

## Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee

King Street Center, 201 South Jackson Street, MS KSC-NR-0512 Seattle, WA 98104 206-263-6070

MEMBERS:

Alderwood Water and Wastewater District

City of Algona

City of Auburn

City of Bellevue

City of Black Diamond

City of Bothell

City of Brier

City of Carnation

Cedar River Water and Sewer District

Coal Creek Utility District

Cross Valley Water District

Highlands Sewer District

City of Issaguah

City of Kent

City of Kirkland

City of Lake Forest Park

Lakehaven Utility District

City of Mercer Island

Midway Sewer District

Northeast Sammamish Sewer District

Northshore Utility District

Olympic View Water and Sewer District

City of Pacific

City of Redmond

City of Renton

Ronald Wastewater District

Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District

City of Seattle

Skyway Water and Sewer District

Soos Creek Water and Sewer District

Southwest Suburban Sewer District

City of Tukwila

Val Vue Sewer District

Vashon Sewer District

Woodinville Water District

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October 27, 2010

The Honorable Governor Gregoire 416 Sid Snyder Ave SW, Suite 200 PO Box 40002 Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Gregoire:

We are writing to offer our unanimous support of an amendment to RCW 35.58.210 to allow designated representatives of water-sewer district commissions to be seated as voting members of the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC).

As you may know, the MWPAAC, composed of cities, counties, and watersewer districts, advises the metropolitan council in matters relating to the performance of the water pollution abatement functions as it affects the constituent sewer service providers within the boundaries of the metropolitan council.

Current law provides that the elected leadership of cities and counties may delegate representation on the committee, while water-sewer districts must be represented by elected commissioners. That construct is awkward, limits the ability of water-sewer districts to be ably and consistently represented, and may deny the committee a great deal of useful expertise and perspective in regard to technical, environmental, and governance matters.

The opportunity presents itself to remedy the current imbalance in representation via a simple amendment to RCW 35.58.210. By striking in the first sentence the phrase "who shall be a commissioner of such a water-sewer district," the situation described herein can be easily improved.

At the September 22, 2010 meeting of the MWPAAC, the committee voted unanimously to support the change in law and, further, directed the Chair to notify the Governor's office and the Legislature of its support of the proposed change.

We stand ready to provide additional information or support should it be useful or necessary. Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

**Scott Thomasson** 

Chair