

State of the Utility

Olympia Utilities Advisory Committee
May 2, 2024

Matt Kennelly, P.E., Executive Director



LOTT Clean Water Alliance

Collaboration of four local governments

- Lacey
- Olympia
- Tumwater
- Thurston County

Board of Directors

- One elected official from each jurisdiction
- Meet monthly to oversee LOTT business

Mission: Preserve and protect public health and the environment by cleaning and restoring water resources for our communities



Dani Madrone, Olympia



Tye Menser, Thurston County



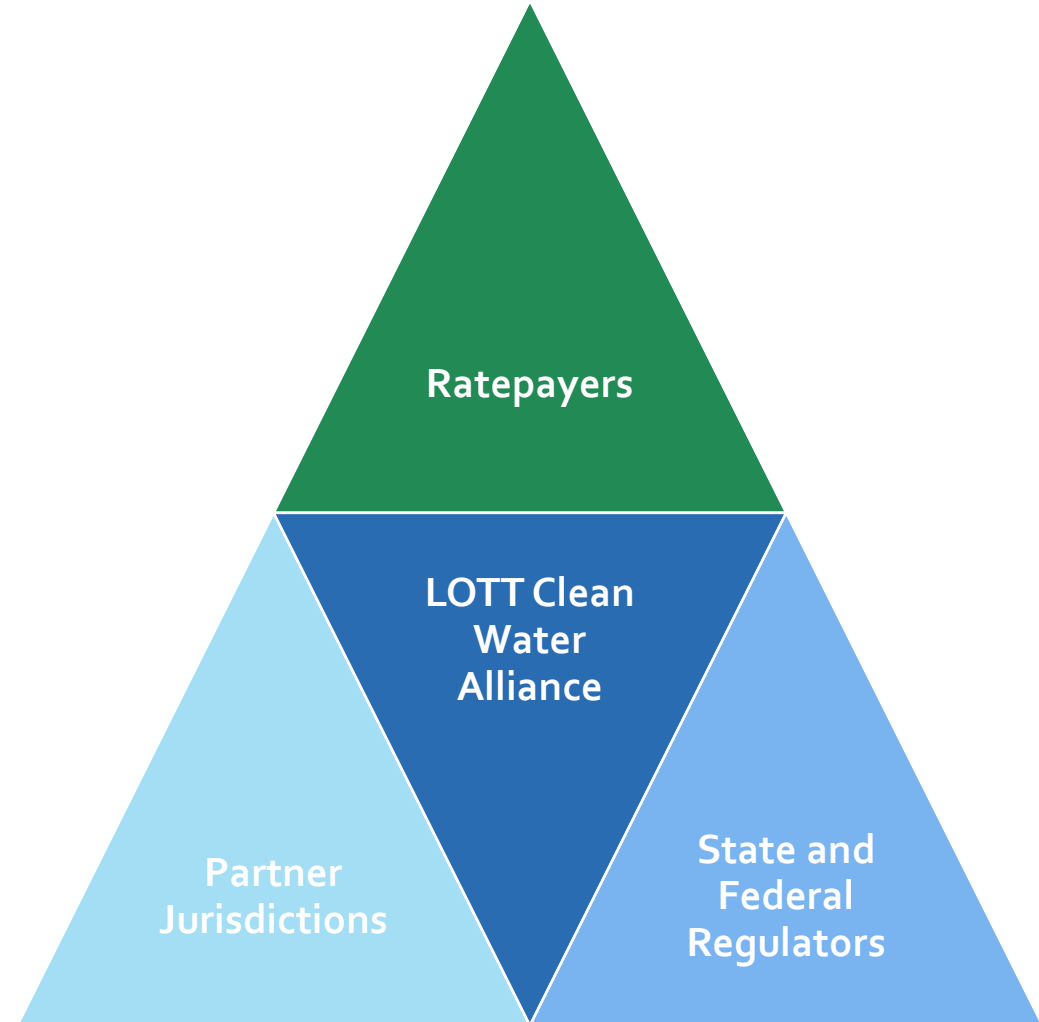
Leatta Dahlhoff, Tumwater



Carolyn Cox, Lacey

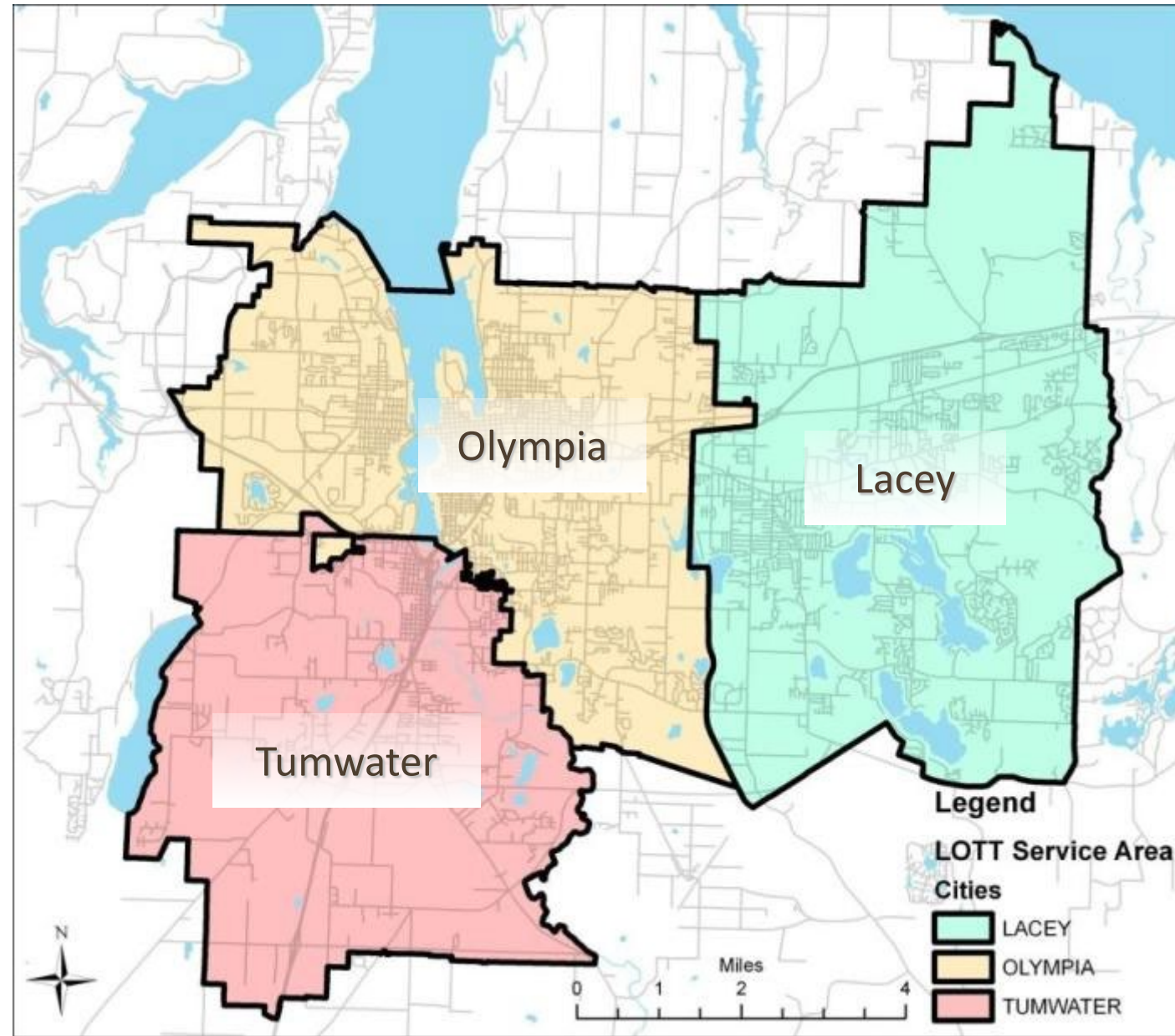
LOTT is Distinctive

- Regional utility
 - Non-profit corporation
 - Act as a public entity
- Failure not an option
 - Provide essential public service
 - Highly regulated
- Accountable on multiple levels
 - Ratepayers
 - Partner jurisdictions
 - State and federal regulators



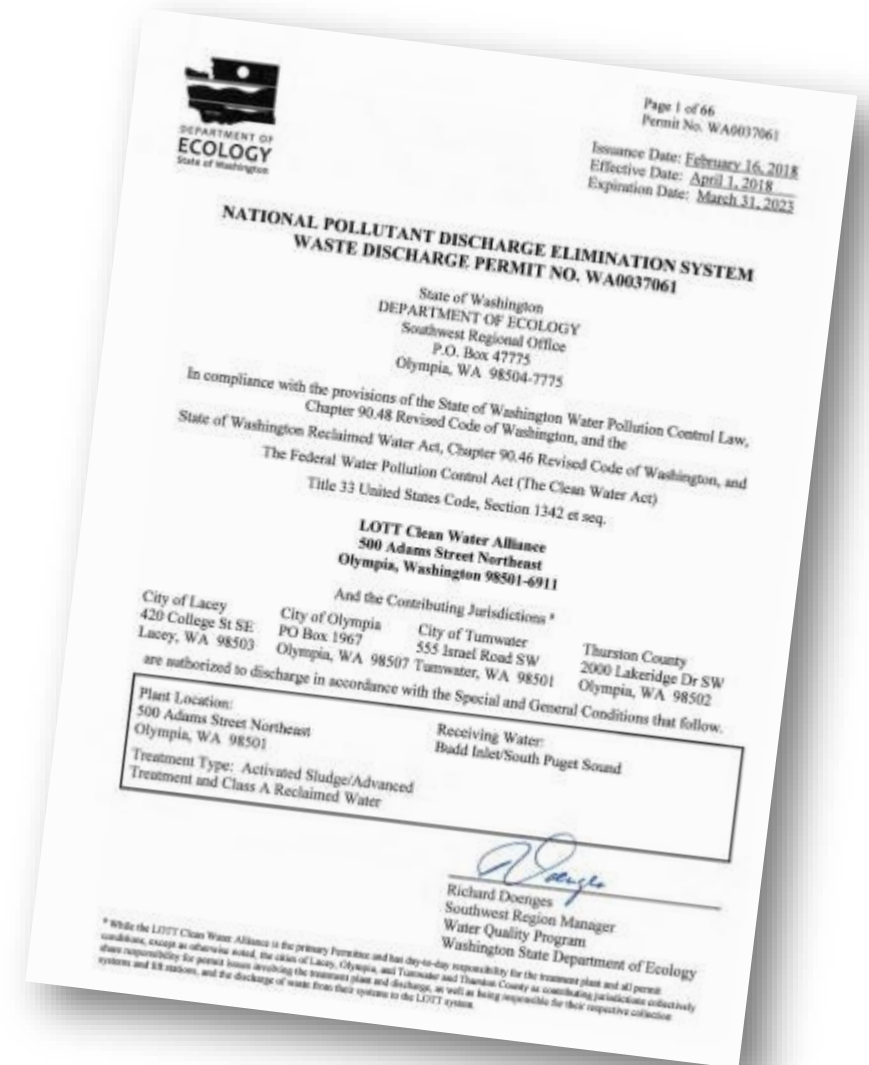
Service Area

- ▶ Population served = 123,500
- ▶ Ratepayers served through cities
- ▶ Some are residents in urban growth areas



Regulatory Requirements

- ▶ National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit
 - Issued by State Department of Ecology
 - Authorized by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- ▶ Stringent regulatory requirements
 - Discharge limits (treatment performance)
 - Monitoring and reporting
- ▶ U.S. EPA requirement
 - CMOM – Capacity, Management, Operations, and Maintenance
 - LOTT adopted first six-year plan in 2007
- ▶ Continual planning and reporting
 - Demonstrate plans to maintain adequate capacity
 - Annual requirement





EXIT

ATTENTION
DO NOT TOUCH THE
MACHINE WHEN IT IS
RUNNING











Budd Inlet Treatment Plant

- Treats 13 million gallons per day
- Highest level of treatment on Puget Sound
- Major process upgrade just completed



Treatment Performance

National
Environmental
Achievement
Award



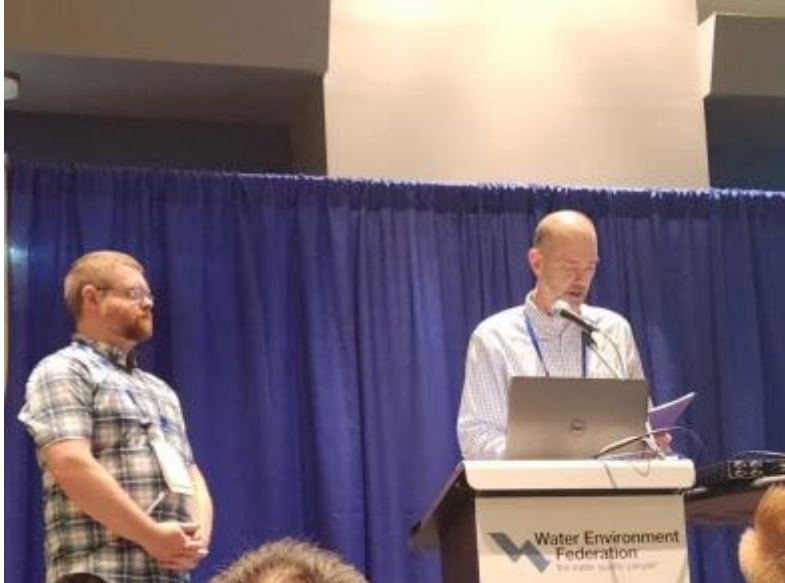


Tours for State regulators:

- Department of Health
- Ecology

Industry Recognition

Presentations and tour for State House representatives



Industry peer presentations at regional and national conferences



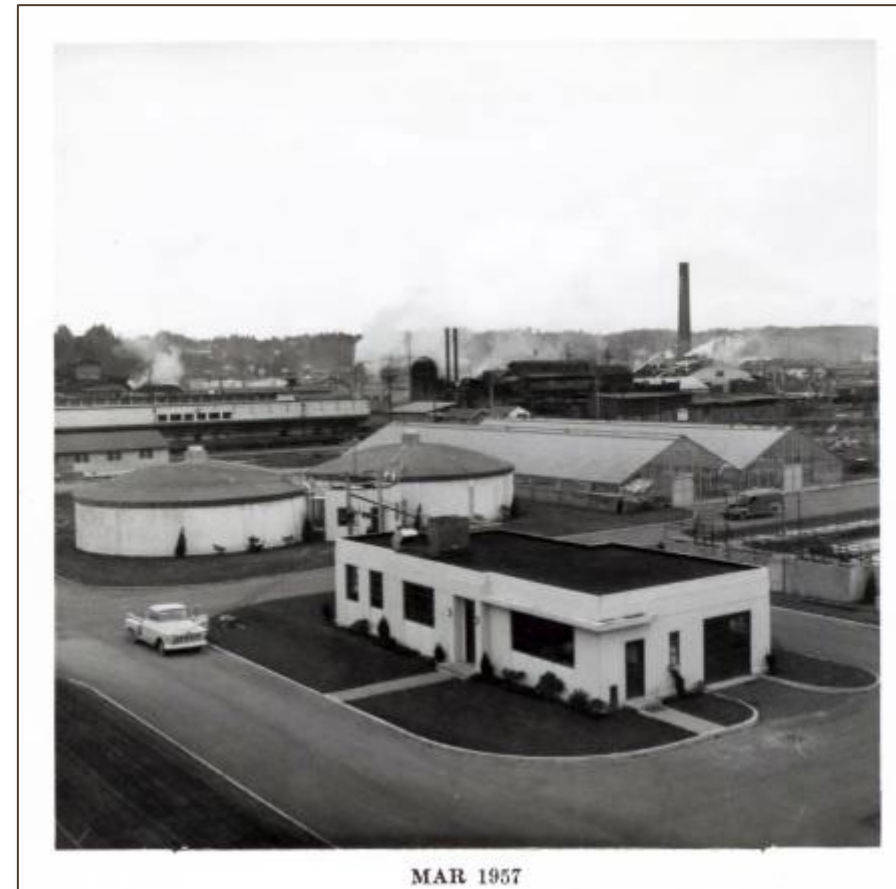
Wastewater Treatment Has Evolved

Public Health

- Environmental protection
- Education
- Resource recovery

Cost of Service

- Commodity treatment
- Regulations driven





Reuse of Biogas



Reuse of Biosolids

Reclaimed Water



Education Program

- WET Science Center walk-in visitors
2023 = 8,519
- School field trips
2023-24 school year students = 2,618
- Education Program participants
2023 grand total = 12,805



Wastewater Utility of the Future, Today

Public Service

- Community support
- Climate resilience

Public Health


- Environmental protection
- Education
- Resource recovery

Cost of Service

- Commodity treatment
- Regulations driven

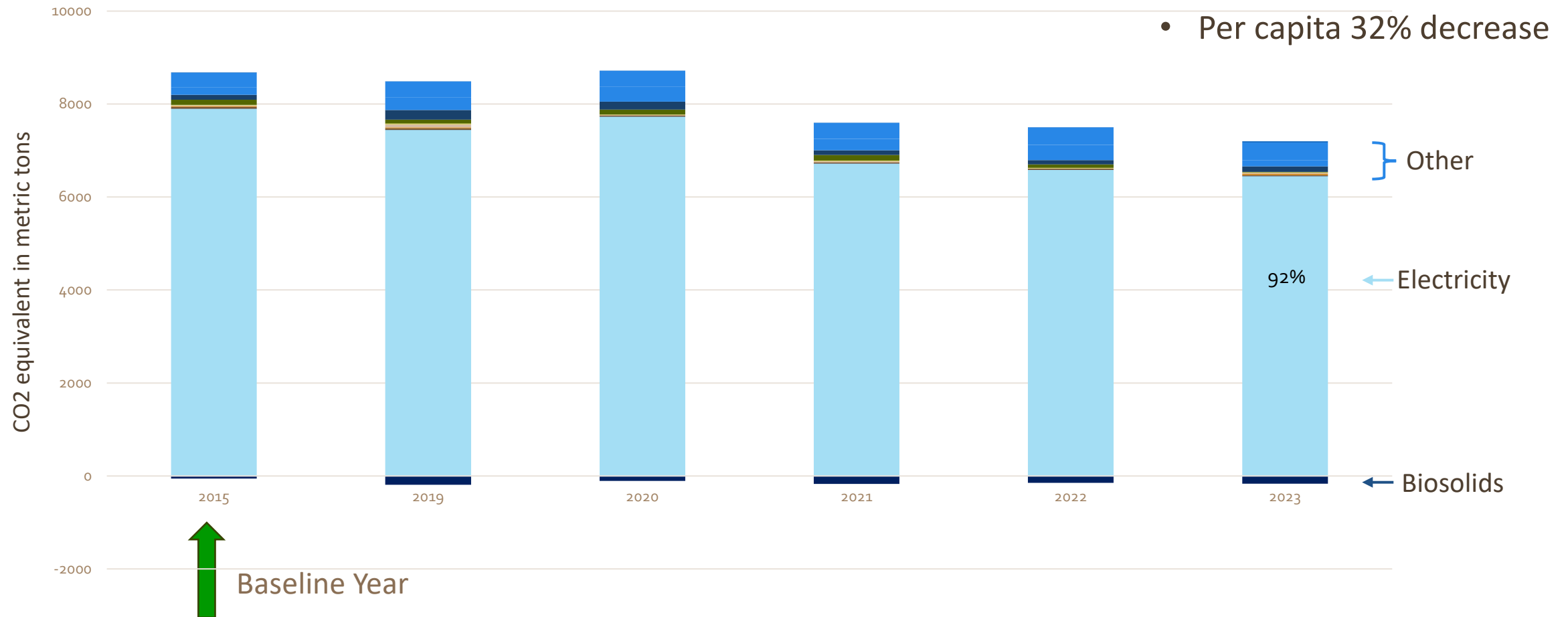


Community Support

- Connection fee rebates
 - Septic to sewer
 - Low-income housing
 - Sanitation resources
 - Wastewater epidemiology
 - Coalition for other water quality projects
 - Support of regional climate efforts
- 

Annual Emissions Inventory

Total Carbon Emissions by Type



Energy Savings from Recent Upgrade

2,500,000 kWh/yr

\$1,100,000 conservation
grant from PSE



Project Carbon Footprint Reduction

Savings of 2,458,000 kWh/yr = 1,143 tons of CO₂ equivalent

18,900

tree seedlings grown for 10 years



222

homes' electricity use for one year



2,930,136

miles driven by an average gasoline-powered passenger vehicle



Solar Addition to Upcoming Project

- Process building upgrade
- Opportunity for rooftop solar
- Tax credit rebate (up to 40%)
- Will produce up to 196,000 kWh/year
 - Equivalent of ~5600* electric vehicle miles



LOTT Infrastructure

- ✓ Budd Inlet Treatment Plant
- ✓ Budd Inlet Reclaimed Water Plant
- ✓ Martin Way Reclaimed Water Plant
- ✓ Hawks Prairie Recharge Basins
- ✓ Three major pump stations
- ✓ 22 miles of sewer interceptor lines
- ✓ 11 miles of reclaimed water lines
- ✓ 1 million gallon reclaimed water storage tank



2050 Plan Outlines Future Infrastructure

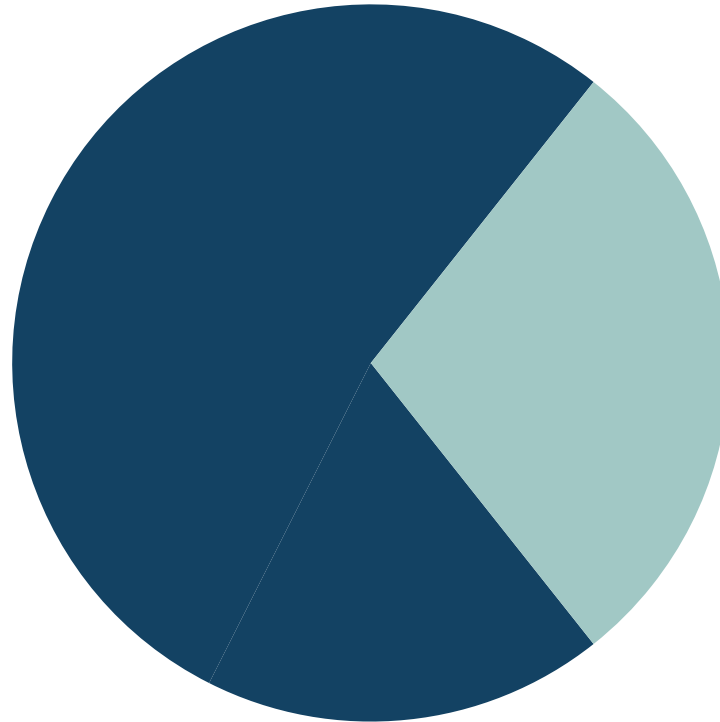


- 2050 outlook
- High level of treatment allowed for cost effective pathways
- Focus on existing treatment facilities
- Support from Ecology and Squaxin Island Tribe

2023-2024 Budget

Capital & Debt Service
73%

\$89.3 million



Operating
27%

\$32.4 million



Finances

Monthly Service Fees

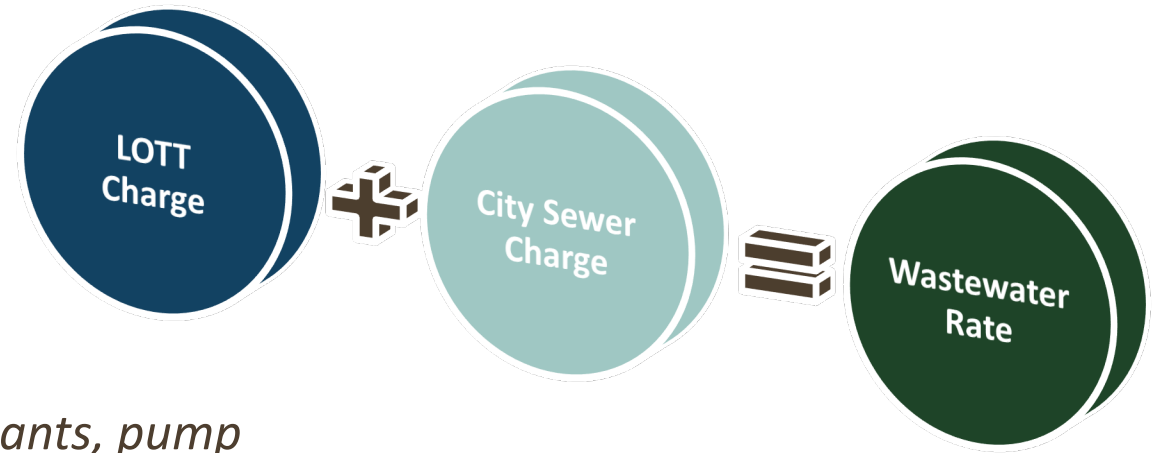
Costs of operating and maintaining treatment plants, pump stations, pipelines, and related programs

- AKA Wastewater Service Charge (WSC)
- \$46.14 per month

Connection Fees

Share of costs to serve more customers, including system pipelines, treatment facilities and related programs

- AKA Capacity Development Charge (CDC)
- \$7,080.94 (one-time)



Rate Comparison

Regional Average: \$81.47

City of Olympia: \$66.97

Regional Average



Below the average

Wastewater Rate Comparisons						
	2022 Rate	2021 Rate	Percent Change	Flat or Volume	2022 Rank	2021 Rank
Thurston County (Tamoshan)	\$144.86	\$140.64	3.0%	F	1	1
City of Bonney Lake	\$129.01	\$121.11	6.5%	V	2	3
City of Tenino	\$125.66	\$125.66	0.0%	F	3	2
City of Shelton	\$125.00	\$120.20	4.0%	V	4	4
City of Seattle	\$119.07	\$116.69	2.0%	V	5	5
Thurston County (Boston Harbor)	\$112.87	\$109.58	3.0%	F	6	6
Thurston County (Olympic View)	\$108.70	\$105.53	3.0%	F	7	7
City of Chehalis (in city limits)	\$98.50	\$98.50	0.0%	V	8	8
City of Bellevue	\$96.05	\$81.88	17.3%	V	9	11
Thurston County (Grand Mound)	\$94.91	\$92.15	3.0%	F	10	9
City of Centralia (in city limits)	\$87.33	\$87.33	0.0%	V	11	10
City of Everett	\$83.22	\$80.90	2.9%	F	12	12
City of Yelm	\$82.35	\$78.28	5.2%	F	13	15
Average	\$81.47	\$78.44	3.9%			
City of Renton	\$80.74	\$78.49	2.9%	F	14	14
City of Snoqualmie	\$80.57	\$78.99	2.0%	F	15	13
City of Sumner	\$76.26	\$74.05	3.0%	V	16	16
City of Auburn	\$75.26	\$73.09	3.0%	F	17	17
City of Longview (in city limits)	\$73.83	\$73.07	1.0%	V	18	18
City of Bremerton (in city limits)	\$72.23	\$72.23	0.0%	V	19	19
City of Lacey	\$68.72	\$65.27	5.3%	F	20	21
City of Tacoma	\$68.68	\$68.27	0.6%	V	21	20
City of Olympia	\$66.97	\$63.75	5.1%	F	22	23
City of Kelso	\$66.37	\$64.44	3.0%	F	23	22
City of Puyallup	\$65.43	\$61.81	5.9%	V	24	25
City of Tumwater	\$64.13	\$61.92	3.6%	F	25	24
City of Orting	\$60.63	\$56.66	7.0%	F	26	26
City of Aberdeen	\$60.00	\$53.00	13.2%	F	27	28
Pierce County Sewer	\$57.34	\$53.89	6.4%	F	28	27
City of Mount Vernon	\$54.71	\$52.35	4.5%	V	29	29
City of Edmonds	\$50.53	\$48.12	5.0%	F	30	30
City of Bellingham (in city limits)	\$49.10	\$46.68	5.2%	F	31	31
Lakehaven Sewer District	\$46.46	\$42.01	10.6%	V	32	32
City of Vancouver	\$43.12	\$41.86	3.0%	V	33	33

Collaboration with Olympia



Capital Projects



**Septic Conversion
Incentives**



**Public Health
Emergency Support**



Water Conservation



Deschutes Estuary



Sea Level Rise



**Affordable Housing
Support**



**Upcoming Strategic
Planning**

Questions?

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lottcleanwater.org

