

Engineering and Planning  
Subcommittee  
June 4, 2020

Clean Water Plan  
SEPA Scoping Comments from MWPAAC

# **May 27, 2020 MWPAAC Directive**

- Draft Clean Water Plan SEPA Scoping comment letter for action at 6/24 MWPAAC meeting
- Executive Board to request extension of June 19 SEPA Scoping comment deadline, likely to July 19

# Today's Objectives

- Discuss Clean Water Plan SEPA Scoping process
- Identify issues for draft MWPAAC comment letter
  - Identify areas of the Clean Water Plan we feel are not being addressed or fully addressed
  - Identify environmental topics we feel are not being addressed or fully addressed
  - Initiate MWPAAC's involvement in the development and review of the EIS through a MWPAAC comment letter

## SEPA Scoping

- The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process identifies and analyzes environmental impacts associated with governmental decisions.
- Environmental review of Clean Water Plan under SEPA is anticipated to be a non-project, or Programmatic, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Plan.
- Comments accepted between **May 20 and 5:00 PM on June 19, 2020**.
- Regional Engagement Activities include:
  - ▶ Online open house
  - ▶ Mail/email distribution of informational content
- **To submit a comment:**
  - ▶ **Email to:** [cleanwaterplanSEPA@kingcounty.gov](mailto:cleanwaterplanSEPA@kingcounty.gov)
  - ▶ **Mail to:**  
Katherine Fischer, Environmental Programs  
King County Wastewater Treatment Division  
201 S Jackson Street, MS: KSC-NR-0505  
Seattle, WA 98104-3855



# SEPA Scoping Overview

*Paraphrased from Dept. of Ecology's SEPA Handbook*

- Scoping purpose:
  - To identify alternatives to be analyzed in the EIS and to narrow the focus of the EIS to significant environmental issues.
  - Notifies the public and agencies that an EIS is being prepared and initiates their involvement in the process
- Scoping notices should provide a thorough description of what's being proposed, possible alternatives, and the environmental elements to be addressed in the draft EIS
- Lead agencies must notify the public that scoping has begun and allow time for public and agency comment
- Agencies and the public are encouraged to provide comments on the proposal and the scope of the EIS, including commenting on alternatives, mitigation measures, and probable significant adverse impacts
- After reviewing the comments received during scoping, the lead agency determines the scope of the EIS, including the alternatives and the elements of the built and natural environment that will be analyzed. The alternatives selected must include the proposal, the no-action alternative, and other reasonable alternatives

# **Environmental Impact of Alternatives in the Following Categories**

- Asset Management
- Regional Wastewater Treatment Plants
- Combined Sewer Overflows and Stormwater
- Wastewater Conveyance (Pipe/Pump Station Capacity)
- Resilience to Natural Disasters/Climate Change
- Pollution Source Control
- Legacy Pollution
- Resource Recovery (Wastewater, Biosolids, Energy)

## Asset Management, Resiliency, and Redundancy

- **Run to Failure Asset Management**
- **Status Quo Asset Management**
- **Better Asset Management**
- **Best Asset Management**
- Adaptive Sea Level Rise

## Wastewater Treatment

- **Status Quo Treatment**
- **Nutrients - Individual Permits**
- **Nutrients - Bubble Permit**
- **Nutrient Trading**
- **Advanced Treatment**
- **Building Scale Decentralized Treatment**
- **Decentralized Satellite Treatment Plants**
- **Combined CSO/WW Treatment**
- Status Quo Onsite Septic System Program
- Far Reaching Onsite Septic System Program

## Combined Sewer Overflow and Stormwater

- Status Quo CSO Program
- Modified Consent Decree
- Alternative Compliance to CSO Control
- Stormwater Treatment at Existing Facilities
- Stormwater Treatment at New Facilities
- Stormwater Retrofit Fund

## Wastewater Conveyance

- Status Quo Conveyance
- 5-year Conveyance Level of Service
- I/I - Point of Sale Inspections
- I/I - Peak Flow Standards
- Smart Utility

## Pollution Source Control/ Product Stewardship

- Status Quo Source Control Program
- Expanded Pollution Elimination and Control Focus
- State/Federal Source Control Approach

## Legacy Pollution

- Status Quo Sediment Management
- Accelerated Sediment Management
- Far Reaching Legacy Pollution Program

## Resource Recovery

- Status Quo Biosolids and Energy Program
- Enhanced Biosolids and Energy Program
- Advanced Biosolids and Energy Program

# Environmental Factors

- Earth (geology, soils, erosion and landslide hazards)
- Air (quality, odors, climate change)
- Water (surface/groundwater, quality, quantity, stormwater)
- Plants and Animals (habitat/diversity, ESA)
- Energy and Natural Resources (use, efficiency, renewable, conservation)
- Environmental Health (noise, hazardous materials)
- Land and Shoreline Use (relationship to existing plans, pop. growth)
- Transportation
- Public Services and Utilities
- Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice including Treaty Rights

# Discussion