

Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Financing Work Group
January 17, 2023
Webex Webinar or In-person at Illinois EPA Headquarters

The Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board (Board) Financing Work Group was called to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. with the following Board members in attendance:

Todd LaFountain, Water Division Manager, City of Springfield CWLP (present)
Brad Cole, Executive Director, Illinois Municipal League (present)
Kyle Saunders, Public Works Director, City of Rockford (absent)
Jason Bauer, Assistant City Engineer, City of Aurora (present)
Justin Williams, Metropolitan Planning Council (present)
Paul Hinterlong, Councilman, City of Naperville (present)
Africa, Associate Director, Illinois Department of Revenue (absent)
Briana Parker, Elevate Energy (present)
Anna-Lisa Castle, Policy Director, Clean Water & Equity, Alliance for the Great Lakes (absent)
Iyana Simba, Illinois Environmental Council (present)
Darrell King, Policy Director, Clean Water & Equity, Alliance for the Great Lakes (present)
Brenda Santoyo, LVEJO (present)

Others attending (In-person):

Gary Bingenheimer, Bureau of Water, IEPA
Brad Frost, Office of Community Relations, IEPA
Jeff Guy, Office of Community Relations, IEPA

Jeff Guy took a roll call of Board members present.

Jeff Guy called for the selection of a chairperson for the Financing Work Group. Briana Parker was elected Chairperson by a unanimous vote.

Tentative dates for upcoming meetings: The deadline for the draft report is July 1, 2023. Justin Williams suggested having at least a few meetings with work in the interim. Brad Cole noted that being general in our suggestions will require fewer meetings than being specific.

Summary of Discussion:

Justin Williams indicated we should provide the information the General Assembly needs. Brad Cole suggested identification of revenue sources as part of report, and that the narrative should not be an agenda. Darrell King liked the idea of generating additional revenue, and agreed that we don't want to be part of a political agenda. Darrell King suggested exploring if there are exemptions in current funds

where transfers can be made. State-wide taxes to dedicate toward the grant program were also discussed.

Gary Bingenheimer reminded the group to consider how options would work with well system users. Brad Cole indicated it would not be equitable to tax a community that has zero lead service lines.

Completion of all lead line replacements for the 675,000 confirmed lead lines reported in Illinois is expected to cost \$5.5 to \$8 billion statewide. The federal government is providing \$107 million for five years, but there is no funding beyond that. More will be needed from the federal government. Todd LaFountain questioned what other resources are available.

Brad Cole told the group that public water utilities will have to go through Illinois Commerce Commission for rate increase approval. Funding from Smart Energy Design Assistance Center (SEDAC), State Revolving Fund (SRF) loans and principal forgiveness, or other interest free loans may also be options.

The group discussed whose responsibility is it to pay for the full project. The Community Water Supply (CWS) is responsible for inventory and replacing the lines in accordance with the schedule in the Act. However, the state has deemed it a statewide issue and that the state treasurer will provide funding. Maybe it is also an issue for other federal agencies (with funds), like EDA, FEMA, USDA, etc. Technical assistance may also be needed for municipalities.

Paul Hinterlong said the trades have been working on recruiting to get the work done in the next few decades. Brad stated there are only three options: federal, state, local. Brad Cole suggested compiling list ideas for each option and that the Board explain to the legislators what would happen if no state funding is provided. Jeff Guy requested ideas from Board members be sent to himself to be used for future agenda items. A final note was made on uncertain costs due to time and location.

The next Financing Work Group meeting was not determined during today's meeting, but will be scheduled soon.

The next Board meeting is on January 25, 2023.

There were no comments from the public.

Brad Cole made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Paul Hinterlong, the Financing Work Group meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:15 p.m.

The [meeting recording](#) and other pertinent documents are available on the Agency's [Lead Service Line Replacement Advisory Board webpage](#).