

Summary of Engineering and Planning (E&P) Subcommittee April 4, 2019 Meeting for MWPAAC General Meeting on April 24, 2019

Bring Sewers to Unsewered Urban Areas, A Success Story (Valley View Sewer District, City of Tukwila, and RH2 Engineering)

This presentation showcased a project by one of MWPAAC's local agencies. MWPAAC encourages this type of interagency sharing – if you have a project or internal process that you would like to present, please call or email Lisa or Gary at the contact information below.

- Tukwila Loop neighborhood of 140 homes (uphill from Highway 518 west of I-5) had failing septic systems, contaminating fish-bearing Gilliam Creek.
- Property owners rejected local improvement district (LID) to finance project, and not enough vacant land for a developer to construct sewer system.
- Valley View Sewer District constructed \$6.8M sewer system as a capital project by securing Centennial Clean Water and State Revolving Fund grants and loans, and Community Development Block Grants to help pay for connections for low-income customers. (Note: without grants, \$6.8M divided among 140 lots is nearly \$49,000 per lot)
- Demonstrated need in grant application from water quality testing, received support letters from Muckleshoot tribe and City of Tukwila, Ecology provided guidance in developing strong application
- Property owners not required to connect, but Valley View provided incentive at \$4,250 per connection, including side sewer to the house and septic system abandonment, if connected in first year of project. Future connection includes escalation factor at higher cost.
- To date, have 84% of the existing homes connected (only 20 declined).
- Tukwila passed sewer connection ordinance requiring connection at title change/property sale, major remodel, or septic failure/repair

Clean Water Plan (formerly Systemwide Comprehensive Plan)

- What is the most appropriate path to ensure we direct the right public investments to the right actions at the right time for the best water quality outcomes? Issues include: maintaining 50-year old system, impact of population increases, providing redundancy at facilities, meeting current and future regulatory requirements, financing water quality improvements
- Start with Scenario Planning in 2019-2020 to consider possible trends, issues, and drivers that may affect future service (such as “going green”, providing “pure water”, only doing what is absolutely necessary [“band aid”])
- Regional engagement – multiple opportunities and forums, broad outreach to many groups and communities
- Develop and evaluate scenarios for consideration in Strategic Utility Planning in 2021-2022 (policies, programs, projects, implementation plans, financial plans, long-rang planning tool)

Infiltration/Inflow (I/I) Program Phase 2 Status Update

Finalizing consultant scope, begin Phase 2 this summer.

Questions?

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