COUNCIL SUMMARY BACKGROUND BRIEFING: KING COUNTY REGIONAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER ISSUES

February/March and April 2018

This briefing summarizes recent actions taken by the three regional committees formed as a result of the merger of King County and Metro. The three regional committees are the Regional Policy Committee, the Regional Water Quality Committee, and the Regional Transit Committee. We will also include updates on other regional issues (e.g., King County Flood Control District, King Conservation District) as appropriate. In addition, the Growth Management Planning Council (GMPC), was formed in the early 1990s to comply with the Growth Management Act requirements for collaboration of counties and their cities on countywide planning policies. The GMPC meets three to four times per year to consider amendments to the countywide planning policies and to monitor progress on implementation. This is intended as a summary briefing; staff can provide more details on any of the items below.

Late February and March meeting dates are highlighted in gray. April meeting dates are highlighted in yellow.

REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE (RPC)

March 7 meeting summary:

- Briefing regarding the changing role of regional airports. At the request of the RPC Chair Pete von Reichbauer, the RPC hosted a panel discussion of issues concerning regional and municipal airports in King County. The panel included managers from the Auburn and Renton Municipal Airports, Kenmore Air, and the King County International Airport. Issues discussed included airport safety, security, facilities and collaboration.
- Proposed ordinance approving the Regional E-911 Strategic Plan. The RPC unanimously recommended approval of the King County Regional E-911 Strategic Plan (Plan), with an amendment to require annual reports from the E-911 Program Office to the RPC on implementation of the Plan. Bellevue Councilmember John Stokes and other Sound Cities Association representatives raised important questions about the significant amount of work yet to be done to complete and implement the Plan. Issues raised included the potential for developing safeguards to ensure new technology costs are reasonable and sustainable over time, and understanding staffing and other resources that will be required for implementation.

The Plan was developed over several years with numerous regional partners. Bellevue Councilmember Jennifer Robertson served on the Regional Leadership Group, and Bellevue staff served on the Planning Group and the task force groups that supported the Leadership Group. The Executive Director of NORCOM, Tom Orr, also served on the Leadership Group.

King County's E-911 system provides emergency call-taking and dispatch services to residents in King County and is funded partly by the E-911 excise taxes on land lines, wireless and Voice-over-Internet Protocol (VoIP) phones and partly by local jurisdictions through Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs). Bellevue's PSAP is NORCOM. The E-911 system consists of the King County 911 Program Office as well as the 12 PSAPs in the county, such as NORCOM. The E-911 system currently in place does not allow for digital information (text, photos, video – known as Next Generation 911) to be sent by the public to the PSAPs. In addition to allowing the public to send digital data to PSAPs, upgrades for Next Generation 911 will enable faster

network communication and better integration between 911 centers. A complete replacement of the legacy system currently in use is required to facilitate moving to Next Generation 911.

E-911 Strategic Plan

The following are key terms of the Plan:

<u>Governance</u> – The Plan establishes a Regional Advisory Governing Board that would make recommendations to the King County E-911 Program Office, the King County Executive, and the King County Council. It would have one representative for each PSAP and operate by consensus as much as possible. If voting is required, it will use a two-part test: to pass, a measure must be approved by (1) 40% of the PSAPs present and voting, AND (2) PSAPs representing 60% of the total call volume of the King County system.

Once the Plan is approved, the Governing Board will replace the interim groups that have been

Once the Plan is approved, the Governing Board will replace the interim groups that have been in place to develop the Plan.

<u>Technology</u> – The Plan proposes replacing the current decentralized system with a single centralized platform, but due to the complexity of the system and its interaction with the PSAPs, the Leadership Group noted that new information may be developed during implementation of a technology solution that may warrant a different approach. There are many uncertainties around the anticipated technology investments, such as:

- Updating preliminary cost estimates that are currently only cost ranges based on informal conversations with vendors.
- o Developing detailed requirements and staffing needs.
- o Clarifying technical roles between King County E-911 and the PSAPs.
- o Addressing security issues.
- o Design, installation, testing, training and transition issues.

<u>Financial Plan</u> – The current level of spending by the regional E-911 system is not sustainable with projected revenues, and a negative fund balance is expected in 2023. The Plan recognizes that funding options must be developed for the required technology upgrades and reforms to the excise tax funding source must be considered. Financial sustainability, which includes both operating in a more cost-effective manner and revenue reforms, will be a key work item for the E-911 Office, the PSAPs and the Governing Board.

The next meeting of the RPC is scheduled for April 18.

REGIONAL TRANSIT COMMITTEE (RTC)

February 21 meeting summary:

• 2017 Metro Connects Policy Report. The RTC acted to accept the Metro Connects Policy Report, a key deliverable of the Metro Connects Development Program. The report, which was introduced to the committee in October, includes a description of current policy guidance documents, five service principles, two capital priorities, and a recommendation that the RTC consider policy changes pertaining to Partnerships and the Service Network to support King County Metro's development of the 2025 Metro Connects transit network.

• **Briefing on the Metro Fare work program.** Metro staff briefed the RTC on the second phase of its Metro Fare work program. The program is intended to assess potential changes to the transit fare structure and conduct outreach in 2017 and 2018. Phase I of the fares work program, which was implemented in 2017, focused on near-term options for fare simplification and affordability.

Phase II, which began earlier this year, focuses on identifying and evaluating changes in the goal areas of:

- o Speeding operations and improving safety,
- o Simplifying fares for customers and growing ridership,
- o Preparing for the future, and
- o Reducing barriers to transit access and advancing social equity.

The King County Council is expected to approve a new fare structure in late 2018. The RTC will continue to receive updates on the progress of Phase II.

- **Quarterly briefing on parking.** Metro staff provided an update on several parking initiatives underway within the agency:
 - 1.) <u>Carpool permit program</u>. Metro launched a carpool permit pilot program last winter at six park and rides, including the Eastgate Park and Ride. Since launching, the program has expanded to include 15 park and rides. There are currently 137 active permits in the program. Participants have ranked certainty of finding a spot as the most important benefit. A one-year evaluation is underway, and a report will be available to the RTC at the next quarterly parking update.
 - 2.) <u>Increased enforcement</u>. Metro has expanded its park and ride parking enforcement program to better manage parking availability, particularly in oversubscribed areas. This enforcement includes monitoring to ensure that park and ride users are taking transit and unsafe parking. Since expanding enforcement last spring, Metro has issued 400 non-monetary warnings and towed 25 vehicles. Metro staff notes that the program shows promise, as 80 percent of the vehicles that have received warnings do not receive second warnings. This indicates behavior change, which is the goal of the program.
 - 3.) <u>Leased lot expansion</u>. Metro has funding to provide 400 parking stalls at leased-lots in 2018. The agency is currently in the recruitment phase. Staff asked that local jurisdictions assist in connecting Metro with potential leased-lot locations near high quality, frequent transit service.

Additional work is underway to better manage existing parking facilities, as well as to expand parking supply for Metro, Sound Transit and Washington State Department of Transportation. The agencies are exploring managed parking—or charging for use of parking—on a broad scale beyond current carpool pilot programs. The RTC will be provided with updates on this cooperative work at future quarterly updates.

March 21 meeting summary:

- Quarterly update on the Community Connections program. Community Connections is in its last year as a pilot, before the program is planned to become a regular line of business at Metro. The program addresses:
 - 1.) Mitigation needs for service reductions as a result of the September 2014 budget cuts;
 - 2.) Work already included in five-year plans; and
 - 3.) Complementary services, including first- and last-mile projects and filling gaps in fixed route services.

In the final year of the Community Connections pilot, Metro plans to prioritize working with jurisdictions that do not currently have a pilot project. This strategy was developed in response to analysis of the application process, which found that smaller jurisdictions found compliance with the application process challenging, due to lack of resources. Bellevue was awarded a 2017 pilot project in the Factoria area to provide first- and last-mile connections between the Eastgate Park and Ride and area employers.

In 2018, Metro plans to reach out to the following communities to gauge interest in Community Connections projects: Algona, Beaux Arts Village, Carnation, Clyde Hill, Federal Way, Hunts Point, Medina, Milton, Pacific, Renton, SeaTac, Skykomish, Tukwila, and Yarrow Point.

- Briefing on performance metrics. The RTC learned about Metro's performance metrics, which
 Metro is expanding to provide a common language that communicates quality and efficiency of
 transit service. These performance metrics cover four major categories:
 - Service efficiency
 - Service quality
 - o Service growth
 - o Employees

The RTC will receive periodic briefings on performance metrics in an effort to provide greater transparency.

• Update on the One Center City project. One Center City is a collaborative initiative among the City of Seattle, Sound Transit, King County Metro and the Downtown Seattle Association to mitigate the impacts of several large-scale construction projects planned to take place in downtown Seattle between 2019 and 2021. This time period is referred to as the "period of maximum constraint" and is expected to cause significant additional delays for transit and single occupancy vehicles during this time. A One Center City advisory group met until last September to assist the partners in developing a Near-Term Action Plan, which has not yet been released.

The Near-Term Action Plan will outline projects to improve mobility during the period of maximum constraint. Some of these options include changes to bus routing in downtown Seattle, such as routing transit away from Fourth Avenue, and increasing transit right of way on Fifth and Sixth Avenues.

Other proposed changes include rerouting transit service from SR-520 to the Montlake Triangle. Routes under consideration for restructure include: Metro routes 252, 255, 257, 268, 311, and

Sound Transit routes 540, 541, 542, and 545. Rerouting service from Southwest King County is also being considered. However, analysis is still being conducted to evaluate the benefits and costs of service changes in this region.

The next meeting of the RTC is scheduled for April 18.

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE (RWQC)

March 7 meeting summary:

• Wastewater Systemwide Planning. The Committee received a briefing from Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) staff summarizing the context, background and intended outcomes of a new systemwide planning project. The WTD faces a complex and growing number of challenges and mandates that together present potential future challenges. The WTD is beginning a review of the regional wastewater system that will take a broad look at projected wastewater demands and mandates, consider critical priorities, and assess how well the WTD's programs are aligned to meet these needs.

Some of the current and future challenges facing the WTD include:

- o Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan implementation,
- o Conveyance System Improvement Program,
- West Point Treatment Plant recovery project,
- o Potential state regulatory action on nutrient limits,
- o Potential capacity limitations at the West Point Treatment Plant, and
- o Aging system infrastructure.

Addressing these challenges will likely cause rate increases and the WTD is moving forward with a systemwide planning effort to attempt to manage these various system demands, in a way that helps to mitigate potential rate impacts. The WTD is planning to convene a regional leaders' forum to advise on the project. Bellevue has requested more information about the function of this group and how it differs from the Regional Water Quality Committee function.

- West Point Implementation Plan, Quarterly Status/Fiscal Report, and Staff Reporting/Retention. In response to the February 9, 2017 system failure at the West Point Treatment Plant (West Point), the King County Council directed the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) to act and report on several items to restore West Point and prevent similar events in the future. The RWQC received a report on the WTD's progress on the following items:
 - Use of an emergency waiver of procurement requirements and fiscal reporting for West Point recovery actions, including securing insurance reimbursements for West Point repairs;
 - An implementation plan for recommendations from an independent assessment commissioned by the King County Council, including improvements in life-safety management, emergency preparedness, equipment redundancy, and prioritizing critical capital projects; and
 - A plan to address staff retention at West Point and provide a tool for staff to report operational concerns at West Point anonymously.

Overall, the report indicates that the WTD is making adequate and consistent progress in these areas.

• Capital Projects Briefing. The Committee received an update from the Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) regarding its capital projects that are in final design phases or under construction.

The WTD is responsible for maintaining the reliability and usefulness of its assets which are valued at \$4.8 billion. The WTD manages a Capital Improvement Program that plans, manages and constructs a wide variety of capital projects. The WTD has recently implemented a new capital projects prioritization method known as portfolio management that provides for the evaluation of proposed projects against specific criteria that reflect the WTD's mission and goals.

Included in the list of capital projects reported on were two in Bellevue: the Sunset and Heathfield Pump Stations and Force Main Upgrade near Vasa Park, which is currently under construction, and the Eastgate Interceptor Rehabilitation Phase III near the Lake Hills Greenbelt, which will begin construction in April. The update provided project costs and completion dates for each of the capital projects. The Sunset Heathfield project has a total cost estimate of \$75,324,708 and is estimated to be completed in March 2020. The Eastgate project currently has a baseline cost estimate of \$7,353,124 and is estimated to be completed in November 2018.

• **2018 Committee Work Plan.** The Committee reviewed a draft 2018 work plan and will consider adopting the work plan at its next meeting.

April 4 meeting summary:

• West Point Flooding Event Water Quality Summary Report. The Committee received a briefing from the King County Wastewater Treatment Division staff regarding a recently published report on water quality sampling and analysis of the waters surrounding the West Point Treatment Plant (West Point) during and after the February 2017 West Point flooding event that resulted in untreated effluent discharges into Puget Sound.

After the February 9, 2017 flooding event, West Point operated without secondary treatment for almost three months and did not return to full permit compliance until May 10, 2017. In response to the limited treatment capabilities and capacity, King County increased the frequency of its water quality monitoring in Puget Sound and the number of sampling locations. The report presents the results of this water quality monitoring that show there was increased bacteria at the beaches adjacent to West Point for several days following the use of an emergency bypass outfall on February 9 and again on February 15-16 resulting in beach closures during this time.

The West Point effluent was observed to have higher concentrations of bacteria, solids, some metals, and organic chemicals near the West Point outfall than typically found at the site; however, these parameters did not exceed state water quality standards and were reduced once secondary treatment came back on line at West Point. This data supports the conclusion that secondary treatment is effective at reducing these constituents in treated discharge.

Additional evaluations of both sediment and fish tissue are underway and will provide more information about whether other environmental attributes have been affected by the lack of

secondary treatment during the February to May period in 2017.

 WaterWorks Grants. The Committee received a briefing from the King County Wastewater Treatment Division staff regarding the WaterWorks grant program, including a review of the proposals recommended for 2018 grant awards.

The WaterWorks grant program was established by the King County Council in 2015. King County worked closely with cities and wastewater districts in developing the WaterWorks grant program. The program is funded by wastewater rates and includes two tracks for grant awards. One track is a competitive grant program and the other is a County Council directed fund. The competitive grant program includes a Grants Review Committee that reviews grant proposals and makes recommendations to the King County Executive and the King County Council, based on specific WaterWorks grant criteria. Since 2015, the King County Council has approved two rounds of grant awards.

To be eligible for WaterWorks funding, projects must:

- Create a benefit to, or improvement of, water quality within the County Wastewater Treatment Division's (WTD) service area and benefit ratepayers; and
- o Demonstrate that water quality benefits are related to WTD's regional water quality responsibilities.

Bellevue has received two WaterWorks grants. In 2016, Bellevue was awarded \$100,000 for the Kelsey Creek Stormwater Quality Retrofit project from the competitive grant round. In addition, Bellevue also received \$175,625 in 2017 for a stormwater biofiltration testing project from the King County Council discretionary allocation of WaterWorks dollars.

After reviewing the Grants Review Committee's recommendations, the King County Executive has proposed 23 grant awards to top ranking projects for a total of \$1,860,000. Only four of the competitive grant proposals are from cities, nineteen of the proposals were submitted by organizations and non-profits. The County Council is considering a third round of awards and is seeking RWQC input on the recommended competitive grant awards.

The next meeting of the RWQC is scheduled for May 2.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLANNING COUNCIL (GMPC)

February 28 meeting summary:

- Provided direction to staff on revisions to a draft motion regarding school facility permitting. The motion describes best practices for jurisdictions to consider in processing permits for school facilities. This is an outgrowth of school siting issues raised during the update of the Countywide Planning Policies (CPP) in 2012. Since then, the GMPC established a task force and adopted new policies that have fostered better communication and collaboration between school districts and jurisdictions on the challenges of siting school facilities. Bellevue's Development Services Department and the Bellevue School District have had a program in place for over 10 years that already incorporates best practices.
- Directed staff to prepare a letter from the GMPC to the Puget Sound Regional Council commenting on the scope for VISION 2050 and the environmental review. The letter was

prepared by staff and circulated for review and signature by representatives of each of the four caucuses: Bellevue, King County, Seattle and Sound Cities Association.

The next meeting of the GMPC is scheduled for May 30.

ONE TABLE – ADDRESSING ROOT CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS

March 19 meeting summary:

The One Table Elected Leadership Group (ELG) met on March 19 to discuss the work done to date by the Community Action Workgroups (CAWs). Mayor John Chelminiak is participating on the ELG representing Bellevue and the Sound Cities Association. Bellevue staff attend the Affordable Housing CAW.

Each CAW identified factors that contribute to the root causes of homelessness and developed strategies to directly address the factors identified. The ELG was asked to review the strategies and select those that resonated within these three lenses:

- o Strategies that were bold;
- o Strategies that addressed racial disparity; and
- o Strategies that could be scaled.

The ELG also discussed the tension arising from focusing on longer-term strategies that address the root causes of homelessness versus considering the more immediate needs of responding to the homeless crisis.

A follow-up meeting of the ELG will be scheduled to consider additional information on the relative impact of the proposed strategies.

<u>Background:</u> The One Table initiative was launched by King County Executive Dow Constantine, Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan and Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus. The One Table effort is a regional discussion of homelessness with a focus on root causes and reducing the number of people coming into homelessness. Related organizations are All Home, which is working primarily on responding to the homeless crisis, and the Regional Affordable Housing Task Force, which is focused on addressing affordable housing at all income levels.

One Table is made up of two leadership groups: The Civic Leadership Group and the Elected Leadership Group. Participants represent expertise across the community including elected officials, business leaders, local philanthropists, and service providers. Five subgroups, the Community Action Groups, were formed to focus on specific topics, including:

- Affordable Housing
- o Behavioral Health
- o Child Welfare System
- o Criminal Justice
- o Employment

April 4 meeting summary:

At the April 4 One Table meeting, six recommended priority actions were presented. The priority actions were developed from input across all of the participating groups: Elected Leadership Group;

Civic Leadership Group; Community Action Workgroups; and Leaders with Lived Experience Group. Participants from these groups and the public provided input at the meeting regarding how to maximize the impact of the priority actions and how to make the strategies ones that can be acted on.

The six recommended priority actions are:

- 1.) Provide affordable homes for 5,000 households over three years through a mix of affordable housing approaches, maximizing use of public land, and increasing access to existing housing choices.
- 2.) Create a housing stabilization fund to achieve zero exits into homelessness, including zero inappropriate evictions, with a focus on those with the most acute need.
- 3.) Provide on-demand behavioral health treatment that is racially, ethnically and culturally appropriate, flexible, person-centered, mobile, peer-focused, and trauma-informed.
- 4.) Offer a comprehensive service package for all foster youth aging out of care to increase stability throughout their transition.
- 5.) Strive to achieve zero bookings for charges that are a direct result of homelessness and behavioral health crises, through diversion and compliance requirement reform done through a racial justice lens. Study cost offsets from reduced jail use and redistribute savings to fund diversion programs.
- 6.) Double King County employment programs to train and employ 1300 individuals over 2 years who are disproportionately at-risk of homelessness, and secure private and public-sector commitments to hire program graduates.

One Table has set a goal of developing final recommendations by May 3. The next One Table meeting had not been scheduled at the time of this writing.

KING COUNTY REGIONAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK FORCE

March 29 meeting summary:

The meeting objective was for the Task Force to discuss a Statement of Intent and receive information regarding strategies to address displacement and preservation of housing opportunities.

The Task Force reviewed and discussed a draft Statement of Intent that is designed to express the overall mission of the Task Force. Councilmember John Stokes and the Sound Cities Association caucus proposed modifications to the Statement to incorporate the importance of preserving existing affordable housing and developing housing in proximity to jobs and transit. Task Force staff will revise the Statement of Intent based on the discussion and bring a new draft to the next meeting. The Task Force also heard presentations regarding both place-based and people-based housing displacement, and the next Task Force agenda will include time to discuss that information.

The Task Force is expected to meet again on April 19.

KING COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION INITIATIVE

At its final meeting in December, the King County Land Conservation and Preservation Advisory Committee approved a final report and recommendations to the King County Executive and the King County Council regarding a plan to protect 65,000 acres of remaining high conservation value lands. The final report was transmitted to the King County Executive and the King County Council on December by the co-chairs of the Advisory Committee. Additional detail regarding the Advisory

Committee recommendations is included below. The Advisory Committee also recommended that King County conduct outreach to cities to discuss next steps for the effort.

County/Cities Meetings

During March, King County staff organized a series of meetings with staff from cities across the County to discuss the Land Conservation Initiative and next steps. At those meetings, King County staff reported the following:

- King County has determined that the **timing is not right for a ballot measure** for the Land Conservation Initiative.
- o A King County ordinance is being developed to lift the 50% Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) debt cap to allow bonding up to 100% of revenues from the CFT.
- The ordinance will also create an Open Space Equity Cabinet and waive the CFT match requirement for land acquisitions in "equity" areas, as identified in the final recommendation from the Advisory Committee. Currently a 50% match is required from cities for CFT funding.
- o King County is investigating whether CFT is subject to the 1% property tax growth limit.
- o King County is considering whether the parks levy renewal measure, which will be on the ballot in 2019, should include additional funding specifically for the Land Conservation Initiative acquisition priorities. This could be funding shared by the County with the cities. King County staff mentioned adding between 2- and 3-cents per \$1,000 of assessed value (AV), to the current property tax rate of approximately 14-cents per \$1,000 of AV.

Background on the Advisory Committee Recommendations

The Advisory Committee recommended a financial model with a total cost of \$4.14 billion that includes land acquisition priorities and costs from the County as well as cities and inflation for all the properties over a 30-year period. Current revenue sources are expected to provide \$2.25 billion of the total \$4.14 billion estimate. Out of that current revenue total, private philanthropic sources are expected to fund \$294 million. After current funding sources are deducted, the funding gap is \$1.89 billion.

Public Funding Options

The final recommendations from the Advisory Committee to achieve the acquisition priorities in a 30-year timeframe include:

- O <u>Utilize Conservation Futures Tax (CFT) funding</u>. The CFT was originally authorized by the State Legislature at 6.25cents per \$1,000 of AV to acquire conservation rights in real property. The increase in King County AV over time has reduced the tax rate to 4.4-cents per \$1,000 of AV. King County voters could increase the CFT to 6.25-cents with a 51% affirmative vote.
- o <u>Increase the CFT to 6.25-cents per \$1,000 AV two-to-three times over the 30 years.</u> This strategy would reset the rate as King County's AV increases, allowing the County to reach its funding goal for property acquisition in 30 years.
- Fund operations and maintenance for properties acquired as part of this initiative from future parks levies by adding between 7-tenths-cent and 2-cents per \$1,000 of AV when the current parks levy is up for renewal in 2019. This is needed because the King County Code does not authorize the use of CFT funds for operations and maintenance. State law does allow up to 15% of the CFT total to be spent on operations and maintenance activities.
- o <u>Allow bonding up to 100% of CFT revenues</u> by amending the County debt policy. Current County debt policy allows bonding up to 50% of CFT revenues.

Bellevue staff will continue to monitor the County's implementation of recommendations from the Land Conservation Initiative Advisory Committee and the development of the next Countywide parks levy in order to keep Council apprised of new developments.

<u>METROPOLITAN WATER POLLUTION ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE</u> (MWPAAC) UPDATE ON PROPOSED WASTEWATER RATE INCREASE FOR 2019-2020

The King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) staff updated the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee (MWPAAC) on the King County Executive's wastewater rate proposal for 2019-2020. The rate proposal is scheduled to be transmitted to the King County Council on April 19, and a rate must be approved by June 30 pursuant to King County's wastewater contracts with cities and districts.

The current rate is \$44.22 per month, and it is proposed to increase by 2.5% to \$45.33 per month for 2019. No increase is proposed for 2020. The largest drivers for the wholesale rate increase are increased staffing levels due to new construction and capacity improvements including enhanced operations at West Point and wet weather response crews.

The MWPAAC expressed concern that this lower than anticipated rate increase may lead to a need for higher rate hikes in future years. The MWPAAC has consistently recommended that the WTD choose steady small rate increases over more volatile rate fluctuations.

Capacity Charge

The King County wastewater capacity charge is updated every three years, and County policy requires a study to update the cost and growth projections, interest rate assumptions, and other factors in order to calculate a new capacity charge. In the intervening years, such as the capacity charge proposal for 2019, the capacity charge is increased to reflect inflation. The WTD is proposing to increase the capacity charge by about 3% in 2019 to cover inflation, from \$62.60 to \$64.50. The County is currently conducting two studies that will inform a proposal to be developed in 2019 for a new capacity charge rate structure in 2020.

Staff will keep Council updated on any changes as the rate and capacity charge are considered by the County Council.