

Development Activities Meeting Report

This report created by the Neighborhood Planner and included with staff reports to City Boards and/or Commissions.

Logistics	Stakeholders
Project Name/Address: Bruecken Pump Station (7779 E Lock Way) & Aspinwall Pump Station (Freeport Road)	Groups Represented (e.g., specific organizations, residents, employees, etc. where this is evident): Highland Park Community Council, Lincoln Lemington Collaborative
Parcel Number(s): 122-L-50, 171-B-1-0-02	
ZDR Application Number: DCP-ZDR-2024-01437, DCP-ZDR-2024-00328	
Meeting Location: Zoom	
Date: 5/29/2024	
Meeting Start Time: 6 pm	
Applicant: PWSA	Approx. Number of Attendees: 20
Boards and/or Commissions Request(s): Planning Commission	

How did the meeting inform the community about the development project?

Ex: Community engagement to-date, location and history of the site, demolition needs, building footprint and overall square footage, uses and activities (particularly on the ground floor), transportation needs and parking proposed, building materials, design, and other aesthetic elements of the project, community uses, amenities and programs.

Water Reliability Plan

These projects are a part of PWSA's Water Reliability Plan. This is an effort to improve storage, distribution, and pumping of PWSA's water systems managed. The plan's series of projects will strengthen and add redundancy to the water system. These projects are required by the State through a Consent Order. \$300 million will be invested over the next five years. This plan also culminates with complete restoration of the Clearwell Bypass water treatment system, which is essentially a large tank. Aspinwall and Bruecken are the two pumping projects. Both stations are over 100 years old and need to be modernized.

Aspinwall Pump Station

The Aspinwall Pump Station is located on Freeport Road, near the PWSA Water Treatment Plant. Water treated at the PWSA Water Treatment Plant flows through the Clearwell treatment system before being pumped through the Aspinwall Pump Station or Bruecken Pump Station. The pump station supplies water to 20% of the City of Pittsburgh. The new design for the Aspinwall Pump Station will include interior upgrades within the station, a new roof, historic features such as new windows, and a replacement of the chemical storage. The current fluoride station and garage adjacent to the pump station will be demolished. Trees to the south of the Clearwell will be removed for access and later replaced. Additionally, an electrical substation will be constructed by Duquesne Light. The Aspinwall Pump Station will also go through a historic designation proves with the PA State Historical Preservation Office, which found the pump station and the Aspinwall Treatment Plant to have historic significance.

The primary construction entrance will be at the plant entrance on Freeport Road. A second construction access will utilize River Avenue and driveway to PWSA facilities to the west of Clearwell. All construction work will occur within the facility. The project schedule will be Monday through Friday, 7 am – 5 pm.

The project is currently in the design completion and permitting phase. Bidding documents are in progress and PWSA received a PWS permit in March 2024. For the construction phase, PWSA expects a contract to be awarded in early 2025. Construction is expected to begin in May 2025 and be completed in late 2029 or early 2030.

Bruecken Pump Station

Bruecken Pump Station is located across the street from the Pittsburgh Water Treatment Plant along the border of Lincoln-Lemington and Highland Park. The pump station was originally constructed in 1931. The pump station pumps water to Highland Reservoir 2, which supplies water for over 35% of Pittsburgh. PWSA is designing and building a new facility and associated structures. The design incorporates unique architectural styles due to nearby recreation amenities such as the trail. The old pump station will remain in place. The new building will house pumping equipment and the older building will be used for other PWSA operations. This project will also involve replacing the perimeter fencing and reorganizing/cleaning up materials that are currently stored on the property.

During construction, trucks and equipment will enter Brilliant Yard via Butler Street (SR 8)/Washington Blvd. All work will occur within the facility. The project schedule will be Monday through Friday, 7 am – 5 pm.

This project is currently in the design completion and permitting phase. Bid documents are in progress and a PWS permit was received in March 2024. For the station upgrades phase, PWSA expects a contract to be awarded in Early 2025. Construction is expected to start in Mid 2025 and be completed in late 2029 or early 2030.

Community Outreach Plan

Construction will be communicated through project signs, community meetings, and the PWSA website. For any questions, residents are asked to contact Mora McLaughlin at mmclaughlin@pgh2o.com.

Input and Responses

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
Aspinwall Pump Station: Great to see that the work on the building is being approached as historic restoration, this is a handsome building. Trees to the south are noted to be removed, how about the trees at the north side along Freeport Road, too? Would be nice to open up this vista.	Due to City of Pittsburgh requirements, any time we remove a tree, we are required to replace trees. Trees are coming down on the south side of the project for necessity. We probably won't be affecting trees on other parts of the project site.
It doesn't look like this will affect traffic based on your presentation, is that true?	We do not anticipate any interruptions to traffic. We will be sure to account for any issues that may arise.
	This is a unique situation as this sits on the outskirts of the City but technically does exist in your neighborhoods so I appreciate everyone coming out tonight to give their feedback.
What is this project going to [do] for the Lincoln community?	Overall, the Water Reliability Plan is intended to improve reliability (uninterrupted, high quality, good pressure) of water in the Pittsburgh area.

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
<p>How will construction of these projects affect our water supply?</p>	<p>You should not see an interruption in your water service/supply. The only noticeable changes should be the construction on site. This plan is designed for to prevent interruption to the water supply, which is why all pumping and rising mains work is being completed before working on the Clearwell. We really have thought of all means and methods necessary to ensure continuous access to water supply while the Clearwell is restored, and you should not notice any difference in water pressure, supply, or anything else.</p>

Planner completing report: Adriana Bowman, Neighborhood Planner and Austin Herzog, Neighborhood Planner