



CREEKS, DRAINAGE AND WASTEWATER CUSTOMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DRAFT MEETING Summary
SMT 4096
February 10, 2010
5:00 – 7:00

Administration:

- Members Present: Steve Ruden, Eric Dripps, Cheryl Klinker, Douglas Mora, Nancy Malmgren,
- SPU Staff Present: Sheryl Shapiro, Bruce Bachen, Corinne Brown, Casandra Harvey, Beth Schmoyer, Maria Coe, Sue Morrison
- Chair Cheryl Klinker called the meeting to order.

AGENDA TOPICS:

South Park Water Quality Pump Station Presentation

Beth Schmoyer

Project is located in South Park neighborhood which has experienced a lot of flooding in the past. The area is low and flat and is prone to flooding in times of high tides and heavy rains. The project will include a pump station and also a water quality facility which will serve as a storm filter system. It is designed to handle a 25 year storm. Storm filter system will have 1000 cartridges (4 bays with 250 cartridges in each bay). The system will be able to treat about 80% of solids and particulates run-off. Flow data was collected over 2 years to feed into a hydrologic model which helped determine the necessary size of the system. This area is fairly typical of industrial areas around the City. The design could not have been done without a pump station. This is a 9 million dollar project, with \$200k/yr for ongoing maintenance. The manufacturer will be under contract for the first two years. Cartridges will be removed and replaced once a year. This work will come out of the normal M&O budget. Manufacturer will take back used cartridges, clean out media which is acceptable to municipal landfills. The cartridges are then refilled with new media and reused.

Finance Update

Maria Coe

The financial information from 2009 is looking good. This is the only fund at SPU to stay at set limit. We have a really good bond rating so are able to access credit market at really reasonable rates. 2009 cutbacks were in CIP were made. CIP is increasing significantly. King County has not yet announced the rate increase for 2011 – this must be filed by June. In 2009 the rate increase was 14.8%. In 2010 the rate held steady.



SPU rates are designed to cover the cost of running the utility, including construction projects.

The total number of storm water facility credits (1 credit per parcel) was 164 (75 in the north, and 89 in the south). **(Double check the storm water facility credit numbers with Maria)**

2011-2012 Budget Development

Bruce Bachen

Not anticipating much change in budget development except for passing along King County treatment costs. Capital improvement budget is going up. SPU is looking to implement major detention project which is driving cost up. Major programs that have come up are street sweeping for water quality improvement, and underground utility location service (before digging) instead of using a GIS map. There is a lot of uncertainty about the budget due to a number of changes including executive orders. SPU still would like to have a discussion regarding what is important to CDWAC.

Members would like to see the inflow/infiltration control program accelerated/escalated. It was suggested that some type of incentives to homeowners could be offered for building rain gardens to mitigate runoff. Concern was also expressed regarding new technologies being used for example in the Thornton Creek area, and hopes that these types of programs are not cut.

SPU DWW Web Site Planning

**Corinne Brown,
Cassandra Harvey**

Corinne opened by saying that the web team is interested in getting feedback from CDWAC regarding what is most interesting to the public. The web team has done some public engagement and a mock-up website. Public feedback indicated that an environmental and conservation tab was needed. It was an eye opener to the web group to learn how much citizens are engaged in environmental issues.

A new home page is being launched in the couple of weeks. Corrine demonstrated a mockup which includes an environmental tab.

Drainage & Wastewater page has been confusing and hard to get around in the web site. Changes are being made so that high level messaging and communication is clearer.

- The committee had a number of suggestions which included: Tie Seattle Climate Action Now / Restore our Waters / Partners for Puget Sound together.
- Publicize upcoming earth day on April 22nd and events leading up to earth day.
- Add a "getting involved tab"
- Publicize the City's regulatory responsibilities such as NPDES.
- Highlighting projects such as pump stations, etc...
- Easy access into watershed information
- For each watershed, an easy access/link to the watershed group – with attractive graphics
- Publicize projects that involve homeowners
- Page for advisory committees should invite the public to meetings
- Add a section for teachers and students which is easy to find
- Since people are used to seeing web advertisements in the margins, the web team should use this area to highlight desired subjects.
- King County has the "Envirostars". SPU could include something similar at their website.
- Provide an illustration that shows where wastewater goes from an individual house.



The scheduled launch for the new home page is in March, with plans to release more updates six weeks from now. CDWAC would like to invite Corinne back for further critiquing and suggestions.

Sheryl Shapiro offered to formulate survey questions that could be sent out to the committee.

Wrap Up

Cheryl Klinker / Sheryl Shapiro

March 10th is the Annual Joint CAC meeting from 4:00-5:30PM.

Cheryl Klinker asked the group if there were any suggestions or questions for the annual meeting. The committee would like to hear the highlights of what each committee is working on. Another topic of interest was recruitment, and a broader discussion of membership including race and social justice. Creative initiatives such as street sweeping would also be of interest. Also, interest in what the City is doing about the Puget Sound Partnership.

The regularly scheduled CDWAC meeting overlaps with the annual meeting. It was suggested that CDWAC convene for a short de-brief meeting from 5:30-6:00 directly following the annual meeting.

Cheryl Klinker will be representing CDWAC at the March 17th meeting with Councilperson O'Brien.