



Water System Advisory Committee (WSAC)
August 8, 2018 Meeting Notes
Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue
Room 4901
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Committee Members	Present?	SPU Staff & Guests	Role
Joel Carsley	Y	Natasha Walker	CAC Program Coordinator
Steven Cole	Y	Kathy Curry	Water System Policy Liaison
Paul Reed	N	Sheryl Shapiro	CAC Program Manager
Rodney Schauf	N		
Teresa Stern	N		
Michael Godfried	N		
Kat Dej-Panah	Y	Guest	
Wendy Walker	Y	Christina Heinlen	Guest
Ky Lewis	Y	Kylie Zaubi	Guest
Annie Saunders	N		

1. Regular Business

- WSAC Vice Chair, Joel Carsley, opened the meeting at 5:33 PM.
- Meeting notes from July were reviewed and approved.
- Sheryl indicated emergency exits and exit procedures.

2. CAC Program Updates

- **August 15 CDWAC meeting & Ballard RainWise tour.** Sheryl provided an overview of the RainWise Program for members to consider joining. Natasha shared the results of the survey, which indicated a preference for meeting in Ballard. Natasha will be sending out a logistics email tomorrow.
- **October 24 All-CAC meeting and proposed cancelation of the October 10 WSAC meeting.** Sheryl discussed the content of the October 24 All-CAC meeting. Kathy mentioned possible cancelation of the October WSAC meeting in part to compensate for the extra time WSAC has been spending on the Water System Plan discussion, the time to be spent preparing for and/or attending the upcoming September Council meeting, and the time attending the All-CAC meeting that is to occur in October. Kathy said she will aim to confirm the fall meeting schedule at the upcoming September 12 WSAC meeting.

3. Water 101

This topic was postponed to a future meeting.

4. Water System Plan (WSP) Discussion

Water System Policy Liaison, Kathy Curry, began with an overview of the WSP, the purpose of the plan, and the history of WSAC's involvement in the plan leading up to this point. In order to move forward on the content of the letter, a quorum of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Committee, or 7 WSAC members, will be needed. This can be done electronically, but the timeline for the final letter will remain the same. **WSAC members suggested fully drafting the letter before emailing for member votes.**

Staff and WSAC members discussed the introduction that might take place during the verbal comments at the September 11 Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development & Arts (CRUEDA) Council meeting. The introduction offers a chance for members to increase the visibility of the Committee, and members liked the idea of emphasizing the diversity of perspectives and backgrounds related to their interest in water. They also discussed noting the geographic diversity of the Committee.

Regarding the content of the letter, a member noted that it seems most WSAC members are in agreement with almost all the topics. So, if there are ones to highlight or combine, they felt it could make the letter more concrete and a more powerful statement. Members liked the WSAC Member comment in the Google Doc to focus on "resiliency, equity and infrastructure" as the three major buckets. Additional content suggestions included:

- Make it clear WSAC is not making comments to make changes to the WSP, but to encourage Seattle to invest in and emphasize certain aspects of the Plan.
- Members preferred to keep suggestions broad (rather than specific), such as one members' comment on the Google Doc to "expand rainwater and reclaimed water use as part of future water supply needs."
- The section on infrastructure should include seismic emphasis.

Staff let members know that, due to earlier WSAC comments, an equity statement from the City of Seattle's Comprehensive Plan was added to the Water System Plan:

http://www.seattle.gov/util/cs/groups/public/@spu/@water/documents/webcontent/1_072557.pdf#page=39

Sheryl Shapiro shared more about the City's Comprehensive Plan, which was the first time using the equity analysis. The Plan explicitly affirms that Race and Social Justice is the core value upon which the Plan is built.

- CAC Members expressed much appreciation for including the equity goal from the City's Comprehensive Plan into the WSP.
- A member emphasized the importance of Seattle implementing this equity goal.
- Another member noted that, as Advisory Committee members, their goal should be to let SPU and the Seattle City Council know what stakeholders feel is important. So, they suggested that the group consider mentioning the importance of equity in their letter.
- The group continued to discuss equity and affordability, and expressed interest in learning more about how these are addressed through SPU's service delivery.

- A CAC member inquired about SPU’s policy on water shutoffs. They wanted to understand if federal mandates exist regarding providing some access to water, even when bills cannot be paid. Staff said they will look into bringing these topics to future WSAC meetings for exploration.

The timeline for the letter

- **Sat., Aug 18:** Draft letter completed by Wendy; sent to Committee for review
- **Thur., Aug 23:** WSAC Comments due back to Wendy.
- **Mon., Aug 27:** Clean final version of letter sent to Committee for final review.
 - Wendy to electronically collect quorum.
 - Wendy to gather electronic signature from Chairs. WSAC Vice Chair, Joel Carlsey, leaves town Aug 29. He can provide signature in advance.
 - Include all members names and attach bios; Sheryl to send list of bios for updates.
- **Thur., Aug 30:** Final Draft letter due to SPU for review, with evidence of quorum (7 members) supporting content. Can have dissenting opinion in letter, if needed, but consensus on submittal is required. This needs to be included in email to members.
- **Tue., Sept 11:** Kathy to check with Bob Hennessey to confirm process for submitting the letter.
 - Members can join to watch, or watch it live online.

6. Community Insights, Around the Table

- A CAC Member shared about encountering a compostable straw at a lunch spot. Staff asked if they were aware of the plastic straw and utensil ban that went into effect on July 1. The member said they had heard of it but was surprised to see the compostable products already being offered.
- A CAC Member shared about the Sunset Supper at Pike Place Market. The cost is \$175, with proceeds going towards the Markets social services. There are two seats still available at Committee members’ table.
- A CAC Member shared that Saturday, August 18 is the Duwamish River Festival.
- A CAC Member shared that on Tuesday, August 17, Green Drinks will be held at Hellbent brewery in Lake City.
- WSAC Member, Wendy Walker, shared that she will be absent September - November. Members thanked her for her contributions on the Water System Plan letter in advance.

Adjourned 7:10 PM