

Advanced Metering Infrastructure

Project Update

Chad Beck & Todd Dahlberg
Utilities

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Informational Briefing

- **Project Update**
- **AMI Opt-Out**

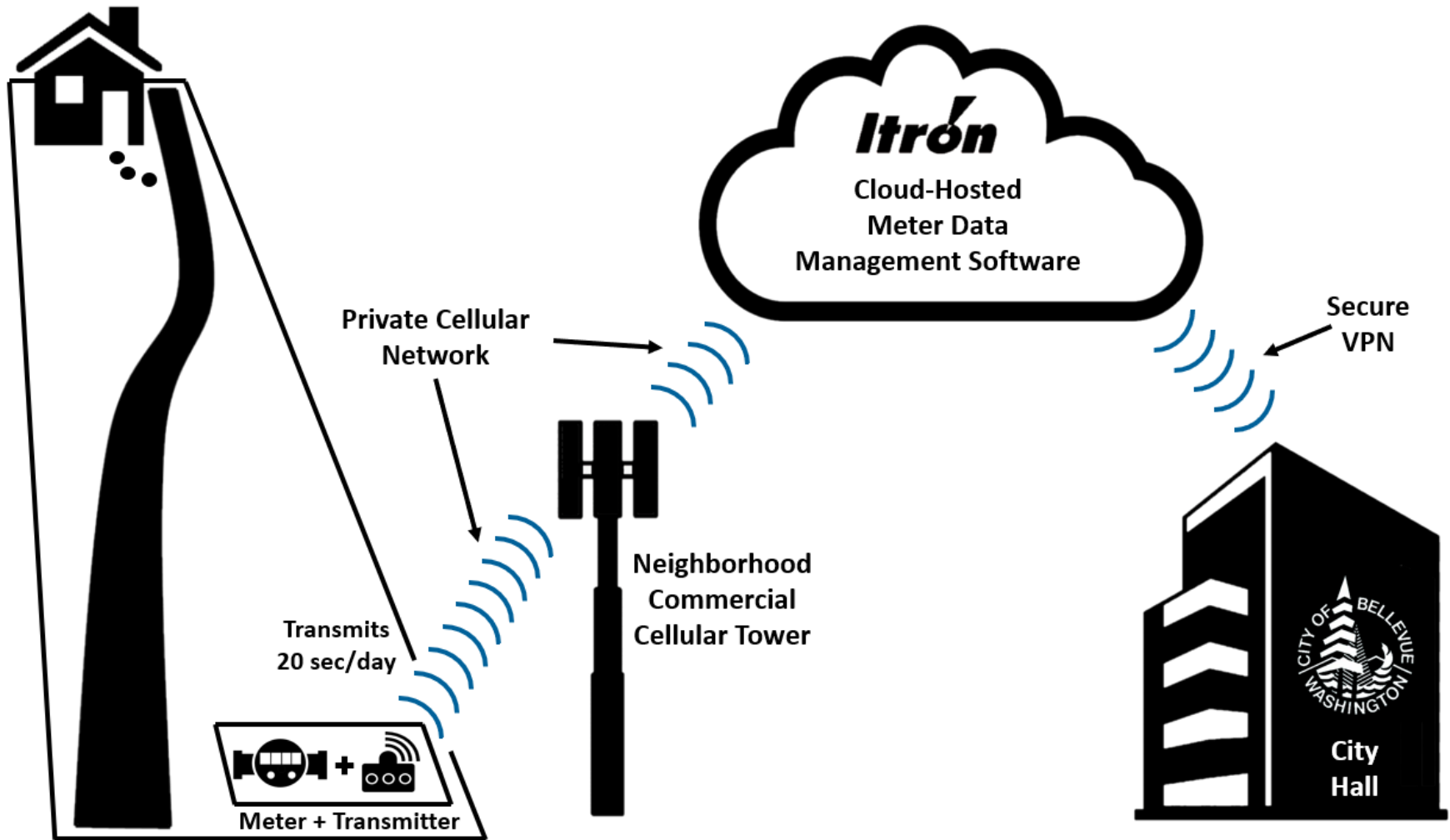


AGENDA

1. AMI Overview
2. Project Update
3. Non-Communicating Water Meter Program



AMI Overview



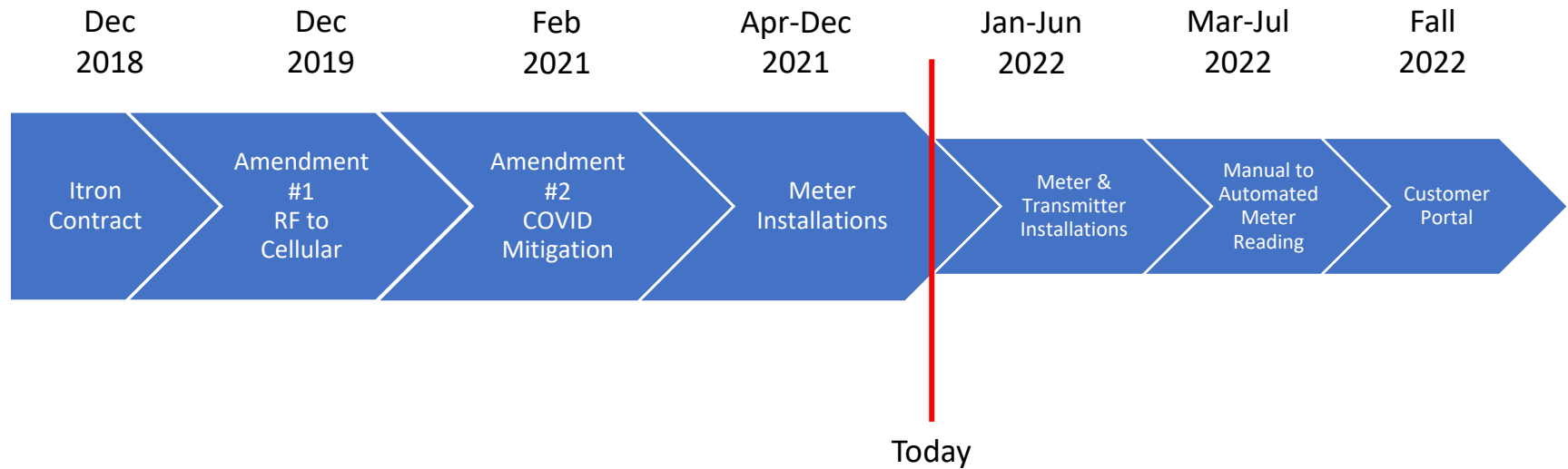
Customer Value

- Customer control of water bills
 - Monitor usage
 - Early leak detection
- Ensure water quality
- Reduced carbon footprint
- Reduced Utility costs
 - Reduce system leaks
 - Optimize pumping energy



Project Milestones

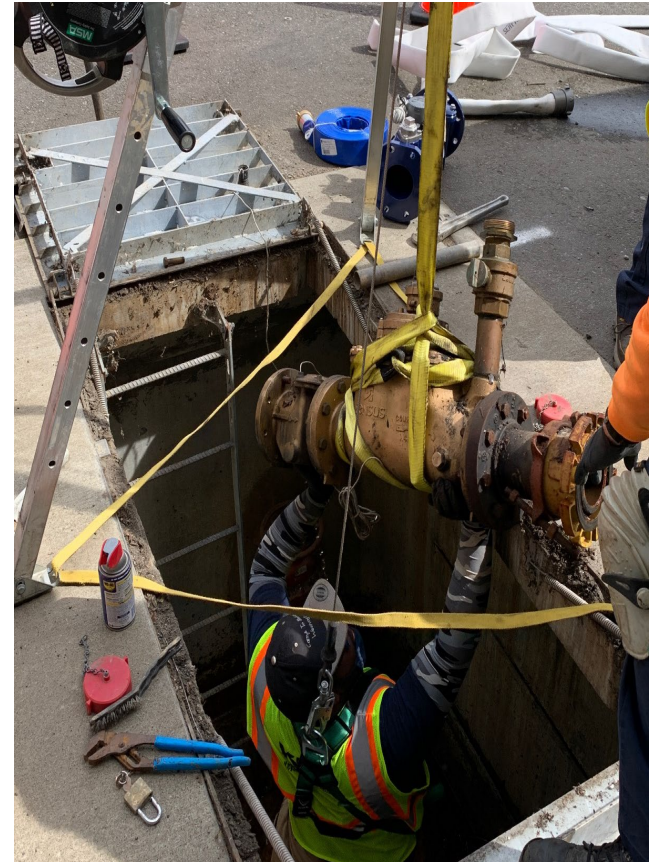
2018 - 2022



Project Update

Meter Only Deployment

- Replaced 21,000 meters
 - 57% of customer accounts
 - All large meters (3" or greater) completed



Project Update

Cellular Transmitter

- July 2021 – Tested 48 ‘Beta’ prototype units
 - Verified basic functionality and cellular network
- January 2022 – Testing 8 ‘First Article’ production units
 - Verify full functionality of transmitter, cellular network and billing system integration



Project Update

Cellular Transmitter Production Delay

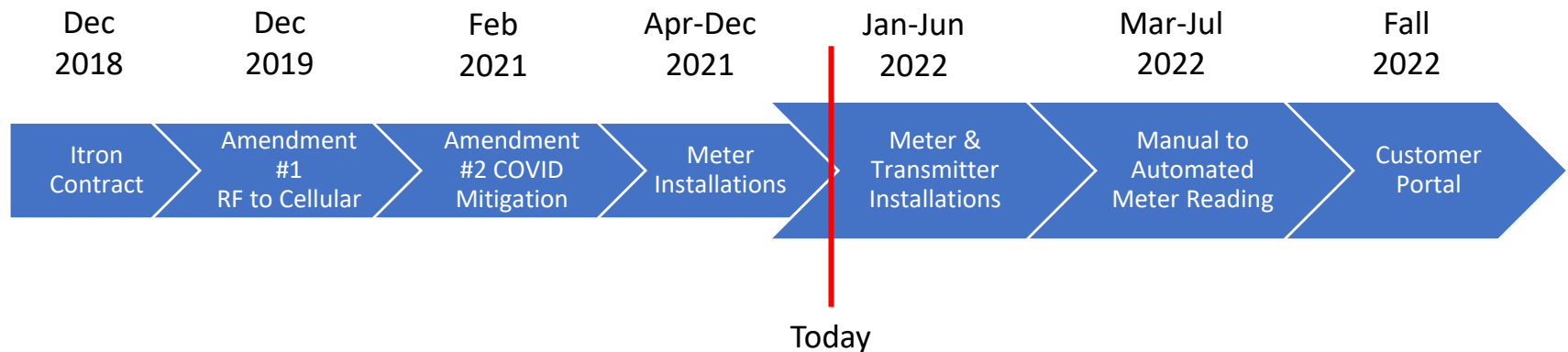
- Components with microchips delayed due to overseas factory closures
- Delivery delayed 5 months
- Installations began Jan 2022 vs Aug 2021



Project Update

Next Steps

- Install digital meters for remaining 19,000 customers
- Install cellular transmitters for 40,000 customers
- Transition from manual to automated meter reading
- Project complete late Fall 2022





Non-Communicating Water Meter Service

(AMI Opt-Out)



Opt-Out Program

- May 2021 Commission feedback to staff
 - Not offer the Opt-Out program
 - If offered, program costs recouped from participating customers



Why Offer an Opt-Out Program

- Customer perceived concerns
 - Health
 - Privacy
- Utility responsiveness to customers



Opt-Out Considerations

- AMI is the new standard for Bellevue Utilities
- Opt-out from AMI will be offered, as a courtesy, on a transitional basis:
 - By request, during project implementation
 - For *existing* single-family residential customers
- Opt-out program will sunset in 5 years



AMI Opt-Out Customer Impacts

- No access to near real-time water consumption data
- Unable to receive important automatic alerts
 - Leaks
 - Backflow
- Not eligible for leak adjustments
- Additional cost



Impacts to the Utility

- Required to maintain manual reading capability
 - Meter Reading Staff
 - Vehicles
- Additional administrative coordination
- Modified billing processes
- Decreased AMI project efficiency
- Future re-installation effort

Fees

\$80 One-time application/processing fee

- Application review, coordination with customers
- Billing system changes
- Coordination with installers and field staff
- Future installation of transmitter upon sale of property

\$30 One-time transmitter removal fee*

*waived if transmitter has not been installed yet

\$15 Recurring fee per manual meter-reading

- Currently every two months





Next Steps

Council presentation and adoption of proposed fee ordinance.





Thank You

