

**CITY OF BELLEVUE
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

October 7, 2021
6:30 p.m.

Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Knezevic at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Vanja Knezevic (Chair), Negin Khanloo (Vice Chair)¹, Neal Hines, Anne Howe, Diann Strom, Ken Wan

COUNCIL LIAISON: Conrad Lee (absent)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Lucy Liu, Deputy Director; Linda De Boldt, Utility Engineering Assistant Director; Brian Landau, Planning Manager, Utilities; Angela Chung, Senior Engineer/Planner; Jon Gire, Solid Waste Program Manager, and Laurie Hugdahl, Minutes Taker

2. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF BYLAWS

Chair Knezevic and Deputy Director Liu read an introductory statement regarding online meetings and procedures.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Commissioner Strom, seconded by Commissioner Hines, to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously (6-0).

4. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

None.

5. COMMUNICATION FROM CITY COUNCIL, COMMUNITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

¹ Commissioner Khanloo arrived at 6:32 p.m.

None.

6. STAFF REPORTS

A) Pump Station 12 Emergency Project

Asst. Director De Boldt reviewed an emergency repair project completed for Lake Hills Sewer Pump Station 12 in mid-September. To avoid infrastructure damage and a high degree of risk to public health, public safety and environmental damage, a failed pipe was replaced. The project is now 95% complete; the leaking pipe has been replaced with new steel pipe; and the pump station is back online. As required by Bellevue's Emergency Contracting Rules staff went to Council last Monday to ratify the emergency contract through a resolution.

Commissioner Hines asked about the cause of the leak. Asst. Director De Boldt replied that staff believes the cause was the age of the pipe and the location in the bend of the pipe which resulted in degradation of the thickness of the pipe in a critical spot.

Commissioner Wan asked if the aging of the pipe would cause the city to put the surrounding pipes on an earlier replacement schedule. Asst. Director De Boldt replied that the pipes within the pump station and the sewer main will be evaluated carefully over the next year, as part of the upcoming rehabilitation project at this location.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A) 9/2/21 MINUTES

Motion made by Vice Chair Khanloo, seconded by Commissioner Strom, to approve the 9/2/21 minutes as presented. Upon a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

9. NEW BUSINESS

a) Republic Services Action Plan Quarterly Update

Jon Gire, Solid Waste Program Manager
Rich Rinehart, Republic Services General Manager

Program Manager Gire introduced Rich Rinehart who is the new General Manager for Republic Services. Mr. Gire highlighted Republic's performance over the last few months. Total missed collections numbers were good until July and August, but the numbers increased due to staffing challenges. A total of 126 missed collections were subject to performance fees because they were not picked up within 24 hours. Customer satisfaction with response time following a missed collection has dropped over the last few years. The City is working with Republic to identify the causes of the problem and work on solutions.

Mr. Rinehart explained that Republic Services continues to implement the missed collections plan. He discussed challenges with staffing due to Covid-19 and efforts to have "Route Ready" implementation with the same driver, same route, and same truck every day. They are also focusing on staff training for both customer service and drivers and working to ensure drivers get information in a timely manner.

Commissioner Wan asked if there is a sense if the numbers have improved since August. Mr. Rinehart replied they are closing out the month of September now and it appears the numbers are lower. Commissioner Wan commented on the importance of quick follow-up pickups of missed collections and improving customer satisfaction ratings.

The City will continue to work with Republic Services to meet performance targets for responding to missed collections. The annual Solid Waste Survey results will come to the Commission in November.

b) Lake Washington Sewer Lake Line Management Plan Update

*Senior Engineer/Planner Angela Chung
Utilities Systems Planning Manager Brian Landau
Asst. Director Linda DeBoldt*

Asst. Director De Boldt introduced this item.

Senior Planner Chung gave some background on lake lines and the importance of creating a Lake Washington Lake Lines Management Plan to address long-term and short-term plans to reduce risk while maximizing remaining useful life on the facilities. Staff has located lake line information and worked on compiling it into the management plan. They have defined and are prioritizing service areas. They also began work on developing different options to repair lake lines. Underwater sewer multi-agency workshops were held to share experiences and pool knowledge. Public Engagement Plan engagement platforms include Engaging

Bellevue online open houses, Zoom, mail, email, the website, and translation services.

Planning Manager Landau discussed State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) background and requirements. He also reviewed the City's work on an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Senior Planner Chung reviewed how the EIS will integrate into the project schedule for the remainder of the Management Plan process over the next two years.

Immediate next steps include completing the consultant contract development, implementation of the integrated public engagement process and continuing development of technical alternatives.

Commissioner Wan asked if the project team has an opinion as to the what the replacement of the existing lake lines should be. Senior Planner Chung replied that they have not gotten that far in the process yet. It is likely that the different sections will have different solutions. The alternatives analysis will help to determine the best decision for each section.

Commissioner Wan noted that the multi-agency workshops only contained agencies in the Pacific Northwest. He wondered if there might be other options that have been considered. Senior Planner Chung felt it was very thorough and the agencies' experience were valuable because of similar climate, topography, etc. The consultant team also has extensive experience with lake lines and different technologies around the country.

Commissioner Hines asked if there are any households, along the shores of Lake Washington, that are not connected to the sewer lake lines. Senior Planner Chung did not think any were connected to other systems.

10. REVIEW OF COMMISSION & COUNCIL CALENDARS

Deputy Director Liu reviewed the upcoming Commission and Council calendars.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Hines, seconded by Vice Chair Khanloo, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.