

METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

**Tukwila Community Center,
Tukwila, WA**

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

**Start 10 a.m.
Adjourned 11:40 a.m.**

1. MWPAAAC Chair's Report – Pam Carter

- Welcome and Introductions
- Determine Quorum
- Approval of August Meeting Summary (action item)

Everyone introduced themselves.

A quorum was not in attendance. Approval of the August meeting summary will be carried over to the October meeting.

Pam provided highlights from the Sept. 6 RWQC meeting which included:

- A report on Wastewater Treatment Division's System Metrics in response to Ordinance 18538
- Final report of the AECOM Independent Assessment
- Executive response to the Final AECOM Independent Assessment
- Wastewater Treatment Division's response to the final AECOM Independent Assessment
- Amendments to the West Point reporting requirements
 - Amending the reporting requirement for the quarterly progress report to include actions taken to date to implement the AECOM recommendations
 - New reporting requirements:
 - An Implementation Plan on how WTD will implement the 98 recommendations
 - A report on staff retention at West Point and a hotline to report concerns

2. Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) Director's Report including WTD Response to and Implementation of AECOM Recommendations, Mark Isaacson, WTD Division Director

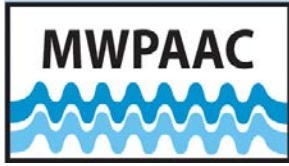
Mark Isaacson shared that the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) is grateful for the insights gained from the County Council's independent review. Moving forward on the recommendations, WTD will improve its operations and service to the ratepayers while protecting its employees and the environment.

In terms of the four recommendations by AECOM, as well as additional items, WTD will undertake the following:

Implement a life safety management program

1. By January, WTD will complete evaluation of the entire hydraulic system for life safety issues (flooding, electrocution) and complete in 2018:
 - a. Written operating procedures

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METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

- b. Specific training for the equipment for operations staff
 - c. Specific maintenance repair and replacement training
 - d. Strict management of change for all non-in-kind equipment changes
 - e. Quality assurance measures for inspections
2. Employee safety is paramount with tunnel access procedures that have been put into place since February:
 - a. 250 MGD -- operator stationed at the emergency bypass gate
 - b. 250 MGD plus 3 Raw Sewage Pumps – plant wide alert
 - c. 330 MGD – buddy system for all entry into the tunnels for emergent work
 - d. 440 MGD – no access to the tunnels

Conduct emergency response training

1. WTD hired a supervisor in charge of emergency training for all shift supervisors.
 - a. Technical training to proficiency in operating the system
 - b. Training linked to Life Safety Management outcomes for the equipment
2. WTD is currently upgrading its alarm system for all three plants to better inform the shift supervisors of the high priority alarms – ensure priority alarms are clearly depicted – by this upcoming January.
3. WTD is implementing a hydraulic simulator program with completion expected in January.
4. Working on the culture regarding use of the bypass gate.

Conduct integrated evaluation to address plant constraints and address longer term solutions

1. WTD is working on Council's 50 year review – what conditions have changed, what WTD can do in the immediate future, and what takes further study – due January 2018.
2. WTD is also performing an evaluation of the Asset Management program as directed by Council to identify any needed changes in approach on maintaining and replacing aging equipment – due January 2018.
3. A flows/loads analysis by the end of 2018 will help us better prioritize investments to manage flows within the system and at the plant.
4. Two engineering studies are also underway:
 - a. Add redundancy at the Raw Sewage Pumps by either modifying or replacing with electric pumps

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METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

- b. Evaluate the feasibility of installing a passive weir for the influent control structure that allows the high volume flows to automatically access the emergency bypass gate – requires approval from Ecology.

Optimize Capital Improvements

1. Evaluating all 108 mitigation strategies for feasibility, timing
 - a. By mid-November, WTD will identify broad categories of early actions, mid-term projects, and long-range response for each of the 98 strategies.
 - b. By February 15, WTD will have a refined plan with more specific dates, feasibility, and timing for each of the strategies.
2. Capital program is being restructured to ensure high priority investments
 - a. Asset management program
 - b. Capacity constraints
 - c. Operational efficiencies
 - d. Regulatory requirements
 - e. Resource recovery
3. **WaterWorks Grant Program – Status Overview, Elizabeth Loudon, WTD WaterWorks Program Manager**

Elizabeth Loudon provided an update on WaterWorks III that included the following:

- Purpose of WaterWorks
 - Provide funding for projects that improve water quality in the WTD service area
 - Leverage or complement the mission of King County's wastewater treatment system
 - Promote community involvement and environmental stewardship
- Funding Source
 - 2017-2018 – \$4.5 million
- Two Tracks
 - WaterWorks Competitive Grants
 - Council-allocated Grants
- Main Changes
 - 1 grant cycle for 2 years
 - 2-step application process
 - Grant management database
- Review of the King County WaterWorks Online Grant Portal
- Project Criteria
 1. Create a benefit to or improvement of water quality within WTD's service area and benefit its ratepayers
 2. Demonstrate that water quality benefits are related to WTD's regional water quality responsibilities
- Evaluation Criteria
 1. Water quality benefits (60%)

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METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

- 2. Implementation strength and certainty of success (20%)
- 3. Community involvement and support (20%)
 - Equity and Social Justice Component
 - Timelines
 - Types of Projects
 - Blog Stories

4. Subcommittee Reports

September 7, 2017, Rates & Finance:

- West Point Quarterly Report Update
- WaterWorks Program Update

September 7, 2017, Comprehensive Engineering and Planning:

- I/I Program Update – results of interviews with agencies

5. General Announcements

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

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