

Oct. 12, 2015 UAC meeting

Present: Andy Maron, Steve Leach, Jim Thrash, Jeff Kanter, Nancy Nolan, Emily Sato, Steve Johnson

Also present: Public Works Director Barry Loveless, Councilmember Val Tollefson, Jackson Taylor (Puget Sound Energy), Robert Dashiell, Dan Hamlin (BIMPRD – 6:40 departure), Ron Peltier, Randall Samstag

Guests: Bob Hunter, KPUD General Manager; John Poppe, Sewer Dist. #7 General Manager; Sara Lee, Sewer Dist. #7 Commissioner (Guests departed at 5:20 pm)

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm.
2. The Guests had been invited to attend to provide information that might be useful to the Committee as it works on its proposed revisions to the Utilities and Water Resources Elements of the Comprehensive Plan.
3. Bob Hunter provided information on infrastructure challenges facing Group A and B private water systems, and said that Bainbridge Island is a small version of the situation throughout all of Kitsap County. He talked about the need for cooperation between the major water system managers when it comes to managing the water resource, and assisting the smaller systems. He gave examples of some ways in which KPUD has been able to help financing needed infrastructure. He pointed out that the State Department of Health wants a big reduction in the number of Group A water systems (over 14 customers), of which there are 271 in Kitsap County alone. He talked about the need to provide for sustainable infrastructure in new development, meaning that rates needed to include allowance for future capital needs. He also talked about KPUD's role as a wholesale provider of broadband, and finally about work it is doing with Olympic Property Group in evaluating a membrane sewage treatment system that would permit some portion of the wastewater to be treated to a level that it could be used to recharge the aquifer. On the subject of sewer, Hunter mentioned that KPUD is seeking authority from the voters to expand in that area, but noted with regard to Sewer District #7 that if ANY other entity took over management of that system, its rates would necessarily go up.
4. Sara Lee gave a brief history of Sewer District #7, and introduced John Poppe, who is a contract, part-time employee. She pointed out that SD7's rates were a fraction of those of the City for a number of reasons, including that many or most of its employees are part-time, contract workers. She reported that their waste water treatment plant is currently serving about 400 households, including those from the City in the Lynwood area, and has the physical capacity to expand to about 2000 households. So, since their physical boundaries are limited, it is important for them to know what the City's plans are, so that they can plan accordingly. She and Barry have discussed the need for closer and more regular coordination.
5. During the follow-on discussion, island-wide coordination and planning was acknowledged by all to be a necessity.
6. Public Comment:

Jackson Taylor of PSE introduced himself.

Ron Peltier urged the adoption of an Island-wide Water Plan, similar to what exists for Vashon Island.

Randall Samstag followed his earlier written comment with a recommendation that the City move forward with and Island-wide Utility Study as proposed by the City Manager at the last City Council meeting.

7. The Committee started a discussion of the proposed Storm and Surface Water Ordinance 13.24. Considering the detail with which the new Ordinance needed to be reviewed, it was determined that a subcommittee consisting of Jeff Kanter, Emily Sato and Jim Thrash would meet with Barry and bring recommendations back to the Committee. This Ordinance is scheduled to come before the Council on Oct. 27, so it is hoped that the Committee will be able to agree on recommendations at its October 26 meeting.
8. The Committee discussed its work on the Comp Plan. Each of the members working on specific parts will be bringing recommendations forward for the October 26 meeting.
9. The Committee acknowledged the resignation of Steve Leach, and thanked him for his service.

Adjourn at 6:35 pm. Next meeting is on Oct. 26 at 4:30.

 10/26/15

Andy Maron, Chair

Date