St. Mary's County Metropolitan Commission

Public Hearing July 11, 2023

Since 196

FY 2024 Supplemental Appropriation St. Clements Shores Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Phase B

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ST. MARY'S COUNTY METROPOLITAN COMMISSION (MetCom)

In accordance with Chapter 113-29D of the Public Laws of St. Mary's County, Maryland, being part of Article 19 of the Code of Public Local Laws of the State of Maryland, a Public Hearing will be held to discuss the proposed supplemental appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Improvement Budget.

St. Clements Shores Waste Water Treatment Plant Expansion Phase B

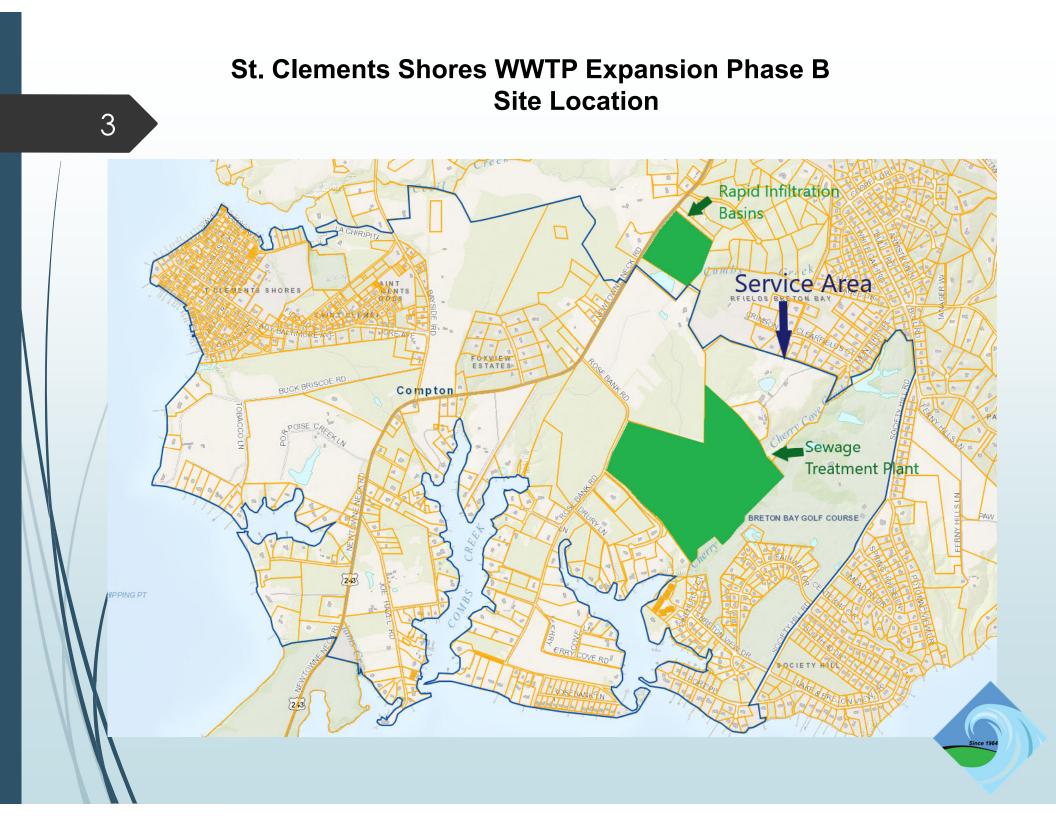
Bay Restoration Fund (BRF)	\$ 7,713,167
MetCom Expansion Reserves	1,780,151
MetCom Debt Service (Prior Approved)	1,986,649
MetCom Debt Service (New)	1,600,000
TOTAL SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATON:	\$13,079,967

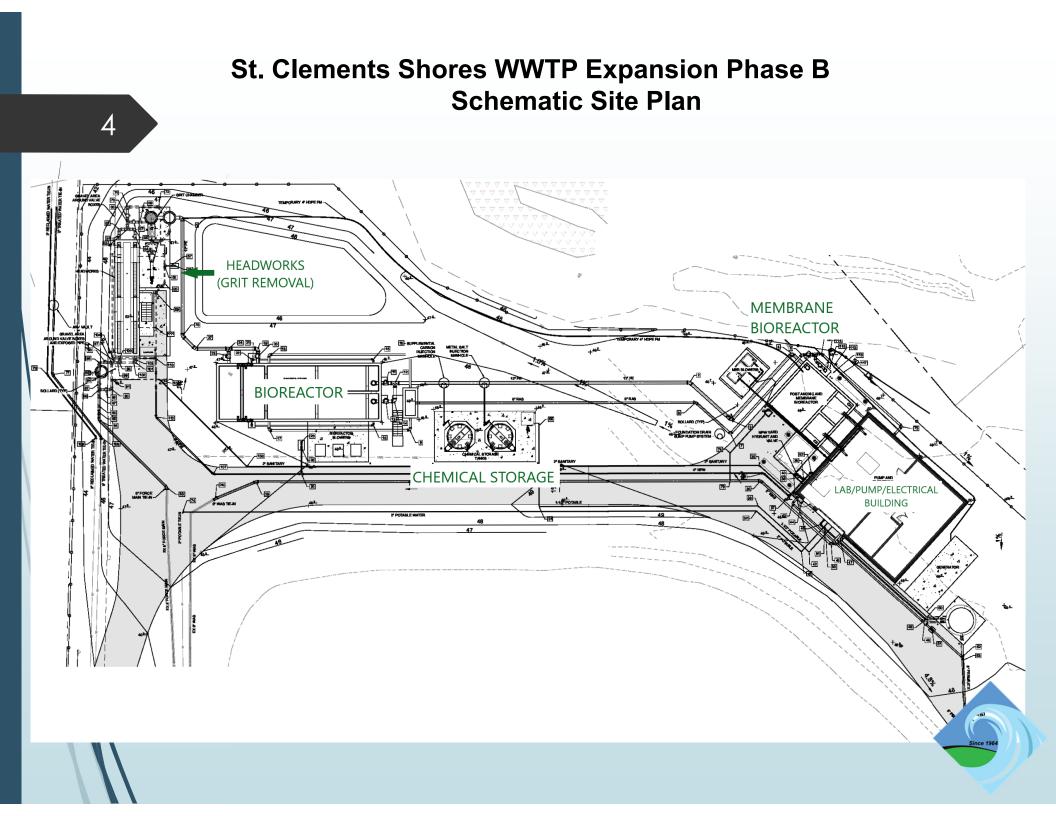
Place of Meeting: 23121 Camden Way, California, Maryland, 20619 Date: July 11, 2023 Time: 2:00 p.m.

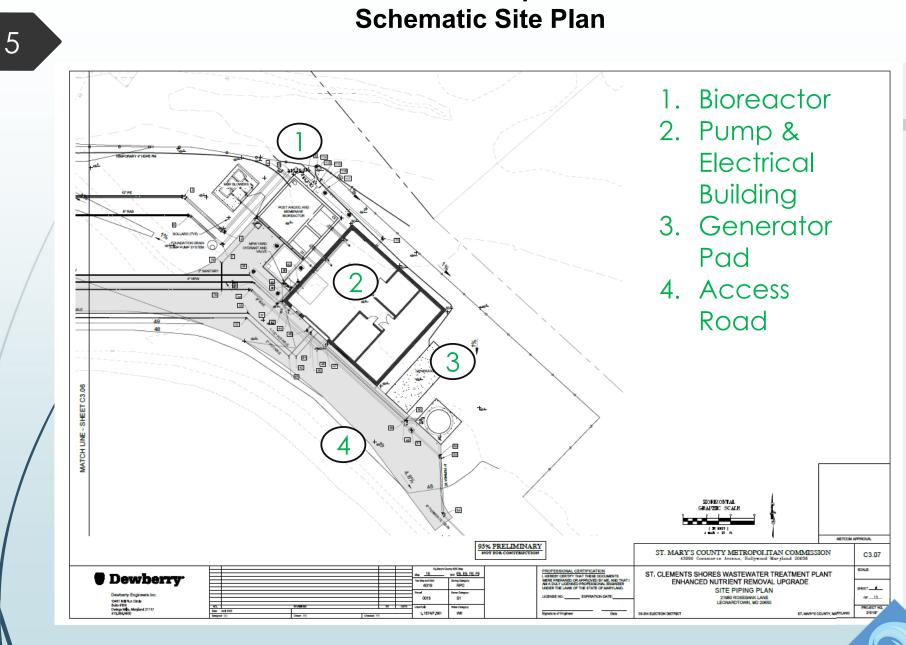
All interested persons are invited to observe the Public Hearing via the live stream link found at <u>www.metcom.org</u>. A public comment phone line will be opened immediately following the presentation. Call 301-298-1561 x 454043. Written comments and questions may also be submitted to <u>MetCom's</u> administrative offices at: 23121 Camden Way, California, MD 20619 or emailed comments should be sent to Budget@metcom.org. The record for this hearing will close at 4:30 p.m. on July 25, 2023 and all written comments and questions must be received on or before that date.



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St. Clements Shores WWTP Expansion Phase B Schematic Site Plan

Since 19

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The Commission has received the information it needs which includes the Opinion of Probable Cost that the Maryland Department of the Environment reviewed on June 13, 2023. At present, we are awaiting a final Eligibility Determination on the State-approved treatment technology which will upgrade the wastewater treatment facility to an Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) standard.

The new Micro-Bioreactor (MBR) Technology is 8-25% less costly than the alternatives and is more advantageous for several reasons: less infrastructure is required, the facility has a smaller building footprint, it is more operator friendly with auto-clean technology, requires less process oversight, will utilize less chemicals and is a much simpler treatment process.

In order to receive approval from the Maryland Department of the Environment, the full budget authority for the project is required as a part of the FY 2024 Capital Improvement Budget, which includes a 25% project contingency of almost \$4M.

In order to increase the project budget and funding sources, today's Public Hearing for a Supplemental Appropriation is being held as approved by the Metropolitan Commission Board on June 22, 2023. the Supplemental Appropriation includes:

Bay Restoration Funding MetCom Direct Charges MetCom Debt Service Supplemental Appropriation \$ 7,713,167
\$ 1,780,151
\$ 3,586,649
\$ 13,079,967
\$ 13,079,967
Construction / Inspection / Admin Construction Match / Contingencies
\$ 13,079,967
\$ New debt = \$1,600,000 (\$3,586,649-\$1,986,649)

With the proposed ENR technology, an estimated 70% of the total project cost of \$23.6M should be eligible to be funded via grants.

It is important to note that the Sewer System Improvement Charge and the Sewer Capital Contribution Charge were approved to remain flat in FY2024. After incorporating this additional appropriation, there will be no impact to the current FY 2024 rates and charges as the potential new debt amount of \$1.6M is not substantive.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD BEGINS NOW

All persons were invited to attend the Public Hearing. The hearing may also be viewed by live stream @ <u>www.metcom.org</u>.

The opportunity to provide comment at this time is now available via a dedicated phone line. Please *call us at 301.298.1561* extension 454043 to record your comment(s) during the next ten (10) minutes.

Written comments may also be submitted in person or via email @ <u>budget@metcom.org</u>



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The public record for this Public Hearing will remain open until close of business 7/25/2023

Written comments may be submitted to MetCom's Administrative Office at:

23121 Camden Way California, MD 20619

or email to: budget@metcom.org

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