



**CREEKS, DRAINAGE AND WASTEWATER
CUSTOMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING Summary
SMT 5965
October 12, 2011
5:00 – 7:00PM**

Administration:

- Members Present: Cheryl Klinker, Chair; Rick Bechtel, Chris Hoffer, Douglas Mora, Brianne Cohen Zorn
- SPU Staff Present: Bruce Bachen, Sheryl Shapiro, Linda Rogers
- Visitors Present: Kendra Aguilar, Amanda Bruner, Adam Osbekoff

Meeting called to order at 5:05 PM

September meeting notes deferred to November meeting.

AGENDA TOPICS:

CDWAC Business

Cheryl Klinker

- **Staff support** – Cheryl announced Sue Morrison will not be at CDWAC meetings the rest of the year as she has returned to school; she will still be sending out materials in advance of our meetings. She introduced Linda Rogers, who will be filling in for her through the end of the year.
- **Recruitment updates** – Sheryl Shapiro introduced three guests, Kendra Aguilar, Amanda Bruner, and Adam Osbekoff, who are potential future CDWAC members.

**Combined Sewer Overflow Long-Term Control Plan:
Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement**

Andrew Lee

Andrew presented an overview of the CSO Long Term Control Plan, inviting the CDWAC provide comments on the scoping notice. Key areas of the overview included:

- Plan overview – what is the Long-Term Control Plan? Plan creates a comprehensive strategy to reduce CSOs to meet state and federal regulations. This will be done by:
 - Identify areas within the city where CSO reduction projects are most critical
 - Evaluate alternatives for reducing CSOs
 - Select a preferred alternative (solution)
 - Recommend a schedule for design and project construction from 2016-2025
 - Consider public and stakeholder input
- Alternatives have been developed; now at the scoping phase. This includes:
 - Scoping notice issuance

- 30-day public comment period – this ends November 7, 2011
- Various scoping public meeting
- 2012 – evaluate alternatives
- Late 2012-2013 – draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) and Long Term Control Plan (LTCP); this includes:
 - Detailed analysis of project alternatives, potential impacts, and mitigation measures to reduce impacts
 - Community briefings
 - Issue draft PEIS
 - 45-day public comment period
 - Draft PEIS public hearing
- Timeline identifies further actions for 2014 and 2015, with implementation of LTCP starting in 2016

Andrew went over CSO reduction strategies, and how this fits into the CSO LTCP; discussed alternatives, and identified presently-targeted storage sites by neighborhood.

Questions and discussion following presentation included:

- Do you have a separated storm system for tapping into for a possible fourth alternative?
- How do the three alternatives compare in cost?
- What will be the main criteria for determining which alternative is used?
- Is this going to be phased in?

Action items:

- Ask Andrew about information and contacts – Sheryl S
- Create list of questions
- Questions to follow-up on own research
- What CDWAC wants decision makers to consider
- Where will this be published
- Working meeting – Sheryl S to send out email polling for for best time for conference call and will reserve a room here for those who wish to discuss issues in person

DWW Division Directors' Updates

Bruce Bachen

Bruce shared a news release from Nancy Malmgren: Seattle Parks, Carkeek Watershed group celebrate 1972 Clean Water Act; event takes place from 10 AM to Noon on Saturday, October 15 at Carkeek Park.

Bruce also advised the CDWAC that SPU is getting ready for an EPA audit of Seattle's stormwater permit. SPU expects to receive the notification letter in November, with audit occurring first part of 2012. He also referenced SPU moving towards a rate-setting process for 2013-14 and anticipates SPU to finalize the preliminary work by mid-2012.

Updates on projects:



- Ballard retrofit set to start end of October/early November.
- Venema project - Geotech investigations are proceeding to determine infiltration characteristics of the soils. Project is being designed to reduce excessive sediment problem and to keep pollutants out of Venema and Pipers Creeks. One advantage of the Venema area is that it is relatively easy to evaluate project impacts on flow.
- Geotech information will inform design and will be discussed with the neighborhood members

Ballard rain gardens; some worked, some didn't

- Standing water of concern
- Infiltration issues
- Variability between blocks

Capitol Hill Water Quality project located by REI – This project will start in December with construction of a new conveyance pipe. The treatment swales will begin construction in 2013

SPU has realized that it needs to improve its public engagement efforts and has been offering training on strategies and techniques. These approaches result in better projects through public participation in the design process.

Water rates to rise approximately 10% each year over a three-year-period, driven by capital improvement projects which were put into place over last decade or so. The increases are necessary to pay off the debt associated with water treatment, reservoir covering and the Cedar River Habitat Conservation Plan. For drainage and wastewater rates, compliance with requirements to control CSOs are having a significant impact on rates. EPA is considering support for integrated planning for Clean Water Act requirements associated with stormwater and wastewater permits. Potentially this could lead to prioritizing improvements based on benefits and get away from the present siloed approach.

Restore Our Waters (ROW): Update

**Cheryl Klinker
Chris Hoffer**

CDWAC was invited to send two members to the ROW meeting. Reviewed ROW meeting. Discussing future ROW group topics, such as GSI, Rainwise Program, right of ways, urban forestry, educational outreach.

- What areas does CDWAC want more involvement in?
- What kind of feedback do we give?
- Sheryl Shapiro gave ROW background to set context for discussion on possible roles, overlap of the groups

Wrap-up

All

Next meeting: November 9, 2011

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM