



METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

**Mercer Island
Community Center
Room 104**

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

Start 10:00

**Meeting adjourned
11:40 am**

1. MWWPAAC Chair's Report – Scott Thomasson, Chair

- a. Welcome and Introductions
- b. Quorum
- c. Approval of March meeting summary (action item)

2. Wastewater Treatment Division Director's Report- Pam Elardo, P.E., Director, Wastewater Treatment Division

2016 Sewer Rate

- The Executive transmitted his 2016 proposed sewer rate and capacity charge to the Council on April 16. Recommended sewer rate for 2016 is \$42.03 per month, no increase from the current 2015 rate.
- Copy of MWWPAAC's rate recommendation letter to the Executive was enclosed with the rate transmittal package.
- Tim Aratani is here today to give you a summary (a little later in the agenda) of the rate package as transmitted to Council.
- Executive noted in his transmittal letter that current rate projections for 2017 and 2018 are below what was projected for this period in last November. This creates an opportunity for evaluating alternative capital financing strategies prior to submittal of the next rate package in April 2016.
- The Executive will also provide a written response to MWWPAAC's letter.

Status of WaterWorks

- Transportation, Economy and Environment Committee (TrEE) considered WaterWorks legislation yesterday and recommended approval.
- The ordinance and guidelines that are based on MWWPAAC's recommendation now goes to full Council for approval on Monday, April 27th.
- Guidelines were amended at the April 1st RWQC to include three MWWPAAC members on the grant ranking committee.
- The membership of the grant ranking committee in the legislation Council will consider are on 4/27 is:

- Three (3) King County resident representatives from within the King County wastewater service area
- One (1) water quality technical specialist
- Three (3) representatives from the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC), one each representing Seattle, participant cities other than Seattle, and participant sewer districts; and
- Two (2) King County Council representatives
- At yesterday's TrEE meeting, there was some discussion by the Councilmembers on what type of projects could be funded under WaterWorks (e.g., rural areas versus benefit within our service area).
- The WaterWorks legislation is not on consent for the 27th at full Council to allow for additional discussion by the Councilmembers if desired.

Council Approves Work Plan for CSO Expert Review Panel

- On April 13, Council gave final approval to the work plan for the CSO Expert Review Panel.
- WTD is in the process of negotiating the first Work Order with the consultant that will cover review and recommendations on the Georgetown Project.
- Tentative schedule for the first workshop with the Expert Review Panel is the first week of May.
- If negotiations on the work order go quickly, the anticipated timeline for the Expert Review Panel's Georgetown review is late April through early July.

Bacterial Water Quality Standards for the Georgetown Facility

- WTD requested that Department of Ecology determine which bacteria water quality standards will apply to the discharge from the future Georgetown Wet Weather Treatment Station that will discharge into the Duwamish River.
- In March, Ecology notified WTD that the Marine Secondary Bacterial Standards will apply, which are less difficult and expensive to meet than the Marine Primary Bacterial Standards.
- This determination may also prompt reconsideration of applicable bacteria standards and resultant permit effluent limits for the existing Henderson/MLK combined sewer overflow (CSO) treatment/storage facility.
- This will assist King County in consistently meeting permit limits.

Careers in Clean Water Event at South Plant and Rainier Valley

- On March 21, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) staff spent a day with high school students to help them learn about possible careers with WTD.
- A diverse group of students from the Vietnamese Friendship Association, Asian Counseling Referral Services, and Kent Meridian High School participated.
- Students travelled to South Treatment Plant in Renton and the Rainier Valley CSO control project site in Seattle to take part in short job exposure sessions, including hands-on activities with a variety of WTD staff—from electricians to engineers.
- Participants are eligible to apply for WTD internships in summer 2015.

- Additional career events will be held in Bellevue, at South Plant, and at the Brightwater Education and Community Center later this year.

3. Subcommittee Chair's Reports

a. Engineering and Planning Subcommittee

- i. CSO Update- Long Term Control Plan
- ii. CSI Program Update: conceptual projects to address identified capacity needs
- iii. I/I Task Force formation and scope of work
- iv. RWSP Policy Review- Status Table

b. Rates and Finance Subcommittee

- i. Sewer rate update
- ii. Accelerated budget schedule
- iii. RWSP Policy Review- Water Quality Protection & Asset Management Policies

c. Advisory Committee on Sewage Disposal Agreements

- i. There was no subcommittee meeting in March

4. RWSP Policy Review- Draft revisions to forward to RWQC (Policies: I/I, Asset Management and Water Quality)

Lisa Tobin, Engineering and Planning Subcommittee Chair, reviewed the RWSP policy for I/I and Asset Management. The I/I and Water Quality policies were approved with no changes. Members agreed to not recommend, to RWQC, the financial policy section of the Asset Management policies. Policies 1 through 5 of the Asset Management policies were approved and policy 6 was stricken and tabled for future discussions.

5. Moving Toward a Lean Culture- Pam, Elardo, P.E., WTD Division Director

Pam presented on WTD's efforts to move towards a Lean culture a newer initiative being taken on by the County as a whole. Also discussed was WTD's new mission, and core values with an opportunity for MWPAAC to provide input.

6. 2016 Executive Sewer Rate Proposal- Tim Aratani, WTD

Tim Aratani updated MWPAAC on the 2016 Executive Sewer Rate and Capacity Charge Proposal. Also discussed was the rate letter to the Council which will be drafted by Jack Broyles and Maria Coe, Rates and Finance subcommittee chair and vice-chair respectively, based on discussions with the Rates and Finance subcommittee.

7. Debt Review Team Update

The debt review team gave an update on the progress of the meetings. A draft of the consultant's report on debt will be delivered in May and emailed to MWPAAC members.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

The next full MWPAAC meeting is May 27, 2015, at the Tukwila Community Center