



## CREEKS, DRAINAGE AND WASTEWATER CUSTOMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**MEETING Summary**  
**SMT 4096**  
**May 12, 2010**  
**5:00 – 7:00**

---

### **Administration:**

- Members Present: Cheryl Klinker, Steve Ruden, Lydia Heard, Suzie Burke
- SPU Staff Present: Bruce Bachen, Sheryl Shapiro, Shelly Basketfield, Maria Coe, Sahba Mohandessi, Sue Morrison
- April CDWAC meeting notes were accepted as written.

### **AGENDA TOPICS:**

#### **CDWAC Business**

A letter was drafted by Cheryl Klinker and routed via email for members to review and comment. No changes were requested.

Members had questions regarding drainage plans for the North Transfer Facility and would like a presentation. Bruce will arrange as a future agenda item.

#### **Rates/Budget Update**

**Maria Coe**

The Drainage and Wastewater (DWW) rates proposal will be for a two-year period (2011 & 2012). SPU's rate proposal does not include the expected King County treatment rate increase of approximately 10%. This will be considered separately by Council. The proposed DWW budget will address increasing capital costs associated with maintaining infrastructure and regulatory compliance, as well as meeting operating costs and repayment of debt. King Some of the CIP projects included in the budget proposal are: : flooding control and sanitary sewer capacity, Windermere/Genesee/Henderson CSO projects, long term control plan, sewer pipe rehab, and Madison Valley long term solution. The budget proposal will be reviewed by the Mayor's Office, modified as necessary and then submitted to the Council for their review. The Public will be notified of any proposed rate increases and have an opportunity to comment.. Another factor affecting the drainage rate is the incremental shift of combined system costs from Wastewater rates to the Drainage rate. This change is being incrementally implemented over a six year period.

#### **Street Sweeping for Water Quality Program**

**Shelly Basketfield**

Bruce Bachen acknowledged the CDWAC committee for its role in supporting the development of street sweeping as a cost effective way of limiting the effects of transportation on stormwater quality. SPU is



excited about implementing a street sweeping beginning in 2011. Under the 2011-12 budget proposal drainage fees would be increased about 2.5% to fund this program.

Shelly Basketfield opened by saying that 26% of the City area draining to receiving water is with transportation, and is contributing 50% of the pollutant load. Traditionally, mechanical brooms were used. New technology makes use of "regenerative air" sweepers that shoots air down on the street to loosen particles, and then vacuums them into the sweeper. Technology is allowing recovery of smaller particles. Regenerative air method produces much less dust reduces in terms of particles in the air.. Seattle has ideal weather conditions for street sweeping. Street sweeping has potential to fill 760 truckloads of pollutants per year. Business case was done in January which proposes a 2.5% rate increase to handle Phase I implementation.

Right now, SDOT has 8 sweepers (4 regenerative and 4 mechanical). Phase I would sweep 85% of the receiving arterials that drain directly to water bodies. Currently SDOT does not use "draining directly to a receiving water body" as a criteria for designating routes or sweeper type. SDOT is in the process of putting GPS units into their sweepers this month. It was suggested that including a study using GIS overlay of existing sweeping and statistics regarding residents with asthma. The plan calls for utilizing existing sweepers to increase stormwater quality in 2011 and adding additional routes in 2012. If implemented, 52% of curb miles swept by SDOT would provide substantial water quality benefits. Parking signs and enforcement may be needed to improve the effectiveness of the program.

Members suggested getting information out to the public to show the benefits of street sweeping. Shelly said that part of the 2.5% rate increase includes community outreach. Committee members offered their support to see City approval of the street sweeping proposal.

## **Proposed Changes to the Side Sewer Code**

**Sahba Mohandessi**

Sahba Mohandessi introduced himself and explained the briefing is taking place to spark more interest in the side sewer issues; to get the CDWAC members' consent to include their names in the mailing for the SEPA process for the Side Sewer Code Update; and as part of SPU's outreach to keep the stakeholders informed of the code revision. Sahba explained what constitutes a side sewer and shared a brief background of the code. SPU has been working on this code revision for several years.

The proposed changes fall in to two categories: house-keeping and system improvements.

Housekeeping changes include changes to code authority, clarification on definition of side sewer, changes to indemnification requirements for joint side sewers, water & wastewater testing references, build over requirements, as built requirements, and side sewer permit fees. Civil penalties can be imposed for misuse of a side sewer, e.g. resident putting grease down the side sewer causing a blockage.

SPU's outreach to stakeholders has included communication with the registered side sewer contractors listed at the DPD website as well as food establishments throughout Seattle. Proposed code changes for system improvement include enforcement action consistent with stormwater code enforcement actions adopted in 2009, grease pre-treatment requirements, and new side sewer reuse requirements. A suggestion was made to provide outreach/education at the community college food service programs. Program will go through SEPA process in June. Changes will be submitted to Council in August to be effective in 2011. Present CDWAC members agreed to be included in the SEPA mailing list used for this action.



## **Committee Membership and Recruitment**

**Sheryl Shapiro**

A form for reapplication for membership will be sent to members. Susie Burke said she is willing to extend for one year, and believes she can be an effective outreach to industrial associations such as the North Seattle Industrial Association. Steve Ruden agreed to a one year extension. Lydia Heard agreed to a one year extension. Cheryl Klinker agreed to a two year extension.

Sheryl Shapiro suggested that for recruitment, more geographic diversity as well as ethnic/racial diversity should be sought to best represent the City as a whole. It was suggested that the SCALLOPS (Sustainable Communities all Over Puget Sound) group and the MIC (Manufacturing Industrial Council) be contacted. Sheryl suggested looking at the CDWAC work plan for the next two years to try to recruit people who are knowledgeable in upcoming topics. Community groups should be targeted, as well as people with residential real estate background. Bruce suggested using the CSO Program "Sounding Board" applicant list as a potential source of members. Further research and discussion on strategies for recruitment will be investigated.

## **Wrap Up**

**Cheryl Klinker / Sheryl Shapiro**

- Steve Ruden expressed concerns regarding accessibility to GIS data. He has exchanged emails with Sheryl and other staff to determine how to fill requests. Although some data is available through the University of Washington, he cannot access it because he is not a student. There is a lot of hard copy data at the Seattle Public Library, but not digital. The City has "terrain & environmental layers" in GIS which are of interest. Steve has been approached at watershed meetings by people interested in data. Bruce indicated it is a cost issue, not an access issue. He has not been able to locate a precedent for how this has been done in the past. Bruce said if the committee is supportive of this effort, SPU could buy a package set of GIS data and it could be accessible to all three committees. Sheryl will work on finding an approach to address accessibility (cost and protocol issues).
- Next meeting Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010