rethink water JOLIET

Water Conservation Stakeholder Group

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Description of the Joliet Alternative Water Source Program
- Goals of this Stakeholder Group
- Deliverables
- Tentative Schedule
- Water Conservation Discussion
- Homework

Introductions

Allison Swisher – Director of Public Utilities, City of Joliet
Angela Knight – City of Joliet, aknight@joliet.gov
Heidi Voirol – V3 Companies, hvoirol@v3co.com
Stuart Dykstra – V3 Companies, sdykstra@v3co.com

Joliet Alternative Water Source Program (AWSP)

- What is the AWSP?
- Why is a new source needed?
- What is the program implementation schedule?
- What are the program costs and affordability?

What is the AWSP?

The Alternative Water Source Program is a regional effort to replace Joliet's declining groundwater supply with a reliable, long-term supply of treated Lake Michigan water purchased from the City of Chicago by 2030.

Why is a new source needed?

Joliet currently relies on groundwater for all of its water needs.

Groundwater is running out and nature can't replace it fast enough.

The Illinois State Water Survey predicts that we have until 2030 before drastic water restrictions would be needed.

A new source is needed to provide you with a reliable, high quality supply of water to meet demands and support continued growth and development in our community.

What is the Program Implementation Schedule?

Program Implementation Schedule

What are the Program Costs and Affordability?

Water rates in Joliet will have to increase to pay for construction of the $600 - $800 million new water supply system, but efforts have already started to manage the increases and create plans to keep water affordable for all.

New commitment from Chicago to charge a fair water rate to Joliet, significantly less than Chicago currently charges.

WIFIA PROGRAM

Joliet received $3.5 million in federal funds for water main replacement and closed on a $308 million low interest federal loan for improvements.

Strategies are being developed to provide assistance to residents who cannot afford to pay their water bill.

Water Conservation Stakeholder Group (WCSG) Mission and Goals

Why are we here?

- Water rate increases are an inevitable part of continuing to provide clean water to Joliet
- The City of Joliet wants to help its citizens reduce their water costs through conservation and education
- This informal stakeholder group will work with City staff to identify water conservation initiatives and educational opportunities

WCSG Deliverables

- Creation of the Joliet Water Conservation Plan
- Implementation of the Water Conservation Plan

Tentative Schedule

Schedule		Meeting Goals
5/25/2022	First stakeholder meeting	Establishment of the Subcommittee, discuss the AWSP, the goals/mission, deliverables, schedule
6/8/2022	Second meeting	Presentation of the Plan progress to date, solicit feedback, ask for conservation actions
7/20/2022	Third meeting	Presentation of updated Plan for review prior to the Public Service Commission
8/1/2022	PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE	Present Draft
8/2/2022	CITY COUNCIL	Present Draft (if needed)
8/5/2022	Fourth meeting	Review of Council Feedback - discuss implementing the plan
4th qrtr 2022	Fifth Meeting	Group to develop guidelines moving forward, implementation of the Water Conservation Initiatives

Water Conservation Ideas

- Encourage water conservation amongst residents through public relations, events, neighborhood meetings – Joliet Slammers, Kidzfest, Star Wars Fest
- Subsidies similar to the rain barrels and low flow toilets
- Sources of additional funding for residents or the City
- Recognize local businesses for efficiencies
- Water efficiency audits

Water Conservation Ideas

- Promote Sensus Portal alerts
- Shower timers
- Find and fix leaks
- Promote low flow and high efficiency fixtures
- Encourage native plantings that do not require watering

Homework

- Provide Example Water Conservation Plans
- Suggest Water Conservation Initiatives

Email them to hvoirol@v3co.com

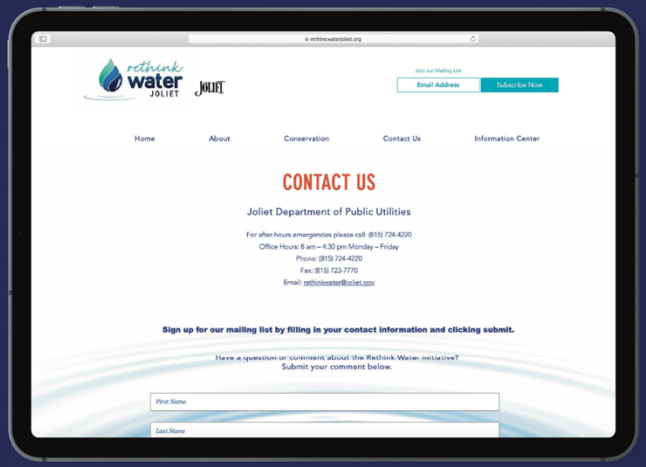
Thank you.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

facebook.com/**TheCityofJoliet**

twitter.com/**TheCityofJoliet**

VISIT US ONLINE & SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS!

RETHINKWATERJOLIET.ORG

hvoirol@v3co.com