

Agenda

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING

450 - 110th Avenue NE (City Hall)
Conference Room 1E-108
Thursday, April 17, 2014
6:30PM Regular Meeting

	<u>Ppt.</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Page</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Action</u>
1. Call to Order – Brad Helland, Chair				
2. Oral Communications Note: Three-minute limit per person, maximum of three persons for each side of topic. Additional comments may be heard at Agenda Item 8.				
3. Approval of Agenda *			1	X
4. Approval of Minutes * <ul style="list-style-type: none">• April 3, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes			2-9	X
5. Reports & Summaries <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conservation & Outreach Events & Volunteer Opportunity *• ESC Calendar/Council Calendar *			10 11-14	
6. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shoreline Master Program Update <i>Carol Helland, Land Use - Director</i> <i>Lacey Hatch, Assistant City Attorney</i>• CIP Update: Present Preliminary CIP & Request Endorsement <i>Pam Maloney, P.E. Water Resources Planning Manager</i>• Wastewater Claims Discussion <i>Joe Harbour, Assistant Director-Operations & Maintenance</i> <i>Tony Marcum, Operations & Maintenance Manager</i>	No No Yes	20 Min 45 Min 45 Min	15-17 18-19 20	 X
7. Commissions Report Out				
8. Director's Office Report				
9. Continued Oral Communications				
10. Adjournment				

* Materials included in packet
Materials separate from packet

Wheelchair accessible. American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation available upon request by calling (425) 452-6466 (v) at least 48 hours in advance. Assistance for the hearing-impaired: Dial 711.

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday
April 3, 2014
6:30 p.m.

Conference Room 1E-113
Bellevue City Hall
Bellevue, Washington

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chair Helland, Vice Chair Swenson; Commissioners Cowan, Mach, Wang

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Howe and Morin

- **OTHERS PRESENT:** Paul Bucich, Asst. Director, Engineering; Pam Maloney, Utility Water Resources Planning Manager; Dave Perry, Sr. Engineering Technician; Regan Sidie, Design Services Manager; Doug Lane, Water & Wastewater Systems Engineer; Scott Taylor, Construction Services Manager; Lucy Liu, Asst. Director, Resource Management & Customer Service

MINUTES TAKER: Laurie Hugdahl

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Helland at 6:33 p.m.

2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

David Plummer, 14414 NE 14th Place, Bellevue, WA, stated that the meeting notice and available background information for the public meeting tonight was entirely inadequate to permit citizens to review the proposed projects and make informed inputs to the Commission and City Council. He asserted that each project sheet should include a list of references and the name of one or more staff members that can be contacted with questions. He urged the ESC to defer any decision regarding the following projects since there is no rationale for them: D-64, D-94, D-81, D-86, D-104, D-105, S-16, S-24, S-52, S-60, S-59, and S-63. Additionally, Mr. Plummer stated that the Commission should request that staff investigate and report on the possibility of reducing Bellevue's water allocation from CWA. He stated that the City pays CWA for about 35% more water than is used each year. He asserted that some of what the City doesn't use is sold to other municipalities, but he doesn't think the City should be buying so much water from CWA when it is not needed. Lastly, Mr. Plummer stated that the Commission should request the staff to develop and publish projected impacts on utility rates for all these proposed projects so that the public can truly be engaged.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by Commissioner Swenson, seconded by Commissioner Cowan, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

March 20, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Wang referred to the list of attendees on the first page of the minutes and noted that Lucy Liu's name should be included.

Motion made by Commissioner Wang, seconded by Commissioner Swenson, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

5. **REPORTS AND SUMMARIES**

- **ESC Calendar/Council Calendar**

Asst. Director Bucich referred to the tentative ESC calendar and stated that he will not be here for the April 17 meeting. Joe Harbour, Operations Manager for Utilities, will be facilitating that meeting. There will also be another special meeting on the budget on May 29.

In July there will be a CIP tour, but there is a need for either a meeting following the tour or a second meeting in July just for discussion. Another option would be to have the tour on a Saturday morning. After some discussion, there was consensus to have just one meeting on July 17 with the tour first and then the meeting afterwards.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Review Proposed Changes to Water CIP Investments**
Pam Maloney, Water Resources Planning Manager
Regan Sidie, Design Services Manager
Dave Perry, Senior Engineering Technician
Scott Taylor, Construction Services Manager
Doug Lane, Water and Wastewater Systems Engineer

Ms. Maloney stated she would review changes from last time and then review Water projects focusing on those projects where the ESC's input is most desired. Staff will be bringing back a summary of the financial implications for the proposed changes for each utility at the next meeting on April 17.

Chair Helland asked if this was the information Mr. Plummer was concerned about. Ms. Maloney stated that it was. Chair Helland asked which projects Mr. Plummer was referring to. Ms. Maloney stated that Mr. Plummer had listed most of the projects staff has been discussing with the ESC. Chair Helland commented that it was unfortunate that Mr. Plummer had left the meeting and was not present to hear this discussion. Commissioner Wang referred to Mr. Plummer's comments about the City buying too much water and said he thought this was a contract commitment. Asst. Director Bucich concurred. Chair Helland asked if Mr. Plummer's assertion that the water gets sold to someone else is accurate. Asst. Director Bucich stated that it is not. Commissioner Wang requested that someone provide a response to Mr. Plummer. Asst. Director Bucich said staff would work on getting a response to him.

D-New Stormwater Pipeline Video Inspection Enhancement – This sheet will replace the one from last time. It states that the City will video inspect 100 miles of critical pipe over a five-year period rather than 50 miles over three years. The information is needed to determine how much money will be needed in the R&R account for replacement of the stormwater system. Staff will recommend reducing contributions to the R&R fund for the duration of this inspection program to offset it. Chair Helland expressed concern that slowing contributions to the R&R might put the City in a pinch in the future. Ms. Maloney replied that staff is planning to assess the situation after two years. Mr. Bucich said he feels this investment will give staff the right amount of information to determine how much should be put away for system replacement. He commented that the City could continue to put in what they are now and raise the rates or take a temporary break from contributions. The Commission generally agreed with the need for the program.

D-64 Storm Water System Conveyance Infrastructure Rehabilitation - Staff is proposing increasing the current budget by 5% per year to repair the anticipated increase in number of found defects in pipes (as opposed to 10% proposed last time). Ms. Maloney explained that this seems more dependable to the ratepayers until we have more data. Chair Helland asked how the budget for the out years affects current years' rates. Ms. Maloney explained that staff tries to keep the rates as smooth as possible. There was general agreement with the proposed change.

WATER

W-NEW Increase Water Pressure in Crossroads Area (Create 560 Water Pressure Zone) - Staff is recommending not including this in the proposed 2015-21 CIP. The water pressures in that area meet all regulatory requirements even though they are marginal (below 40 psi). In 2012 the City had a consultant analyze what could be done to improve the situation, which is a consequence of the elevation of storage tanks built long ago. It is not

possible to raise the pressure of the whole zone because some customers would become too high. In order to create a higher pressure zone the City would need to add new pumps and valves which would cost over \$15 million. Staff feels that the cost and the benefits need to be better fleshed out before any recommendation to move this forward.

Chair Helland asked about the level of dissatisfaction of the public. Ms. Maloney said that the Council and staff receive a few calls every year.

Commissioner Wang asked about the impacts on another project relating to the East Operating Area. Ms. Maloney commented on the difference between pressure and flow. The people in Crossroads have a lot of water and storage; it's just not at a very high pressure. This project would not materially impact W-103.

Mr. Bucich explained that if the ESC concurred with the recommendation not to pursue this project at this time, staff would have two years to continue the conversation about the results of the water system plan outcome and the new modeling. He pointed out that this project can't really be phased once the construction begins.

Ms. Maloney distributed information from a consultant study that illustrated existing pressures. Another map showed improvements that would be required to improve the pressure for the area of concern. Ms. Maloney added that a lot of the houses in that area have older galvanized plumbing. There is some risk associated with increasing the pressure with older pipes. She commented that homes that have updated their plumbing have found that they can flow more water and the situation is improved, even at 30-40 psi pressure.

There was consensus to not include this in the recommended capital projects.

W-82 Fire Hydrant Standardization - Staff is recommending accelerating the program schedule and completing the 22 remaining hydrants more quickly. The ESC concurred with the recommendation.

Ms. Maloney then summarized the ESC's recommendations for each utility.

SEWER

Ms. Maloney stated that at the last meeting the ESC agreed with staff to accelerate the pump station rehabilitation program to two stations a year beginning in 2017, discontinue the sewer extensions program, adjust the minor CIP sewer program budget to accommodate investigating the sewer extensions, add a new program to investigate inflow and infiltration and do flow monitoring in areas where there are capacity concerns, add a new program to assess the condition of pressurized sewer force mains throughout

the systems and work the replacement of those into the long-term replacement program, and focus on Lake Washington for the inline lake line sewer replacement program.

Commissioner Wang cautioned against stating that the City could eliminate any future I&I problems in such a general, conclusive way because the City can't guarantee that there will be no more I&I. Ms. Maloney concurred.

STORMWATER:

The Commission agreed to video-inspect the most critical quarter of the stormwater system over the next few years, to begin to ramp up the stormwater repair program beginning in 2017, and to reduce Bellevue's contributions to flood control program because of increased contributions from King County Flood Zone District.

WATER

The ESC agreed to continue to study the merits of the 560 water pressure zone, but not propose it at this time as a capital project. The Commission also agreed to compress the schedule to complete the replacement of non-standard hydrants into a shorter period of time to get it done.

- Open Public Meeting on CIP
Paul Bucich, P.E., Assistant Director, Engineering

Chair Helland called to order the public meeting at 7:33 p.m. He noted that all the Commissioners were in attendance except Commissioners Howe and Morin. He reviewed the purpose of the public meeting and solicited public comments. Seeing none, the public meeting was closed at 7:35 p.m.

- 2013 Year-End Fiscal Reports for Water, Sewer, and Storm and Surface Water Utilities
Lucy Liu, Assistant Director Resource Management and Customer Service

Asst. Director Liu reported that all three utilities finished the year in good fiscal condition with higher than anticipated fund balances. The reasons for this are cost containment measures and unanticipated net revenues. Also, Council adopted financial policies direct utilities to maintain operating reserves to ensure uninterrupted services through revenue fluctuations. According to these financial policies, one-time revenues and fund balances above budget are to be transferred into the R&R accounts until such time that those accounts are sufficient to meet long-term infrastructure needs. Only then can fund balances above budget levels be used for rate relief. Asst. Director Liu then reviewed the financial performance for each fund highlighting the key areas where the actual results vary from the budget.

Water Utility: Both revenues and expenditures came in higher than budgeted. The revenues above budget (are largely due to higher than anticipated water sales) resulting from the warm, dry summer in 2013. Cost savings is also a key driver. Operating reserves for the Water Fund were projected to be below target levels. The ending fund balance above budget will be used to restore operating reserves back to target levels in the Water fund.

Sewer Utility: Revenues and expenditures both came in higher than budgeted, but to a much lesser degree than Water. The ending fund balance was slightly higher than budgeted. Key variances between budget and actual results were primarily from higher service revenues and operating costs savings. The expenditures for sewage treatment costs were also higher than anticipated.

Storm & Surface Water Utility: Both revenues and expenditures ended 2013 above budget. The bulk of the ending fund balance above budget was transferred to the Renewal and Replacement (R&R) fund for future infrastructure needs. Key variances from the budget included costs savings from, operations and legal settlement proceeds. A one-time recovery transfer of R&R was made in the amount of \$1.4 million.

Commissioner Wang requested that next time a beginning fund balance be added to the presentation next time.

- Utilities 2015-2020 Early Outlook Forecast
Lucy Liu, Assistant Director, Resource Management and Customer Service

Asst. Director Liu explained that Utilities functions are primarily funded by rates. The forecast for the three pipe utilities includes funding for operations, capital programs, and asset replacement. The Early Outlook Forecast is based on a status quo budget (assuming no new programs or changes to existing programs). In developing the budget, the goal is to find the optimal mix of programs and service levels to continue quality, reliable service delivery now and into the future. Utilities will continue to seek opportunities to explore efficiencies and process improvements, and to adjust programs and service levels where appropriate.

Ms. Liu presented projected rate increases for the six-year forecast period for each utility. She explained that the total monthly utility bill for all three utility services for a typical single-family residential customer is expected to increase by 8.1% or \$11.67 in 2015 (5.7% in 2016; 4.9% in 2017; 4.9% in 2018; 4.7% in 2019; and 4.7% in 2020).

Chair Helland asked if Metro is moving to an annual adjustment on the sewer wholesale rates. Ms. Liu explained that staff is anticipating that it will remain a biennial charge in 2015 for 2015-2016. For the forecast, an annual increase is assumed for 2017-2020. She explained that the financial policies direct

staff to pass charges directly to customers in the year that the expenses occur. Chair Helland thought there might be a better way to handle this in order to smooth the rate increases. Asst. Director Liu added that adding this to the rates in the year it occurs also helps customers understand why costs are going up.

Commissioner Wang asked about including the current budget in the graphic so one can see how much rates have already increased. Ms. Liu thought that was a good idea. She reviewed increases in 2014.

Commissioner Mach asked if the City adjusts the projected rate increase based on the previous year's performance. Ms. Liu said that the City does that. For example in Water the 2013 fund balance above budget was used to restore operating reserve levels. This is in the Early Outlook Forecast. Asst. Director Bucich commented that if the operating reserves were at the target level and the R&R fund was at the target level, any extra funds could be used to bring down rate increases. Asst. Director Liu then reviewed the forecast for 2015 by expense category.

Water: Major rate drivers were reviewed. Ms. Liu explained that in 2013-14 R&R reserves were used to help mitigate the rate impacts to customers. The rate increases projected for the capital program would restore rate revenues to levels that are sufficient to meet the capital needs. Chair Helland noted that the Commission had raised concerns that the City would have to pay more later to make up those reserves. He said he would like to see how much more we are paying now because of Council's decision to reduce utility rate increases at that time.

Commissioner Wang asked about going back a couple years and listing them side-by-side to compare. Ms. Liu indicated she would keep that in mind for next time.

Chair Helland clarified that he wants to know what the cost is (including lost interest and inflation) of reducing rates previously using the R&R funds and now restoring those R&R funds.

Sewer: Major rate drivers were reviewed. The City doesn't have rates from King County for sewage treatment yet. Once those are received, the forecast will be updated.

Chair Helland requested that the ESC have a discussion about policies related to increasing rates related to wholesales costs. He suggested that on off years rates should be gradually increased in advance based on anticipated wholesale costs to smooth the rate increases. Ms. Liu noted that this would require a policy change. There was consensus to bring this back for discussion.

Storm: Major rate drivers were reviewed. The capital program including R&R is a key rate driver.

Ms. Liu explained that the new forecast she will share on May 29 will be based on proposed operating and CIP budget proposals.

Chair Helland asked that Mr. Plummer's comments be sent to the ESC. Mr. Bucich indicated staff could do that. He commented that it was a shame that Mr. Plummer couldn't come to the previous meeting where there was so much detail given, and that he didn't stay to hear the discussion about this.

Chair Helland thanked staff for putting together all the materials for the public meeting and open house tonight.

7. COMMISSIONS REPORT OUT

Chair Helland said he wasn't able to go to the Downtown Livability Meeting last month due to family responsibilities.

8. DIRECTOR'S OFFICE REPORT

Asst. Director Bucich commented that there will be a vacancy on the Commission as Commission Cowan's term is ending. The application period ends April 14.

9. CONTINUED ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Utilities' Communications & Environmental Outreach Team Events and Volunteer Opportunities

June

- 1. Waterwise Garden Volunteer Work Party**
Location: Bellevue Botanical Garden
Date: June 4th & 18th, 1 pm to 3 pm
Staff: Patricia Burgess, x4127, pburgess@bellevuewa.gov
Karren Gratt, x6166, kgratt@bellevuewa.gov
- 2. Farmers Market @ Crossroads Bellevue**
Location: Crossroads Shopping Center East Parking Lot
Date: June 10th & 17th, time TBD
Staff: Karren Gratt, x6166, kgratt@bellevuewa.gov

July

- 1. Waterwise Garden Volunteer Work Party**
Location: Bellevue Botanical Garden
Date: July 2nd & 16th, 1 pm to 3 pm
Staff: Patricia Burgess, x4127, pburgess@bellevuewa.gov
Karren Gratt, x6166, kgratt@bellevuewa.gov
- 2. Bellevue Family 4th**
Location: Bellevue Downtown Park
Date: July 4th, 2 pm - fireworks
Staff: Karren Gratt, x6166, kgratt@bellevuewa.gov



2014

Tentative Environmental Services Commission Calendar

April 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

April

- 17** CIP Update: Present Preliminary CIP & Request ESC Endorsement (Pam/Dave)
Shoreline Master Program Update (Lacey H)
Wastewater Claims Discussion (Joe/Tony)

November

- 20** Water System Plan: Plan Findings & Recommendations (Doug Lane)

October 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

December

- 18** Water System Plan: Deliver Draft Plan (Doug Lane)

May 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

May

- 15** Utilities Budget Proposals (Lucy)
Water Cost of Service Results (Lucy)

November 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

- 29** Utilities Budget Proposals (Lucy)

June

- 19** Asset Mgmt. Annual Update - (Bill Heubach)
CPU Input on Draft Policies (Pam)
Water System Plan: Introduce Project & Review system analysis criteria & methods (Doug Lane)

June 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July

- 17** CIP Tour focused on proposed investments (Scott/Regan/Pam)
Water System Plan: Policy Review Started (Doug Lane)

July 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 15						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August

- 21** Recess

September

- 18** CPU: Status Briefing (Pam)
Water System Plan: Policy Review Continued

August 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 15						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October

- 16** Review Proposed Utilities Budget (Lucy)
Water System Plan: Results of system analysis (Doug Lane)

September 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

March 15						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November

- 20** Public Hearing on proposed Utilities Budget (Lucy)

2014 Pending – ESC:

Status Reports on the following issue will be made when there are significant development:

- Water Rate Design (Lucy)
- Shoreline Mgmt. Plan (Paul)
- Stormwater 101 (Paul)

Katie/2014 Calendars/Pending ESC Calendar

Updated 3/3/14

2014

Tentative Council Calendar

April 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

April

- 28** Consent: Motion to award construction of SE 60th St Rdway Embankment Stabilization (Regan/Paul)
 KC Waste Water Rate Update (Alison)

October 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

May 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

May

- 5** Consent: Resolution authorizing PSA with MWH for Midlakes PS Capacity (Paul/Regan)
 Consent: Motion to Award AC Main Replacement 2014 to Kar-Vel Construction (Paul)

November 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

June 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

- 19** Consent: Motion to Award Construction of Commercial Water Meter Replacement 2014 Phase 1 (Paul/Regan)
 Consent: Motion to Award Construction of E. Creek/Richards Creek Stream Restoration (Paul)

December 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

July 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 15						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 15						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

September 14						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

March 15						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Key:

Agenda item description – **Consent:** Waste Reduction & Recycling Grant
Assistant Director's Name or designated staff that will
be available to attend Mayor's meeting
Staff Name – material content expert

2014 Pending Council

Bellevue/Redmond Consolidation of Sewer Agreements
Prof Svcs Agrmt Wagner Architects for Eastgate Yard Maintenance (Regan)

Katie/2014 Calendars/Pending Council Calendar

Updated 3/12/14



MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 17, 2014

TO: Chair Helland and Members of the Environmental Services Commission

FROM: Carol Helland, Land Use Director 452-2724
Development Services Department

SUBJECT: Status Update on Council Completion of the Shoreline Master Program

The Shoreline Master Program Update is perhaps the most significant environmental policy/code amendment effort by the City since the adoption of the Critical Areas Overlay in 2006. The SMP applies to shorelines as they are defined by state-law. Shoreline Overlay District jurisdiction includes identified lake and/or stream waters, lands underlying those waters, the area 200 feet landward of the ordinary high watermark of identified waters, plus associated floodways, floodplains, and wetlands. In Bellevue, the Shoreline Overlay District jurisdiction specifically applies to the following waterbodies (including their associated wetlands/floodplains):

1. Lake Washington, including Mercer Slough upstream to Interstate 405;
2. Lake Sammamish;
3. Lower Kelsey Creek; and
4. Phantom Lake.

Like the Critical Areas Overlay, the Shoreline Master Program is an “overlay” that applies to properties located within the above-referenced shoreline jurisdiction, and modifies or augments the underlying zoning requirements that are generally applicable to development city-wide. The SMP is, however, a unique regulation in that it ultimately requires Department of Ecology approval following a showing that the requirements of the Shoreline Management Act (SMA) and Shoreline Guidelines (Guidelines) have been met.

Approximately 1,500 properties are located within shoreline jurisdiction city-wide. These properties are developed primarily for single family use, which is the first-listed shoreline use priority under the SMA. However, properties affected by the shoreline policies and regulations also include commercial properties (such as Belfield Office Park), recreational properties (such as the Meydenbauer and Newport Shores yacht clubs) and public properties (including Parks Department holdings such as Meydenbauer Bay Park and Marina, and Utility and Transportation department facilities). Therefore, it was necessary for the Planning Commission to develop a SMP that addressed the wide range of uses found on the Bellevue shoreline and the associated shoreline development that was anticipated to support the intended function of those uses.

The Planning Commission worked diligently to create a document that they described in their transmittal and May 2013 presentation to Council as “balanced and user friendly.” In order to achieve these objectives, the Commission did not take a cookie-cutter approach to developing a plan that looked like something approved in another shoreline community. Rather, the Planning Commission developed a document that was Bellevue-appropriate and responsive to the applicable state requirements in a way that was tailored to Bellevue shoreline conditions and integrates seamlessly into the Bellevue Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Code.

The SMP Update recommended by the Planning Commission includes six new environmental designations (which are the shoreline jurisdiction equivalent to zoning designations), and unique development regulations applicable to the range of uses found on Bellevue shorelines. Residential properties are given a high priority in the SMA and constitute the single most prevalent city-wide use on Bellevue's shoreline. As a result, the Planning Commission focused considerable attention on the regulations addressing residential property development. The Planning Commission recommendation also includes new approaches to the regulation of existing and non-conforming uses that would be unique to shoreline properties, and to the regulation of shoreline modifications, which would be permitted to occur in the water or at the interface with the ordinary high water mark.

Ultimately, the City Council is scheduled to review the Planning Commission proposal and decide whether it provides the right policy balance between allowed shoreline use and development and the environmental protections necessary to preserve Bellevue's identity and vision as a "City in a Park." Staff has hired a consultant to assist in analyzing and providing feedback regarding the alignment between the final SMP Update Package and the applicable state shoreline requirements. On March 10, 2014, the City Council endorsed the SMP Update Completion Plan included in Attachment A, which provides a schedule for when the City Council will be engaging on the SMP Update topic. It would be appropriate for the Environmental Services Commission to monitor and provide comment during these scheduled Council engagements if it is interested in providing input on the Final SMP Update package.

During your April 17 meeting, I will be available to answer any questions you may have regarding the Completion Plan endorsed by Council to finalize the SMP Update Package for submittal to the Department of Ecology for review and approval. I look forward to seeing you all at your meeting.

ATTACHMENT

A. Process for Completion of the SMP

Process for Completion of Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update

Council Meeting 1: March 10, 2014

1. Endorse a Process for SMP Completion
2. Receive the Planning Commission Recommendation on SMP Conformance Amendments

Council Meeting 2: April 14, 2014

1. Describe the need for the SMP Update
2. Provide orientation to state SMP adoption requirements
3. Conduct high level review of the Planning Commission recommended SMP Update package

Council Meeting 3: April 28, 2014

1. Describe the roll of a Cumulative Impact Analysis in the demonstration of "No Net Loss"
2. Review the CIA prepared by Watershed Company
3. Introduce the Light Rail use and development regulations retained by Council
(required for consistency with the Light Rail Transit Overlay adopted in February 2013)

Public Hearing on Planning Commission Recommended SMP: May 5, 2014

Council Meeting 4 - 6: May 12, May 27, June 9, 2014

1. Review policy topics and receive Council direction
(3 topics/meeting – could increase to accelerate schedule)
2. Issues of importance identified by the Planning Commission
 - a. Public Access
 - b. Lake Levels
 - c. Setbacks/Buffers
 - d. Vegetation Retention
 - e. Critical Areas (incl. fish habitat)
 - f. Docks
 - g. Shoreline Stabilization
 - h. Nonconforming Uses
 - i. Floodplain

Public Hearing on Final SMP Update Package: TBD based on progress made during Meetings 4-6

Council Meeting 7: TBD based on progress made during Meetings 4-6

1. Adopt final package by resolution
2. Direct staff to submit to Ecology (and formulate negotiation strategy as necessary)



MEMORANDUM

- Action**
 Discussion
 Information

DATE: April 8, 2014
SUBJECT: Utility CIP Update 2015-2021
TO: Environmental Services Commission
FROM: Pamela Maloney, P.E. Utilities Water Resources Planning Manager
(425) 452-4625 pmaloney@bellevuewa.gov

Action Required at this Time

Staff will request ESC concurrence with the proposed CIP recommendations. The ESC's budget recommendation for the Capital Investment Program (CIP) will be included in the overall Utility budget recommendation to the City Council later this year. Staff acknowledges that until ESC is presented with all Utility budget proposals (Operating Budget proposals including regional pass-through costs) and with the resulting rate implications, Commission endorsement of the CIP is provisional.

The ESC has been presented with proposed changes to the Utility CIP over the course of the past several meetings. On April 3, staff hosted an Open House to share details about proposed new projects and project changes with the public. The Open House was attended by several consultants and citizens. Mr. Plummer submitted oral and written comments to the Commission at your regular meeting that night (written comments attached).

At the April 17th Commission meeting staff will summarize the proposed changes to the Water, Sewer and Storm water CIP programs. A summary of fiscal implications of the proposed changes, and staffing requirements to deliver the CIP will be presented. Staff will then request a Commission motion recommending staff develop budget proposals based on the changes that have been presented and discussed.

Please bring your 3-ring CIP Update binders to the meeting.

Attachment: Mr. Plummer's comments from 4/3/14

MR D. Plummer
7-3-84

1. Meeting notice and available background information ^{in the public meeting} is entirely inadequate to permit citizens to review proposed projects and make informed inputs to the Commission and City Council.

2. Each project sheet should include a list of references and the name of the staff person (or persons) to contact to get information on the project.

3. There is no rationale for the ~~following~~ ^{following} projects; ~~they should be~~ decisions on these projects should be delayed until adequate information is available for public review:

D-64 S-16

D-94 S-24

D-81 S-52

D-86 S-60

D-104 S-59

D-105 S-63

4. The Commission should ~~ask~~ ^{request} the staff to investigate the possibility of reducing

and report on
Bellevue's water allocation from CWA.

5. The Commission should request the staff to develop and publish projected impacts on utility rates for the proposed projects



MEMORANDUM

_____ Action
_____ Direction
 X Information

DATE: April 17, 2014
TO: Environmental Services Commission (ESC)
FROM: Tony Marcum, Operations Manager
SUBJECT: Wastewater Claims

Action Required at this time

No Action is requested from the Commission at this time.

Fiscal Impact

None at this time.

Policy Issues

None at this time.

Background

Tonight you will hear from staff on Utilities approach to wastewater claims. Backups of the wastewater system can result in claims and can be caused by a variety of things; including but not limited to tree roots, structural failure, and fats, oils and grease (FOG). Unlike the water system, which is a closed system, the wastewater system is an “open” system meaning we have limited control on what goes into it. Despite ongoing outreach efforts, people often flush things into the system that can eventually lead to blockages and back-ups. In addition, the system is aging and tree roots can make their way into the slightest of openings. Determining responsibility for backups and resulting claims can often be a complex undertaking. Staff will discuss our current approach to wastewater claims and some of the challenges faced when making these decisions. Hard copies of the Power Point presentation will be provided to the Commission at the meeting.

Additional information will be shared with the Commission at the meeting.

Attachments:

N/A