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West Nile Virus Technical Advisory Committee

April 3rd, 2019 Meeting Agenda

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Large Conference Room, Parks Maintenance Shop, 413 S. Bryan Ave.

TAC members present: Eric Levine, Greg McMaster, Dana Kunze, Danielle Buttke,
Staff present: Matt Parker, Emily Wilmsen, Tyler Marr, Joe Wimmer, Broox Boze (Vector Disease Control International), Katie O'Donnell (Larimer County Health)
Public present: None

Meeting convened: 4:33 p.m.

Introduction of Tom Gonzalez, Public Health Director, Larimer County

Previously served as Deputy Public Health Director for El Paso County Public Health. Obtained a Masters of Public Health from University of Northern Colorado.

Discussion with Tom about collaboration with the City and the WNV Technical Advisory Committee. Comments regarding intentionality around aligned communication with Larimer County to the community.

Committee gave a brief overview of history of West Nile Virus in Fort Collins. Description of how the WNV vector index thresholds inform the decisions to spray and an overview of the City and County policies.

The committee expressed preference of having a Larimer County Representative at the TAC meetings. Larimer County will soon be replacing Derrick Turner's position vacancy.

What's ahead for the 2019 season?

Larimer County WNV support position, City's Communication & Public Involvement Office (CPIO) position supporting WNV are vacant and will be filled.

- All public outreach information and materials from CPIO are documented and ready to be continued at same level in 2019.

No anticipated change for vector index protocols or procedures in the County or City.

The City's Information Technology Open Data division is collaborating with WNV efforts on open data and data analytics.

- Intention to have data graphically visualized to better inform the public.
- City is working with Socrata and Bloomberg Philanthropies on open data initiatives.

Proposal of a constructing a charter for the WNV TAC defining the Committee's purpose.

- Committee would like to see "composition" of the TAC being addressed in the charter.

- Questions from the committee regarding becoming an advisory board.

WNV Treatment Efficacy Study funded for the City's 2019-2020 budget.

- Discussion of mitigating lag period and messaging of WNV risk. VDCI comments on tracking disease prevalence and relation to age structure.
- Question about distance between treatment and control zones from previous studies. VDCI ensured zones were appropriately spaced.
- Questions about final analysis product from preliminary findings that were presented to the TAC.

Discussion about effectiveness of adulticide treatment.

- Previous messaging has emphasized the importance of adulticiding to mitigate human WNV cases. Committee member voiced concern about messaging and communicating that the adulticiding is effective.
- Committee member expressed interest in an expert review of the data.

Discussion on the article mentioned last week and distributed to the TAC. "Commonly Used Insecticide Linked to Delayed Mental Development" (2011) Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

- Piperonyl butoxide (PBO) concerns from the TAC
- Committee would like to focus on PBO in 2019 and expressed interest in having an expert from Columbia video conference call with the TAC.

Interest in focusing on spatial analysis of irrigation ditches. Potential collaboration with CSU master students and project with a Larimer County Public Health intern.

Interest in the topic of agricultural irrigation.

Establish 2019-2020 Meeting Dates and Concept

Proposal of having 4 structured meetings. 90-minute meetings. Subject to change

January 15

February 19

March 18

April 15

Committee would like to know schedule months in advance. Committee majority preference of Wednesdays.

Other Discussion

Final counts of county and city WNV cases – posted in last meeting's minutes

Opting-out of spraying.

- TAC did not previously take stance on an additional opt-out policy. This topic was initially investigated regarding relationship with urban agriculture; peer city review did not uncover guidance.

- TAC member expressed interest in continuing an evaluation of this topic even with peer city not showing a best practice.
- Comments about public input and policy of opting out by district popular vote. City staff would like consensus from TAC to bring forward policy recommendation to the City Manager or City Council. This reinforces need for a WNV TAC charter.
- Interest of a few TAC members in the opt-out policy being decided on at the Council policy level.
- Comments about partnering with CSU's Center for Public Deliberation for public discussion on the WNC policy. City staff will follow up.

Public Comment

None

Meeting adjourned: 5:51 p.m.