

Birmingham City Commission Special Meeting Minutes - Workshop
September 8, 2025
Municipal Building, 151 Martin
6:00 p.m.
Vimeo Link: <https://vimeo.com/1116885569>

This will be considered a workshop session of the City Commission. No formal actions will be taken. The purpose of this workshop is to discuss water and sewer infrastructure with Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner Jim Nash.

I. Call to Order

Therese Longe, Mayor

II. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Longe
MPT Baller
Commissioner Emerine
Commissioner Long (arrived 6:04 p.m.)
Commissioner Haig
Commissioner Host
Commissioner Schafer

Absent: None

Staff: City Manager Ecker; Deputy City Clerk Brown, City Engineer Coatta Assistant City Manager Fairbairn, City Attorney Kucharek

III. Presentation and Commission Discussion

A. Presentation from Oakland County

Jim Nash, Oakland County Water (OCW) Resources Commissioner, introduced his team and the item.

Gary Nigro, OCW Field Operations Manager, Carrie Cox, OCW Special Projects Manager, Melissa Taube, OCW Community Engagement Rep, CE Coatta, and ACM Fairbairn presented the item and answered informational questions from the Commission.

B. City Commission Discussion and Comment

Commissioners made the following comments during discussion:

- It could be beneficial for the Commission to speak to the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA).
- Flooding is a very challenging topic for Birmingham residents presently.
- Birmingham needs information on expected upcoming OCW capital expenditures in order to plan payments for those updates.
- Since unusually powerful rainstorms are occurring much more frequently, it might be appropriate for pipe diameter standards to be increased in order to accommodate the increased stormwater.
- If Birmingham adds bigger pipes, its flow is increased. The City would have to pay for the increased flow, and would also need to consult with OCW to see whether there would be capacity for increased flow.
- Birmingham would need to collaborate with OCW on any changes that would affect the regional system.
- The Birmingham Commission, City administration, and staff have prioritized and implemented increased infrastructure investments. Thanks were offered to all those collaborating on this work.
- Thanks were offered to OCW Resource Commissioner Nash and his team. Interest in further collaboration with the OCW team was expressed.

IV. Public Comment

David Bloom commented regarding his desire for an encore presentation with the addition of GLWA, a request for updated maps and graphics, and a request for increased guidance from OCW.

Sarah Rubino commented regarding the superlative work the OCW team does and thanked the Commission for

its interest in addressing Birmingham residents’ stormwater concerns.

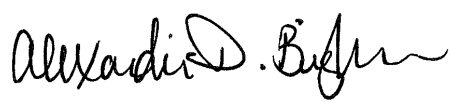
Patty Edwards commented regarding the City’s water and sewer infrastructure.

David Hocker commented regarding increased retention and perviousness on residential sites, and regarding increased stormwater capacity in the system.

Kristy Barrett concurred with David Hocker, and supported the provision of more information on whether Birmingham Public Schools’ stormwater retention systems might have capacity for some of the City’s stormwater.

V. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



Alexandria Bingham, City Clerk



Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist