

# MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** May 1, 2025  
**TO:** Environmental Services Commission  
**FROM:** Jim Grueber, Senior Utilities Engineer  
**SUBJECT:** Water System Plan Update

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## **ACTION REQUIRED**

This is an informational briefing on the Water System Plan (WSP) update, no action is required.

## **BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS**

Water system owners are responsible for protecting the health of the people they serve and for ensuring safe and reliable drinking water. Every ten years (used to be six years), water system owners extensively review their water system with a goal to identify current demands and future needs. This is necessary to meet regulatory requirements and to ensure there is a strong technical, managerial, and financial capacity to efficiently deliver high quality service. Our current plan is approved by Washington Department of Health (DOH) through January 2027. We have begun work to update Bellevue's plan for continued DOH approval.

In November 2024, staff provided ESC with an introduction to the Storm, Water, and Wastewater System Plans. Since then, a team of staff and a consultant, Consor, have been working to gather background information needed for the water system analysis. For this meeting staff will continue to provide information and a summary of the Water System Plan and current activities. Additional discussion on policies, findings and recommendations will occur later in 2025 following an in-depth analysis of the water system.

## **POLICY ISSUES**

Policies related to managing the water system are found in Chapter 2 of the WSP and support the City's Comprehensive Plan goals. The water system policies can be grouped into three categories: to manage the water service area, to operate the water system, and to fund the water system. Water system policies are developed by management and reviewed by the Environmental Services Commission. As part of the WSP Update, management will be reviewing policies. If necessary, any modifications or additions will be brought to ESC later this year for discussion and feedback.

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no immediate fiscal impact. Though, project recommendations and/or policy changes could result in future fiscal impacts. Recommendations for new capital investments will likely result from the water system analysis. These recommendations will be incorporated into future budget proposals.

## **ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS**

- A. [Water System Plan | City of Bellevue](#) (The complete current Water System Plan can be found on the City's webpage)
- B. [Bellevue 2044 Comprehensive Plan Utilities](#) (Utilities Element of the Comprehensive Plan)
- C. [Ch. 24.02 Water Utility Code | Bellevue City Code](#) (Bellevue's Water Utility Code)