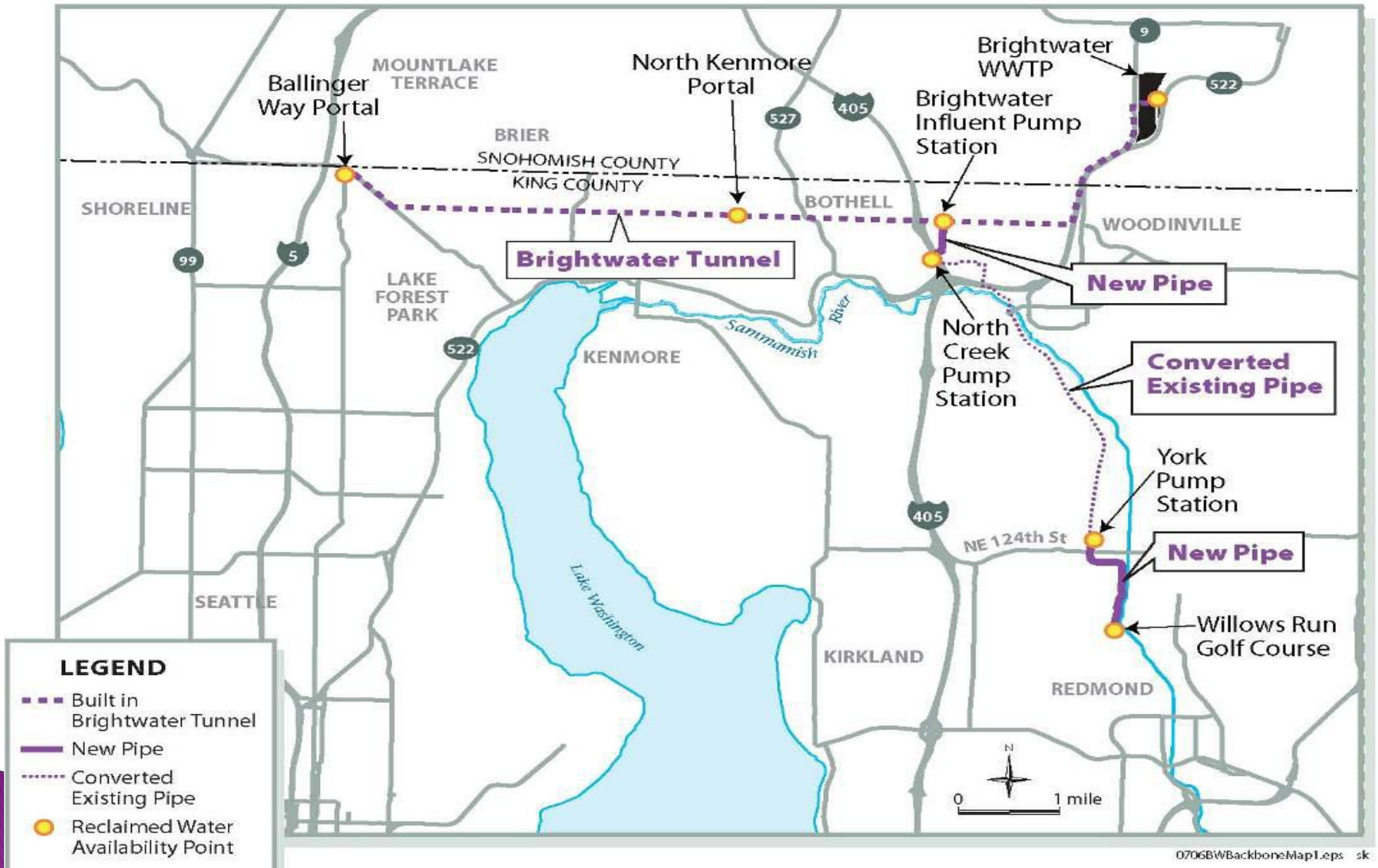


Reclaimed Water – North Seattle Project

Judi Gladstone
Water Policy Advisor
Seattle Public Utilities

Brightwater Backbone



RESULTS of ANALYSIS

- ▶ Proposed North Seattle Reclaimed Water Project would not be a sound investment for the region:
 - high costs
 - low level of benefits
 - availability of much lower cost alternatives for achieving comparable benefits

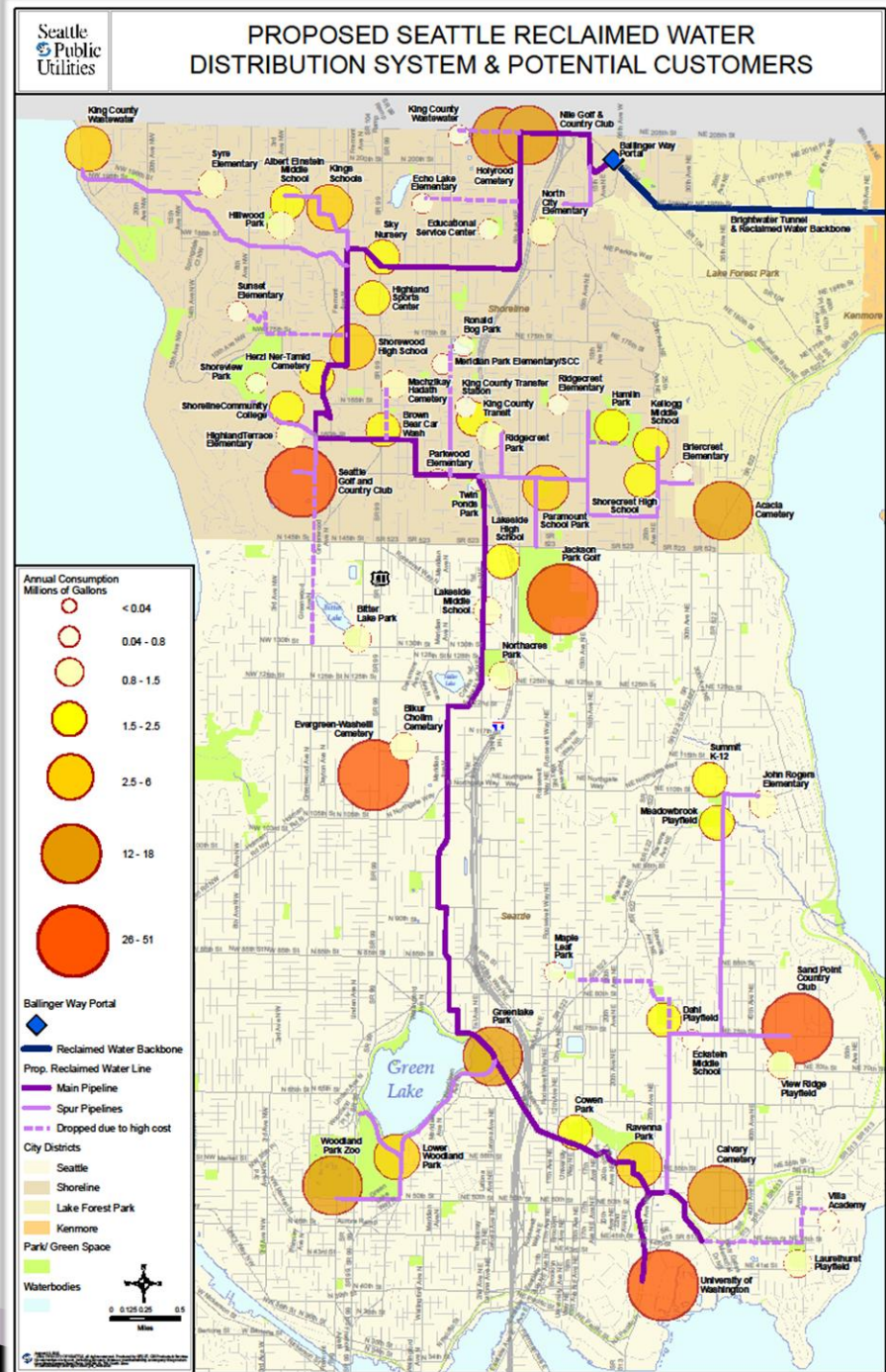
Asset Management Approach

- ▶ Analyzed project like any business case
 - Problem statement
 - Triple Bottom Line Analysis
 - Alternatives
 - Sensitivity Analysis
 - Analysis on who benefits and who pays
- ▶ Started with the solution and SPU defined the problem
- ▶ Attempted to quantify social and environmental benefits, although didn't assign dollar values

Customers– Market Analysis

- ▶ Most are irrigators:
 - Golf courses
 - Cemeteries
 - Parks
 - Schools
 - University of Washington
- ▶ Non-irrigators:
 - King County wastewater and transit facilities
 - Ice Rink
 - Car Wash

Location of Potential Reclaimed Water Customers



System Configuration

- ▶ 50 potential customers with 1.7 mgd of potential use
- ▶ 27 miles of pipeline plus pumping facilities

Distribution System Costs

- ▶ \$87 million initial capital improvements
- ▶ \$109 million total life-cycle costs

Environmental Benefits

- ▶ Water supply/reliability/source watershed
- ▶ Local creeks
- ▶ Puget Sound

Environmental Benefits– Water Supply/Reliability/ Source Watersheds

- ▶ .7 mgd benefit would not add to supply, improve reliability, or increase stream flows in a detectable way.
- ▶ Current supply sufficient until 2060
- ▶ Most of the potential use is from self-supplied users

Environmental Benefit– Local Creeks

- ▶ 7 potential self-supplied customers with about 1 mgd estimated use
- ▶ Increase summer flows in nearby streams possible, but small effect

Points of Analysis of Self-Supplied Users



Environmental Benefits– Puget Sound

- ▶ Generates greatest benefit of project, but still small.
- ▶ Keeps over 3 tons of nitrogen out of the Sound each year.
- ▶ Equivalent to .04% of the total amount of nitrogen currently discharged from King County's existing treatment plants

Project Alternative

- ▶ 3 components generate same benefits:
 - Switch self-supplied irrigators to water from SPU
 - Ramp up SPU's conservation program to offset new demand
 - Install 1 mgd MBR plant at Renton
- ▶ Total cost would be \$27M

Project Alternative– MBR Plant at Renton

	Reduction of Nitrogen– Metric tons/year	Size of Reduction Relative to N. Seattle Project
N. Seattle Project	3.1	
1 MGD MBR Treatment at South Plant	43	14
15 MGD MBR Treatment at South Plant	651	210

Perspective Analysis

- ▶ Examined who benefits and who should pay
- ▶ Greatest benefit is to the region, not local or to the user
- ▶ SPU ratepayers would likely end up paying larger proportion of project costs than their share of benefits

Conclusions

- ▶ Critical to have a refined estimate of potential demand for reclaimed water
- ▶ Reclaimed water is made costly by the distribution costs
- ▶ Additional treatment at Renton would produce much greater benefit for Puget Sound at significantly less cost