

Advanced Metering Infrastructure

Project Update

Nav Ota
Utilities Director
February 7, 2022





Council Direction

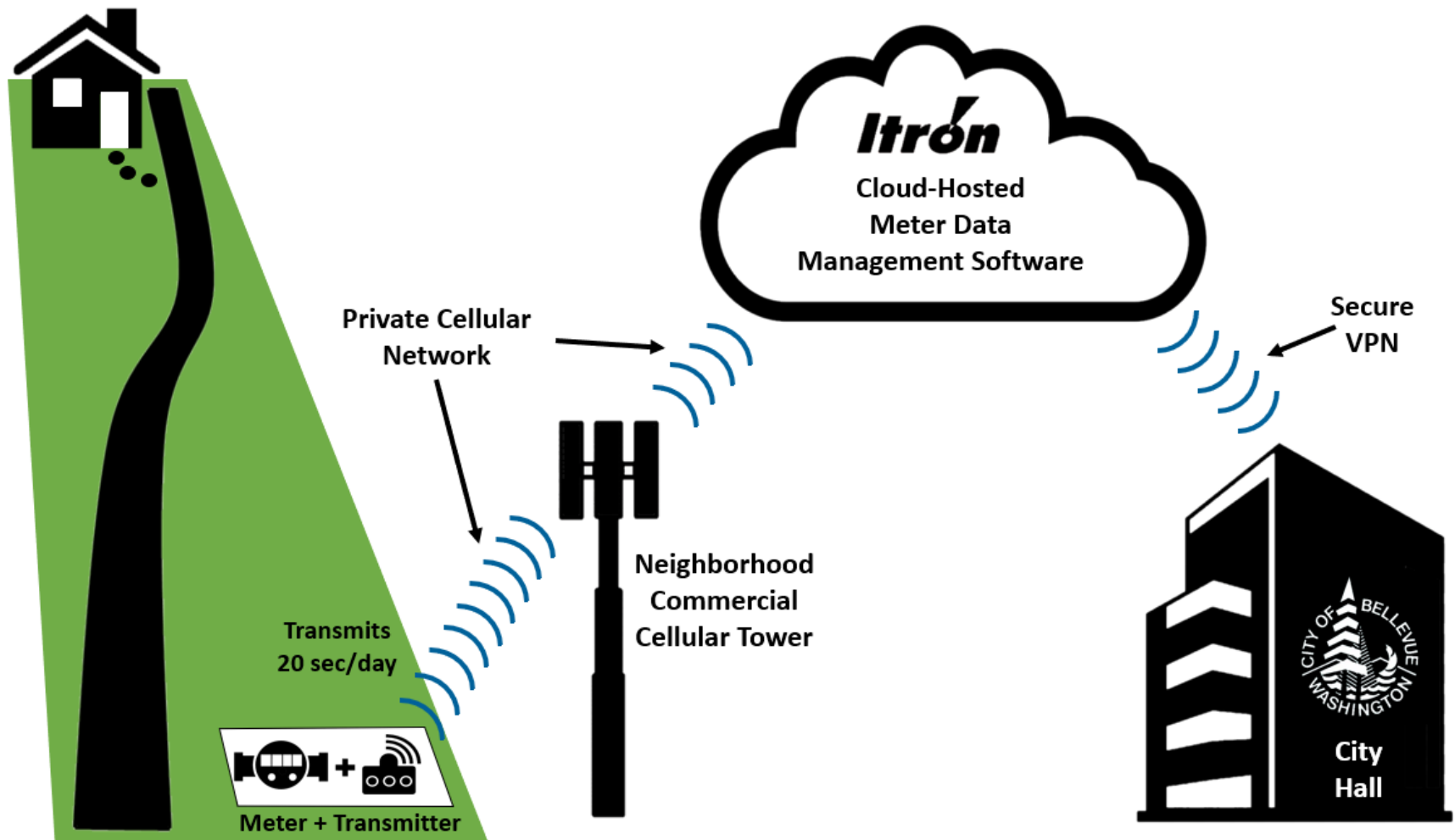
Staff seeks direction to return with appropriate legislation to adopt proposed AMI Non-Communicating Water Meter Service Program “Opt-Out” fees.

AGENDA

1. AMI System Overview
2. Project Update
3. Non-Communicating Water Meter Service Program (Opt-Out)



AMI System Overview



AMI System—Safety & Security

Approved by regulatory agencies

- Meter certified for potable water use
 - National Science Foundation (NSF/ANSI 61)
 - American Water Work Association (AWWA C-708)
- Cellular transmitter certified for operation
 - Federal Communications Commission (FCC Part 15-C)



Security & Privacy

- No customer information stored on meter or transmitter
- Consumption data transmitted on secure private cellular network
- Consumption data is only correlated to customer account behind City of Bellevue secure firewall



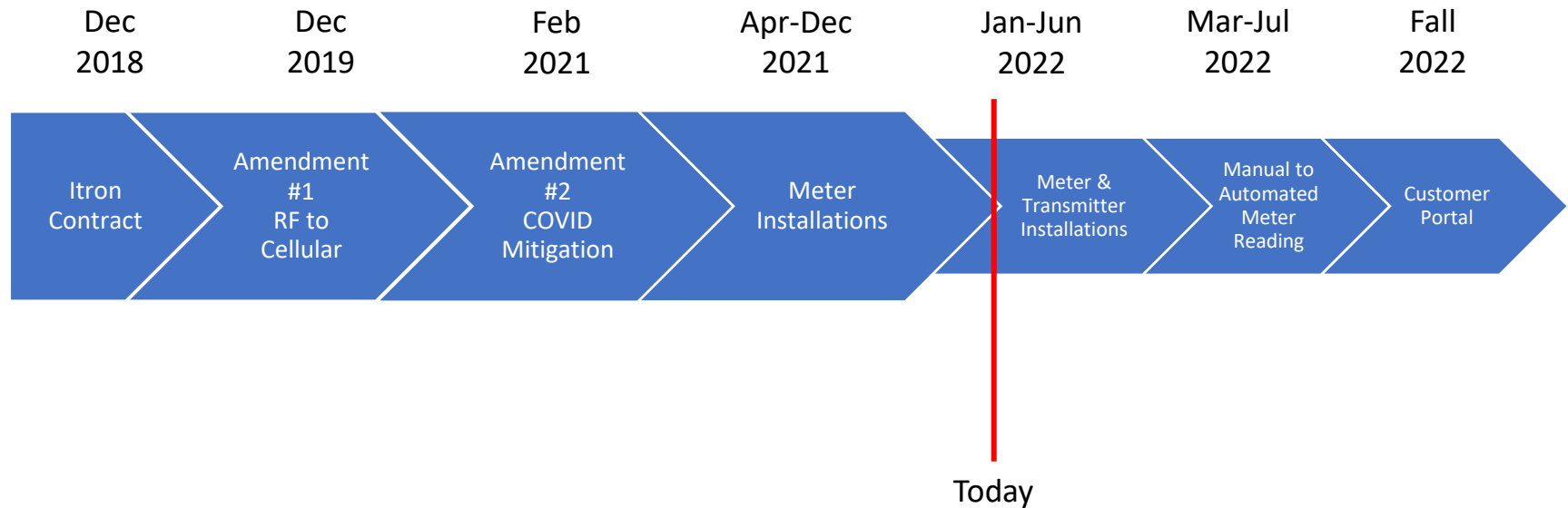
Customer Value

- 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

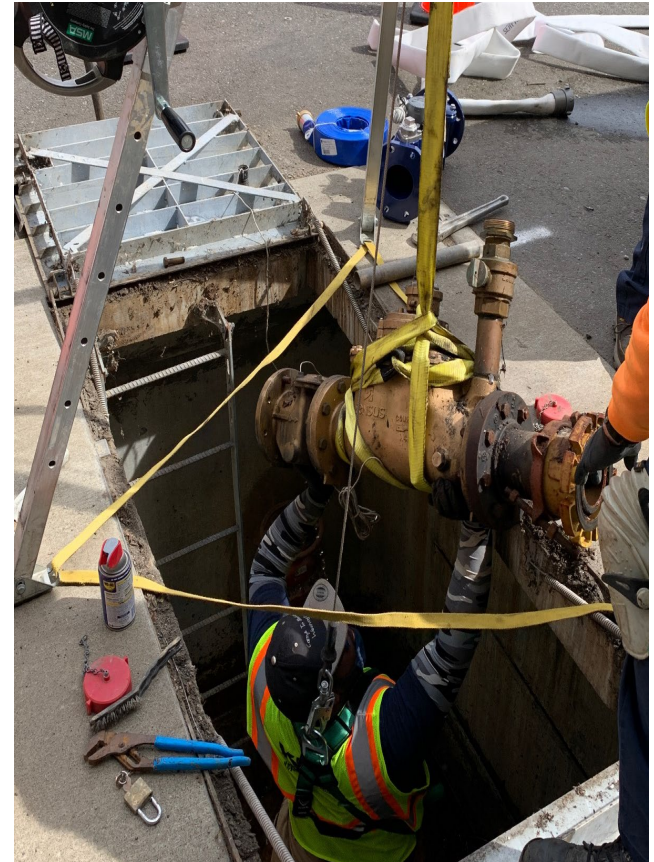
2018 - 2022



Project Update

Meter Only Deployment

- All large meters (3" or greater) completed
- Replaced 22,000 meters
 - 55% of customer accounts



Project Update

Cellular Transmitter Delay

- Delivery delayed 6 months
- Installations delayed from Aug 2021 to Feb 2022



Project Update

Cellular Transmitter

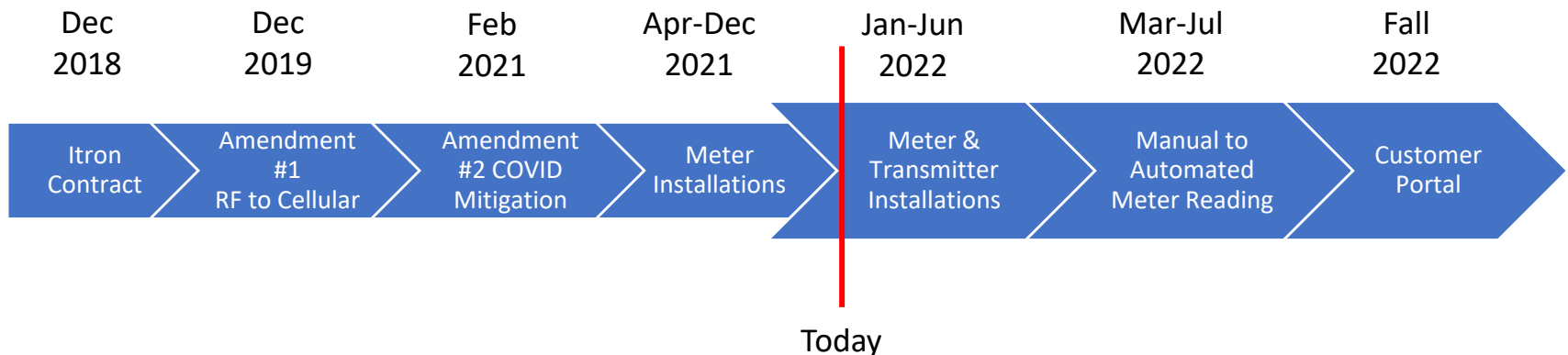
- July 2021 – Tested 48 ‘Beta’ prototype units
 - Verified basic functionality and cellular network
- February 2022 – Testing 8 ‘First Article’ production units
 - Verify full functionality of transmitter, cellular network and billing system integration



Project Update

Next Steps

- Install remaining digital meters
- Begin transmitter installations
- Transition from manual to automated meter reading
- Customer Portal available late Fall 2022





Non-Communicating Water Meter Service

(AMI Opt-Out Option)



Why Offer an Opt-Out Option

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



Opt-Out Considerations

- AMI is the new standard for Bellevue Utilities
- Opt-out from AMI could 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



Impacts to Customers who Opt-Out

- 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
 - Field Staff Time
 - Vehicles
- Additional administrative coordination
- Modified billing process
- Coordination with AMI contractor
- 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

\$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





Environmental Services Commission Recommendation on AMI Opt-Out

Vanja Knezevic - Chair





Council Direction

Staff seeks direction to return with appropriate legislation to adopt proposed AMI Non-Communicating Water Meter Service Program “Opt-Out” fees.





Thank You

