

## Summary of Engineering and Planning (E&P) Subcommittee September 2, 2021 Meeting for September 2021 MWPAAC General Meeting

### Regional Infiltration/Inflow (I/I) Inspector Training and Certification Program

The E&P Subcommittee continued discussion of the proposed side sewer inspector certification program. This proposed voluntary program is one of several I/I reduction strategies, in addition to project-specific I/I reduction and local agencies meeting their contractual I/I requirements. The program's goal to reduce the amount of future I/I in the local collection systems by ensuring that all local agency inspectors are trained and certified to enforce the proper installation, rehabilitation, and repair of side sewers. Key program elements include:

- Online training (7 hours)
- Certification exam (1 hour)
- Re-certification (every 5 years)

WTD is seeking participation from local agencies before committing the time and expense to develop this program.

E&P discussion:

- WTD should consider whether a smaller number of agencies (rather than a simple majority of 17) would be acceptable if those agencies represented the majority of customers, land area, or highest amount of I/I.
- Some agencies are challenged to find people to fill inspector positions. Although the program would include minimum qualifications to participate in the training, an agency should be able to recommend staff that may not meet the qualifications.
- WTD should consider greatly reducing the amount of time spent on Module 5 (safety and customer service) because similar topics are already covered in existing agency staff training.
- WTD should consider making the program available outside of the WTD service area (i.e., statewide), and should consider coordination with other training programs such as the Washington Wastewater Collection Personnel Association.
- Program should include methodology(ies) for local agencies to assess the effectiveness of the training on reducing future I/I. At a future E&P meeting, WTD should present the data from several years ago that showed very high I/I flows from newly-constructed areas.

### Your agency's input on this proposed program is needed! Please:

1. Review the draft technical memorandum (or request a Word version from Olivia Robinson)  
[https://kingcounty.gov/~media/services/environment/wastewater/i-i/docs/Reports/2107\\_Task7100-KCII-Draft-TM.ashx?la=en](https://kingcounty.gov/~media/services/environment/wastewater/i-i/docs/Reports/2107_Task7100-KCII-Draft-TM.ashx?la=en)
2. Discuss the program with applicable agency staff and decision-makers
3. Determine the level of interest and likelihood of agency participation
4. Identify anticipated agency costs and other implications
5. **Complete the coming survey by September 30.**

We will discuss the proposed program at the **October 7 E&P meeting**, with the objectives of providing input to WTD to finalize the technical memorandum and determining E&P's next steps.

### Questions?

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