Clean Water Plan

Making the Right Investments at the Right Time

MWPAAC - Engineering and Planning Subcommittee
April 4, 2019

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Making the right investments at the right time

King County
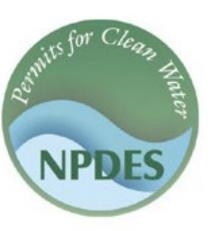Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Wastewater Treatment Division

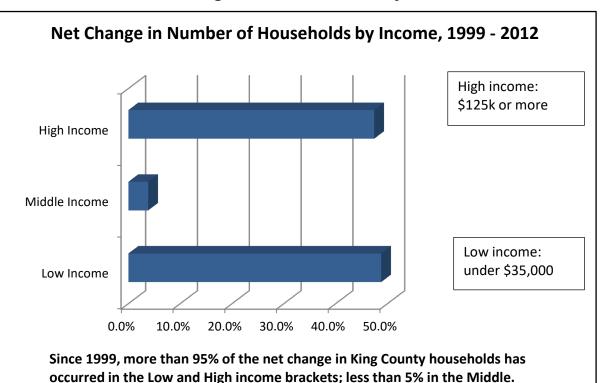# Clean Water Plan (formerly, systemwide comprehensive plan) Drivers

Aging Infrastructure

Regulatory Requirements

Regional Affordability

Net Change in Number of Households by Income, 1999 - 2012

High income: $125k or more

Low income: under $35,000

Since 1999, more than 95% of the net change in King County households has occurred in the Low and High income brackets; less than 5% in the Middle.

Regional Water Quality

Core Planning Question:

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?

Plan will inform future direction on issues including:

- Maintaining 50-year old system

- Impacts of population increases

- Redundancy at wastewater facilities

- Meeting current and future regulatory requirements

- How to finance water quality improvements

Planning Process

Two Phase Process:

- ## Scenario Planning

  ▶ <u>Objective</u>: Assess different plausible futures for regional water quality

  ▶ <u>Desired Outcome</u>: Set of planning assumptions that reflects regional input on priorities
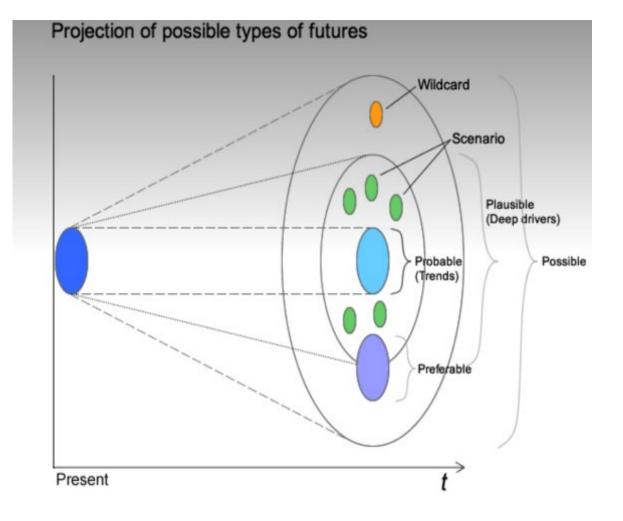
- ## Strategic Utility Planning

  ▶ <u>Objective</u>: Develop a strategy to guide near-term (up to 10 years) and long-term (10 to 40 years) investments in regional water quality

  ▶ <u>Desired Outcome</u>: Set of actions – policies, programs, projects – for implementation

Regional

Engagement

Throughout

Planning

Process

Scenario Planning Overview

Scenario
A distinct, plausible future world comprised of trends/issues that could affect WTD's future service.

Projection of possible types of futures

Example Scenarios

Going Green

- Emphasis on resource recovery

- Favorable regulatory environment

- Increasingly strong regional environmental ethic

- Strong economic growth with overall high willingness to pay and desire to address distributional equity in rates

Pure Water

- Interest in exceeding required regulations (e.g., wastewater treatment to drinking water standards)

- Increasingly strong regional environmental ethic

- Soft economic growth with low willingness to pay

Band Aids

- Limited preventive investment in asset management, running to failure

- Status quo regulatory environment

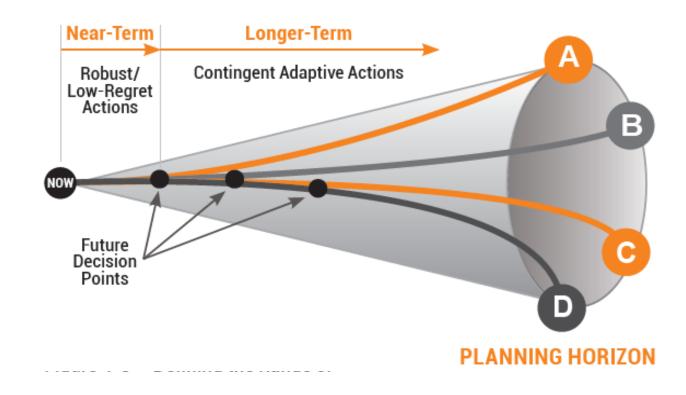- Soft economic growth with low willingness to pay

Scenario Planning Process

Scenario Framing (Driving Forces/Central Questions)

Frame the Questions

Brainstorm Driving Forces

Scenario Development

Define Scenarios

Map Paths to Each Scenario

Scenario Evaluation

Determine Implications

Define Trade-offs

Select Planning Scenario / Planning Assumptions

Strategic Utility Planning and Plan Outcomes

- **Recommended strategy to guide near- and long-term investments in the regional wastewater system**

  - ► **Policies, program, and projects**

  - ► **Implementation sequence**

  - ► **Financial plan**
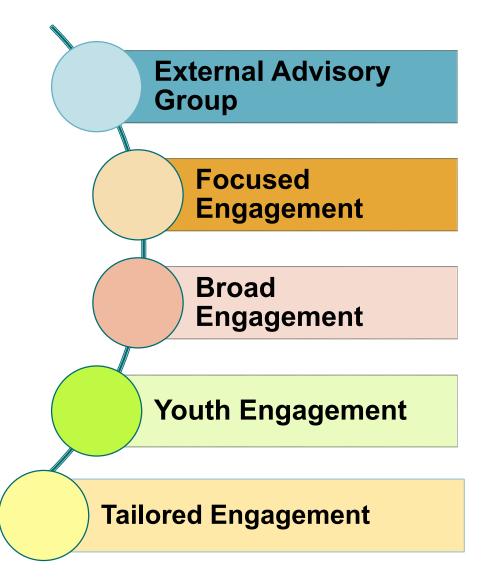
  - ► **Long-range planning tool**

Regional Engagement - Objectives

- **Facilitate a robust dialog between the County and community through various engagement venues**

- **Establish and maintain constructive working relationships with community partners, customers, and jurisdictions**

- **Create a plan that reflects regional priorities**

- **Build confidence in the public process and understanding of key project decisions**

Regional Engagement - Audiences

External Advisory Group

Focused Engagement

Broad Engagement

Youth Engagement

Tailored Engagement

New + Interested Communities

- Affordable housing
- Academia
- Business Community
- Community-Based Organizations
- Community Leaders
- Civic Organizations
- Economic Development
- Environmental
- Elected Officials

- Growth Management
- High school + college youth
- Labor
- MWPAAC
- Public Health
- Regulators
- RWQC
- Service Area Customers
- Tribal Governments
- Youth/Student
- WTD Employees
- Participants of existing DNRP programs

Regional Engagement Approach

External Advisory Group: Provide strategic advice on process and how to engage their constituencies

Focused Engagement: Weigh-in during key milestones; wrestle with tradeoffs, implications, priorities

Broad Engagement: Informed about status of process and opportunities to participate

Youth Engagement: Strengthen voice of youth in public processes for intergenerational equity

Tailored Engagement: Efforts to keep Tribes, electeds, and regulators informed and to provide input
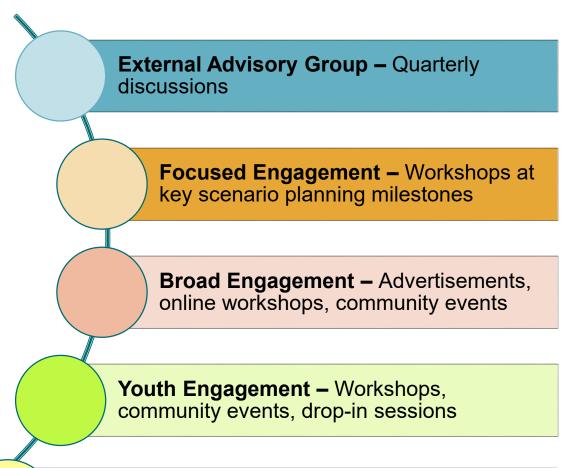
Advisory Group Structure and Purpose

Provide King County with insight into:

- Ways to best engage and hear from key interests and constituencies

- Pressures, issues, and trends impacting constituencies and businesses

- High-level implications, trade-offs, and opportunities associated with the planning process

- The most effective water quality investments the region can make

- **Approx. 20 Participants**

- **MWPAAC Representation**

- **New + Interested Parties**
  - ▶ **Affordable housing**
  - ▶ **Academia**
  - ▶ **Business Community**
  - ▶ **Community-Based Organizations**
  - ▶ **Community Leaders**
  - ▶ **Civic Organizations**
  - ▶ **Economic Development**
  - ▶ **Environmental**
  - ▶ **Elected Officials**
  - ▶ **Growth Management**
  - ▶ **Labor**
  - ▶ **Public Health**
  - ▶ **Regulators**
  - ▶ **Service Area Customers**
  - ▶ **Tribal Governments**
  - ▶ **Youth/Student**

Regional Engagement - Methods

External Advisory Group – Quarterly discussions

Focused Engagement – Workshops at key scenario planning milestones

Broad Engagement – Advertisements, online workshops, community events

Youth Engagement – Workshops, community events, drop-in sessions

Tailored Engagement: Working sessions, report outs

Join us:

Engagement Workshop #1

- ► Week of May 20, 2019
- ► Open to public, RSVP

Online open house June 2019

- ► Online surveys
- ► Forum to share inputs

Summer 2019

- ► Community events
- ► Drop-in sessions
- ► Advertisements

Mailing list

- ► Clean Water Plan Mailing List for updates and opportunities to join the conversation

Timeline

- **Scenario Planning 2019-2020**

Q2-Q3 2019 Scenario Framing
(Driving Forces and
Central Questions)

Q4 2019 – Q1 2020
Scenario Development

Q2-Q3 2020
Scenario Evaluation

- **Strategic Utility Planning 2021-2022**

Discussion and Questions

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Sonia-Lynn Abenojar, Regional Engagement Project Manager

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