

Administration:

- Members Present: Alice Lanczos, Frank Metheny, Valerie Cholvin, Eric Anderson, Tom Grant
- SPU Staff Present: Dave Hilmoie, Jon Ford, Julie Burman, Joan Kersnar, Sue Morrison

AGENDA TOPICS:**Transportation Impacts – Background Briefing****Jon Ford,
SPU Transmission**

Jon Ford is a Senior Network Engineer and was responsible for doing the foundational work for SPU's network hydraulic model. Jon works strictly on the water side of SPU's business, however transportation changes also affect the Drainage and Wastewater side of SPU's business. Water mains are in the right-of-way and are usually underneath three feet of dirt cover. SPU is impacted by required relocation. There is no choice when SPU is told by WSDOT or SDOT that a move is needed. For example, three years ago, construction on Dexter Avenue caused a major break in a water main. Old cast iron pipes have lead joints, and vibration and ground settlement cause problems for these pipes.

Replacement opportunities: SDOT will often pickup restoration costs which can be up to 25% of the pipe replacement costs. Also, if a substandard main exists, the service level for increased pressure or hydrant pressure can improve the supply to an area.

Types of projects that affect pipes are street repaving, street rebuilding, bridge upgrades, tunnels, street cars, and light rail. Current and upcoming projects include SDOT's BTG program, and bridge upgrades such as 15th AVE NE & Ne 105TH ST, as well as Airport Way at the Argo railroad yard. Currently, SPU has a 20 inch main running along the waterfront that will probably need to be replaced during the Elliott Bay Seawall Project. SPU's asset management model says that if the leak rate is at a certain threshold then replace the pipe, but there is no set number of years/age of pipe standard for replacement.

A WSAC member asked about a small park in Madison Park on the northeast corner of E Madison St and 42nd Ave E where the water has recently been cutoff. Jon researched the service and came back to the meeting before it adjourned to report status. He also provided the member with a customer service contact at SPU for further information.

2013 SPU Water System Plan**Joan Kersnar,
Julie Burman**

Water System Plans have been developed by SPU since the 1980s. The 2013 Water System Plan will be a large part of WSAC's work in 2011. Items have been scoped out that will be updated and discussed with the Department of Health. Joan would like to hear from WSAC regarding what they would like to be involved in during the development of the plan. The demand forecast will need to be updated. The average household size is predicted to drop from 2.2 persons. Tom asked that SPU brief WSAC on the assumptions used to develop the demand forecast. Julie suggested that from a recruitment standpoint WSAC may want to recruit individuals with economic backgrounds to help review this work.

Current assumptions are that water supply will remain the same, but demand for water will drop. The forecast will go out to 2060. Global climate models will be released after the Water System Plan is started. The plan does not look at supply alternatives. Joan may want to use a WSAC meeting for a public meeting to gather comment – perhaps at City Hall. Julie said that this is a critical piece of work for the Water line of business, and that SPU appreciates comment from WSAC. Joan does not expect a major revamping of the report, however some of the messages may be quite different. WSAC will be helpful in helping craft those messages. Those same messages may also be appropriate to include in the upcoming Drinking Water Quality Report.

SPU Citizens Advisory Committee Member Recruitment

**Sheryl Shapiro,
SPU**

Sheryl is the program manager for all three advisory committees. She has started to come up with strategies for how to better represent the City on the advisory committees and is looking at what committees are doing to shape recruitment strategies. It is desirable to have stability and continuity, but also bring in new perspective for recruitment. Sheryl is encouraging existing members to join in the process by sharing their ideas for recruitment. The charter says that a term will last two years and members can re-up for an additional two years. It also says that membership would be 8 – 12 people per committee. Changes are being made to the committee websites to make membership more appealing. Also, new social media is being used. Business cards were provided to members that can be used for recruitment purposes. Members suggested that a 3 year term might be better because there is a learning curve of about 1 year. It was also suggested that the recruitment strategy include diversity such as industrial, multifamily, and single family representation, as well as another economist for assistance during demand forecasting. It would also be helpful to recruit someone from another utility to gain perspective regarding thoughts on SPU's rates. It was suggested that the University of Washington be contacted as they have an economist club that meets regularly.

Committee Business

Alice Lanczos

Sue reported that the October field trip will take place on Saturday, October 16th. Six members will attend. An email containing logistical details will be sent out next week.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55PM.