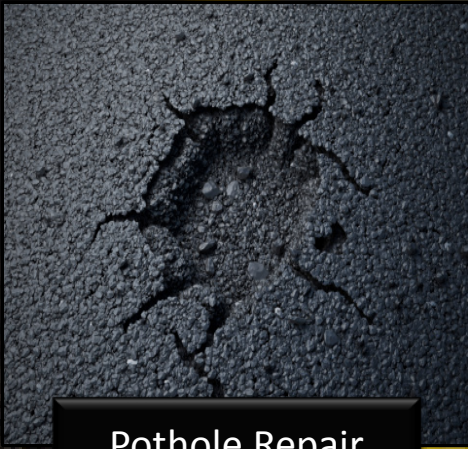
# \$10.8 MILLION

## SUPPLEMENTAL FY15 BUDGET





# REPAIR TYPES



Pothole Repair



Asphalt Skin-Patch



Panel Replacement





WHAT WE HAVE DONE TO  
**IMPROVE**  
OUR OPERATIONS



## Google Maps Coordinate – 60% increased productivity

- Mobile application that helps SDD organize & manage a mobile workforce
- Service Requests come in daily & are assigned to inspectors carrying electronic pad devices
- Google Maps schedules & routes each inspector on the most efficient path & records time worked at location

# SERVICE REQUESTS

POTHoles AND STREET REPAIRS

Browser address bar: <https://coordinate.google.com/f/5DS2KKZFKDwZPWPivvsZsQ>

Page title: Google Maps Coordinate

Navigation: File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Logos: SAP NetWeaver Portal Free Hotmail Suggested Sites Get more Add-ons

Google logo

Account: anthony.pate@houstonwater.org

Maps Coordinate Part of My Maps Pro

Team Jobs Plan Settings Help

«Back to team

**Status: Jobs Assigned**

11861976 ROW - Street Repair  
16000 CHIMNEY ROCK RD & 6600 TRIGATE DR,  
HOUSTON 77053

**Job History**

- Assigned – 11861976 ROW - Street Repair
- Assigned – 11861848 ROW - Street Repair
- Assigned – 11861767 ROW - Street Repair
- Assigned – 11862010 ROW - Street Repair
- Assigned – 11861983 ROW - Street Repair
- Assigned – 11861758 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861817 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861674 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861895 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861746 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861987 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861826 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861548 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861699 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861587 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861934 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861518 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861952 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861766 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861659 ROW - Street Repair
- Completed – 11861831 ROW - Street Repair

Tuesday, March 3, 2015 – Delete location history

Map of Houston area showing job locations (blue dots) and a selected location (red pin) with a timestamp: 3/3/15, 3:06 PM

Map data ©2015 Google Terms of Use Report a map error

Windows taskbar: 3:07 PM 3/3/2015

# GOOGLE MAPS

- Centralization of the quadrants for response efficiency
- City crews on 6-10 hour days per week
- Fleet Management Dept. set SDD equipment to high priority for rapid repairs maintaining a 90%+ readiness since February 1
- ARA/311 team has improved operator process to pre-filter for duplicate requests coming in

QUICK  
ACTION  
RESPONSE



# FIXING FOR TODAY...

- Historically our pot-hole repair work was temporary
- Continue with Pothole trucks
- Initial service response – surface skin patch to make safe





# ...REPAIRING FOR TOMORROW

- Secondary service response – full depth asphalt patch or concrete panel replacement for long lasting repair
- Not done for streets listed on CIP
- Never done on this scale



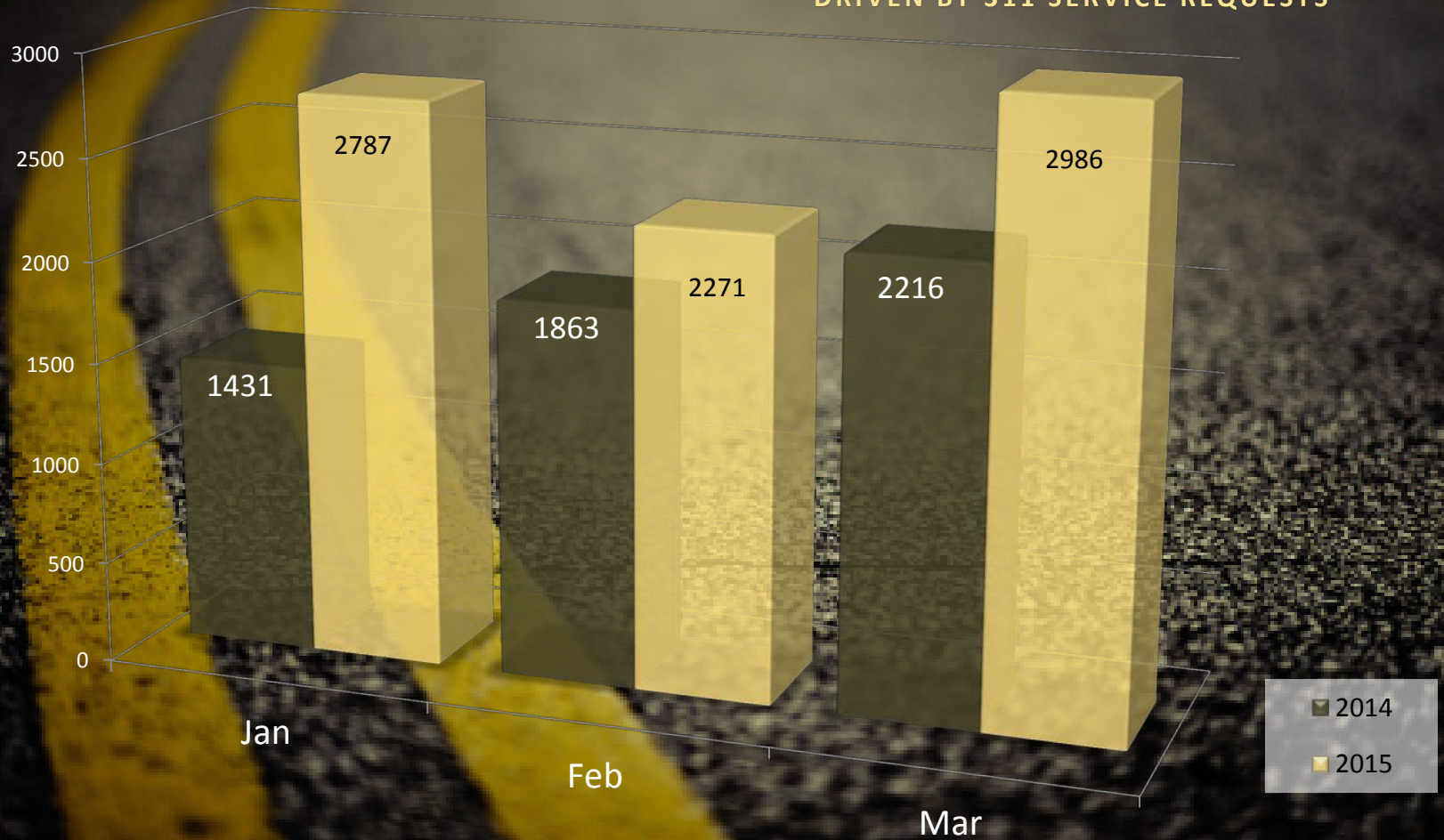
# CONTRACTORS

- Additional \$10.3M allotted for FY15-FY16 backlog.
- PWE divisions coordinating to maximize contracting options
- Originally contracted with 2 companies providing 2 crews
- Solicited support from COH Certified Vendors (majority of which are Minority Firms).
  - Asphalt - 1 Prime/Multiple Subs; 6 crews
  - Concrete – 7 Primes; 14 crews



# DEMAND

DRIVEN BY 311 SERVICE REQUESTS



# PRODUCTIVITY

	Feb			Mar	
	2014	2015		2014	2015
Potholes (Filled)	3323	7123	2302	7517	
Overlay (Lane Miles)	1.8	24.1	9.9	34.9	
Asphalt (#Repaired)	535	875	544	882	
Concrete (# of Panels)	21	62	14	77	





# QUESTIONS?



Eric K. Dargan | Public Works and Engineering | Street & Drainage Division



## **Advisory Committee: CY 2015 Meeting Schedule – SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

January 27, 2015

- PWE's Draft "5+5 year Plan" (FY 16 – 25); CIP Program Update & Prioritized Need Areas
- Preview: CIP Town Hall Meetings & Process (February & March)

February 2015 – No RHAC meeting during CIP Town Hall Meetings

March 24, 2015

- Overview of CIP Town Hall Meetings and Public Input Period
- Look Back/Look Forward
- Discussion on "project selection, process methodology & recommended changes" for FY 17-26
- Suggestions for future educational workshops (August thru November below)

April 28, 2015

- Consensus on "project selection, process methodology & recommended changes" for FY 17-26

May 26, 2015 – Day after Memorial Day – Cancelled in 2014

June 23, 2015

- Final Consensus on Recommendations for FY 17 – FY 26 Plan

July 28, 2015 – No RHAC meeting; PWE 101 Orientation Tour for interested members

August 25, 2015

- Workshop about Street Maintenance

September 22, 2015

- Workshop on project bidding and selections

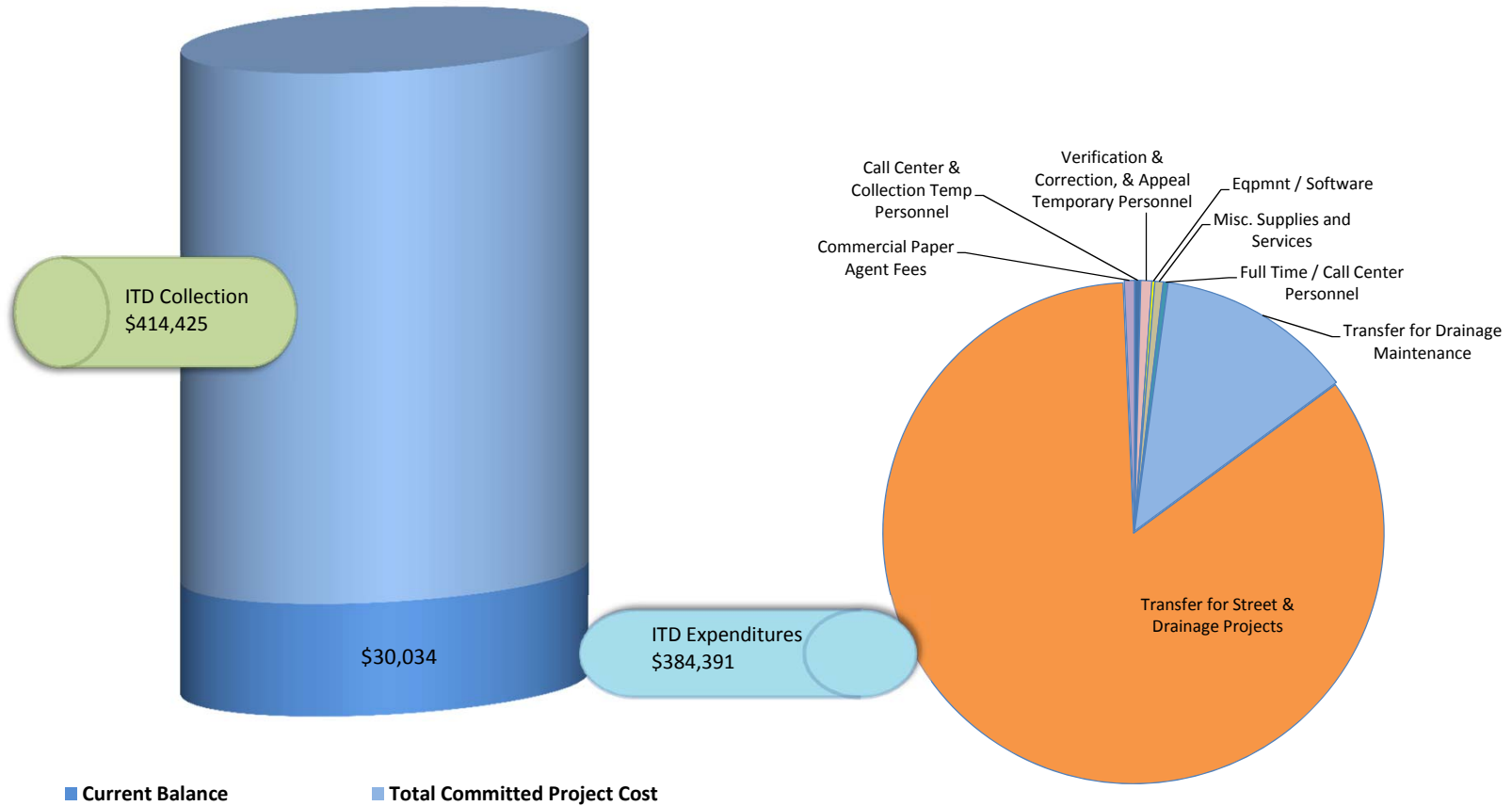
October 27, 2015

- Workshop on RH program metrics and reporting

November 17, 2015 (Nov. & Dec. meetings combined)

- Workshop TBD
- Timeline for January release of FY 17-26 "5+5 Year Plan"
  - January 22, 2016 (tentative) – Release of Internal Draft FY 16-25 "5+5" to RHAC
  - January 26, 2016 – RHAC discussion on Draft FY 17-26 "5+5"
  - Feb/March – CIP District Town Hall meetings/Public Comment Period

**Drainage Utility  
Inception to Date (ITD) Collections / Expenditures  
(\$ in Thousands)  
(As of March 31, 2015)**



**Note: Currently committed project costs total \$171.5 Million.**

City of Houston  
Public Works and Engineering Department  
Dedicated Street & Drainage Fund Group  
FY15 Adopted Budget and CIP Report

<i>CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS</i>	<i>Adopted Budget</i>	<i>Adopted CIP</i>	<i>Adopted + Refined CIP<sup>2</sup></i>	<i>YTD Actual 12/31/14</i>	<i>Current Projection</i>
<b>OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE</b>					
Street and Drainage <sup>1</sup>	\$ 20,891,369		\$ 20,891,369	\$ 6,759,230	\$ 20,280,074
Traffic Operations <sup>1</sup>	\$ 23,440,000		\$ 23,440,000	\$ 10,188,060	\$ 22,965,389
Support Operations	\$ 920,200		\$ 920,200	\$ 262,460	\$ 860,637
Transfer to Stormwater Fund	\$ 14,012,000		\$ 14,012,000	\$ 14,012,000	\$ 14,012,000
Other Drainage Operational Expenditures	\$ 3,937,100		\$ 3,937,100	\$ 919,612	\$ 3,379,586
<b>Total O&amp;M</b>	<b>\$ 63,200,669</b>		<b>\$ 63,200,669</b>	<b>\$ 32,141,362</b>	<b>\$ 61,497,687</b>
<b>PERMANENT AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>					
Street Resurfacing <sup>1</sup>	\$ 18,046,876		\$ 18,046,876	\$ 5,868,171	\$ 18,046,876
Bridge Replacement <sup>1</sup>	\$ 1,561,009		\$ 1,561,009	\$ 700,799	\$ 1,552,588
Concrete Replacement <sup>1</sup>	\$ 7,891,247		\$ 7,891,247	\$ 3,386,601	\$ 7,777,685
Capital Equipment	\$ 183,200		\$ 183,200	\$ 16,344	\$ 183,200
<b>Total Permanent Impr./Capital Impr.</b>	<b>\$ 27,682,331</b>		<b>\$ 27,682,331</b>	<b>\$ 9,971,915</b>	<b>\$ 27,560,348</b>
<b>Sub-total - Budget</b>	<b>\$ 90,883,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 90,883,000</b>	<b>\$ 42,113,277</b>	<b>\$ 89,058,035</b>
<b>CIP</b>					
Metro Capital		\$ 57,109,000	\$ 57,109,000	\$ 1,477,705	\$ 57,109,000
Grant Funds		\$ 32,569,000	\$ 32,569,000	\$ -	\$ 32,569,000
Capital Contribution		\$ 5,208,000	\$ 5,208,000	\$ -	\$ 5,208,000
Other		\$ 2,057,000	\$ 2,057,000	\$ -	\$ 2,057,000
DDSRF Capital Fund (4042)		\$ 168,779,000	\$ 210,872,915	\$ 16,526,036	\$ 210,872,915
<b>Total CIP</b>		<b>\$ 265,722,000</b>	<b>\$ 307,815,915</b>	<b>\$ 18,003,741</b>	<b>\$ 307,815,915</b>
<b>Total Permanent and Capital</b>			<b>\$ 335,498,246</b>	<b>\$ 27,975,656</b>	<b>\$ 335,376,263</b>
<b>Reconciling Items</b>					
<b>Transfers to Capital Funds</b>					
Transfer to Drainage Capital Fund		\$ 131,000,000			
<b>Total Transfers</b>		<b>\$ 131,000,000</b>			
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 221,883,000</b>	<b>\$ 265,722,000</b>	<b>\$ 398,698,915</b>	<b>\$ 60,117,018</b>	<b>\$ 396,873,950</b>
<b>O&amp;M Expenditure as Percentage of Total O&amp;M Budget and CIP Appropriation<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>15.85%</b>		<b>15.42%</b>

- Budgeted amounts for ongoing level of service provided by City Personnel - previously in the General Fund and reimbursed by METRO, now in fund 2310 and reimbursed by METRO.
- The difference between Adopted CIP vs. Refined CIP is due to rollover of projects that were in the FY14 CIP but were not appropriated until FY15.
- Based on the ReBuild Houston charter amendment, the percentage calculation is: The amount of the O&M (purple) divided by the amount appropriated (sum of blue highlighted numbers).

**Drainage Utility Collections**  
**Quarterly Collections and Annual Projections as of 12/31/2014**

	Billing and Collection through December 2014			Projections for Fiscal Year		
	Billings <sup>1</sup>	Collections <sup>2</sup>	% Collected	Billings	Collections	Projected % Collected
Monthly Bills	\$ 40,555,767	\$ 34,851,950	85.94%	\$ 79,792,898	\$ 75,745,468	94.93%
Annual/Bi-Monthly Accounts <sup>3</sup>	\$ 2,949,450	\$ 934,602	31.69%	\$ 3,315,618	\$ 1,339,598	40.40%
Quarterly - 1 quarter <sup>4</sup>	\$ 12,719,242	\$ 10,434,581	82.04%	\$ 29,736,484	\$ 26,742,434	89.93%
City Bills	\$ 3,429,596	\$ 3,429,596	100.00%	\$ 6,877,700	\$ 6,877,700	100.00%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 59,654,055</b>	<b>\$ 49,650,729</b>	<b>83.23%</b>	<b>\$ 119,722,700</b>	<b>\$ 110,705,200</b>	<b>92.47%</b>

1 Total Fiscal Year billings reflect actual status as of December 31, 2014 and includes amounts in litigation.

2 Collection figures include payments received through December 31, 2014.

3 Accounts with total annual drainage charges of \$60 or less and accounts for which no payment has ever been remitted are billed annually. Accounts with sewer and drainage charges only (no water) are billed bi-monthly.

4 Quarterly bills are systematically being moved from quarterly to monthly as matched. Some monthly bills have been consolidated based on owner request and billed quarterly. As of this report, only the first and second quarters have been billed.