An EPA Regional Manager, Alexis Strauss, confirmed that the EPA "did not specifically require the City to purchase a vactor truck” and that the EPA will only require the City to “annually assess, in their annual Sanitary Sewer Overflow report, whether the purchase of this equipment would be useful in mitigating the impacts of spills."  The Sewer System Maintenance Plan provides an alternative for flush water removal:  "All flush water should be contained and subsequently pumped to the nearest sanitary sewer **or** removed by vactor truck."

Oakland has 1 vactor truck for every 65,000 residents.  Purchasing a vactor for 10,600 residents may be imprudent.  Renting, sharing or additional options might be explored (although staff does not feel sharing with Oakland staff would be workable).  MTRC discussions did not result in a viable alternative to purchase.

Exhibit 9 of the MTRC report indicates "it was previously committed that the city would purchase this equipment in FY 13/14".