

Meeting Notes



**SPU Creeks, Drainage & Wastewater Advisory Committee
(CDWAC)**

June 13th, 2012

**Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue
Room 5965
5 p.m.-7 p.m.**

Chair: Chris Hoffer

Vice Chair: Noel Miller

Present: Kendra Aguilar, Cheryl Klinker, Noel Miller, Chris Hoffer
Absent: Suzie Burke, C'Ardiss Gardner Gleser, Tasha Gray, Brianne Zorn
Staff: Bruce Bachen, Sheryl Shapiro, Andrew Lee, Sherell Ehlers, Jennifer Woods
Guests: David Della, Rodney Jones, Joseph Ringold

5:07 PM Call to Order

CDWAC Business:

Chair

1. Review and approval of May notes.
 - Review May 22: CAC Member Orientation.
 - Many members attended and the presentations were well received.
 - June 26: Meeting with Councilmember Godden.
 - Members were asked if they have any recommendations for questions to Councilor Godden. Members proposed to discuss rates and outreach.
 - June 27: Annual CAC meeting
 - Sheryl gave a brief summary of the agenda and guest speaker topics.

Monthly Topics:

2. EPA Consent Decree

Andrew Lee

- The Seattle City Council is meeting next Monday to decide on the proposed Consent Decree.
- The EPA conducted a compliance audit in 2008.
- SPU worked with DOE (Department of Ecology) and the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) to develop the proposed Consent Decree to mitigate issues involved with compliance to the Clean Water Act.
- The proposed Consent Decree requires SPU to develop a Long-term Control Plan (LTCP) that would bring all CSO basins into compliance with the standard of one overflow per outfall per year on average by 2025.
- The Consent Decree allows SPU to continue to use asset management principles to guide maintenance investments. During development of the Consent Decree, SPU was able to demonstrate the cost effectiveness of this approach. This will save ratepayers hundreds of millions of dollars in the coming years.
- An additional element of this Consent Decree not found in any other is the option of developing an Integrated Plan, in which stormwater and wastewater improvements are planned together to achieve greater environmental benefits. The Integrated Plan would include all CSO control

projects in the LTCP, but allow some water quality projects to be substituted for some CSO control projects before 2025 to achieve greater benefits..

- The powerpoint presentation in the supporting materials contains more information about this topic.
- Questions included:
 - Does the NDPES permit cover the combined system?
 - Is it SPU's responsibility to demonstrate projects that are more environmentally responsible?

3. Surface Water Asset Mapping Project (SWAMP)

Scott Reese

- This topic has been postponed.

4. Stormwater Code Update

Sherell Ehlers

- This informative briefing was presented in order to prepare the Committee for the stormwater code and manual updates, resulting from new requirements in the next stormwater permit expected August, 2012. A subcommittee may be created in order to provide a thorough review by CDWAC members.
- SPU will be soliciting feedback about how the current requirements are working and to address new requirements. SPU is developing a public involvement plan, to direct outreach to groups such as environmental stakeholders, manufacturing and industrial interests, the development community, other NGO's (Non-governmental Organizations), and the Community Advisory Committee.
- One expected requirement is to review local codes and regulations to remove barriers to LID (Low Impact Development).
- Questions included:
 - Are there other groups, such as the development community or nonprofits, for which outreach is being provided?

5. Workplan mid-year review; potential field trips; subcommittee

Chair, Sheryl Shapiro

- CDWAC has accomplished quite a bit this year. Members were asked if there was anything on the workplan they would like to change or add.
- Subcommittee interests included: the stormwater code update and associated Public Involvement Plan, outreach for target audiences, the Integrated Plan (associated with the Consent Decree) and rates.
- Possible field trips included, the Meadowbrook Pond project, Brightwater plant, Madison Valley flood control project, Green Stormwater Infrastructure at Barton and Highpoint, Duwamish River boat tour, Muckleshoot canoe tours, and Cedar River Watershed.

6. Summer schedule & Announcements

All

- **ACTION ITEM:** A survey will be sent out to poll members about preferred field trips and availability.

7. Next Meeting: July 11, 2012.

7:10 PM Meeting adjourned