METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

General Meeting Summary

Microsoft Teams Meeting **Wednesday, August 26, 2026** **Start 10:00**
Adjourned 11:21

1. MWPAAC Engineering and Planning Subcommittee Chair's Report – Jaclyn Knoth

Engineering and Planning Subcommittee Chair Jaclyn Knoth welcomed members to the meeting.

A quorum was in attendance. A motion was made and seconded to approve the June 24, 2026, meeting summary as written. The motion carried.

Chair Knoth reported out on the August 5 Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) meetings. The following briefings were provided:

- Washington's Water Future Initiative
- Integrating Financial and System Sustainability: Financial Planning, Risk Assessment, and Performance Metrics
- RWSP Update: Combined System Management

2. WTD Director's Report

Wastewater Treatment Division Director Kamuron Gurol gave his director's report. He highlighted the following topics:

<u>Sewer Rate and Capital Work Plan</u>
Director Gurol provided an update on the Sewer Rate and Capital Work Plan including the upcoming briefing on long-term forecast model and refinements at the October 1 Rates and Finance Subcommittee meeting. He welcomed Engineering and Planning Subcommittee Chair Jaclyn Knoth and former Rates and Finance Subcommittee Vice Chair Gregg Cato as attendees to WTD's Project Oversight Board to promote early visibility and transparency in large project planning. He also discussed recent meetings WTD had recently had with Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) in June and July as well as with the Sound Cities Association (SCA) to discuss follow-up to last fall's Regional Utility Summit.

<u>Nutrients</u>
Director Gurol shared that WTD submitted comments on Ecology's public review draft modifications to the West Point NPDES permit and reissuance of the Vashon Treatment Plant NPDES permit and expressed appreciation for the letters submitted by MWPAAC, Seattle, and NACWA. While WTD does not know when the final permit will be issued, they

are continuing to communicate with Ecology on nutrient issues and encouraging Ecology to convene parties for collaborative regional discussions on nutrient management and long-term nutrient regulatory framework.

Director Gurol also shared UW Puget Sound Institute is hosting a virtual presentation of new research findings on Impact of oxygen and temperature on Puget Sound marine life, on September 10th from 10:30 -12. This research was funded by King County and shows that species have different tolerances to lowered dissolved oxygen and temperature increases. He highlighted that science like this is relevant to nutrient regulatory decisions and water quality standards review. The event is open to all and WTD will share the workshop invitation.

NACWA Conference

Director Gurol attended the NACWA summer utility leadership conference in mid-July and presented on WTD's nutrients challenge in one session. NACWA also released a communication toolkit for clean water agencies that we can use to help inform and supplement our own excellent work.

MWPAAC Summer Tour

Director Gurol thanked everyone who attended the summer tour of the Mouth of the Duwamish project. He highlighted the events of the tour and the discussion with representatives from the Duwamish River Community Coalition, who spoke about the impacts of historic alterations to the Duwamish River, pollution from uncontrolled CSOs and deliberate use of the river to dispose waste and chemicals, and how those impacts have adversely affected those who live and work along the Duwamish. He hoped the tour and conversations gave participants a better understanding of the importance of the Mouth of the Duwamish CSO program.

Coal Creek Project Update

Finally, Director Gurol provided an update on the Coal Creek project. He shared that tunneling is underway, carving out about a mile of new pipe deep underground. By using trenchless construction, WTD is able to install major portions of the new pipeline away from natural areas and community spaces—protecting Coal Creek's sensitive habitat while keeping the work moving safely and efficiently.

This project will add roughly two miles of new sewer pipe, boosting capacity for Bellevue and Newcastle and supporting decades of future growth. The new trenchless tunnel will house a 56-inch steel casing and a 36-inch inner pipe built to carry 18 million gallons of wastewater per day.

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3. Subcommittee Report

August 6, 2026, Engineering and Planning Subcommittee Report

- RWSP Update: Resource Recover 101 and Current Conditions
- Regulations 101

4. RWSP Update: Treatment Levels and Treatment Capacity

Darren Greve, Government Relations, WTD; Janice Johnson, RWSP Program Manager, WTD; Ali Tarbox, Treatment Planning Program Manager, WTD; Jacque Klug, Nutrient Management Coordinator, WTD provided MWPAAC members with an update on Treatment Levels and Treatment Capacity Policy Questions & Analysis. The full presentation can be found here. The briefing included information on the following:

- An overview of the current system
- Responses to 5 policy questions related to the Treatment topic of the RWSP update; these included
    - Levels of Treatment
    - Future nutrients, PFAS and CEC regulations
    - Treatment capacity and site use/expansion
    - Regional strategy

5. General Announcements

None

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21.

Next MWPAAC General Meeting is September 23, 2026, via Microsoft Teams.