

**Summary of Rates & Finance Subcommittee August 3, 2017 meeting
For MWPAAC General Meeting on August 23, 2017**

1. Capacity Charge Proviso Final Report (Feasibility of Converting Capacity Charges to Liens)

Presenter: Sharman Herrin, Government Relations Administrator, WTD

Sharman presented the final report that was submitted to the King County Council (Rates and Finance received a briefing on May 4, 2017, describing the efforts to prepare this report):

- Highlights of the report include:
 - WTD currently places a legal lien on a property for a delinquent capacity charge.
 - Converting non-delinquent capacity charge accounts to a lien on property would require a change in state law. Currently, state law authorizes the filing of a lien for the capacity charge only after the account is delinquent.
 - Once the capacity charge automation project is fully implemented in mid-2018, WTD anticipates a significant reduction in administrative costs responding to escrow requests. There were more than 63,000 requests in 2016. The work load will then shift to filing liens on all delinquent accounts as quickly as possible, and setting up new customer accounts as the number of sewer connections continues to grow.
- There was a question if any member of the public can call WTD to find out about what is owed for a capacity charge on a property, or if it restricted to escrow agents, and how that is verified. A follow-up question was that if not everyone has access to the information, why not? Follow-up was requested on what information will be available using the automated system and who will have access to that information. It was also suggested that the existing form for reporting commercial properties could be revised or the process for submitting that form to ensure that “shell” commercial buildings begin paying an updated capacity charge amount once the building is occupied.

2. Update on Specific Capital Projects that are Under Way (Joint Topic with E&P)

Presenter: Stan Hummel, Supervisor, Project Management Unit, WTD

Stan Hummel provided an overview of several capital projects that are underway. He shared information on the purpose, stage, and cost estimate of each project. Projects reported on include CSO control projects, CSI projects, and other improvement projects, such equipment replacement and pipe rehabilitation projects.

Questions?

Jack Broyles, Jr., Rates & Finance Subcommittee Chair
Woodinville Water District
jbroyles@woodinvillewater.com, 425.487.4106

Maria Coe, Rates & Finance Subcommittee Vice-Chair
Seattle Public Utilities
Maria.Coe@seattle.gov, 206.233.7905