



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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April 26, 2016

Pam Carter

Chair, Metropolitan Water Pollution

Abatement Advisory Committee

c/o King County Wastewater Treatment Division

201 S Jackson St., MS KSC-NR-0501

Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Ms. Carter:

Thank you for your March 23, 2016, letter on behalf of the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC), which provided recommendations on the Wastewater Treatment Division's (WTD) 2017 sewer rate proposal.

Over the last year, at MWPAAC's suggestion, WTD's Finance staff evaluated financial debt practices to assess levels of debt and the impacts to ratepayers. The 2017 sewer rate proposal incorporates MWPAAC's recommendations regarding WTD's capital financing and levels of current and future debt.

On April 20, the 2017 sewer rate proposal was submitted to the County Council, which will result in less future debt. This proposal not only reduces total debt by \$582 million by 2030; the proposed 5.2 percent rate increase is also the lowest two-year rate increase since 2001. While implementing these changes, WTD projects an average annual rate increases of only 2.6 percent from 2017 through 2030.

With your continued involvement and support, I am confident that we can successfully sustain WTD's environmental mission while also carefully managing costs and strengthening its financial capacity for future challenges. MWPAAC's continued commitment to a partnership with WTD for effective wastewater management is very important.

Pam Carter
April 26, 2016
Page 2

If you have any questions regarding the 2017 rate and capacity charge proposal, please contact Sharman Herrin, Government Relations Administrator in the WTD in the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, at 206-477-5376 or sharman.herrin@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dow Constantine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

cc: Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee Members
Dwight Dively, Director, Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget
Christie True, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)
Gunars Sreibers, Acting Division Director, Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD),
DNRP
Tim Aratani, Finance Manager, WTD, DNRP