



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Utility Advisory Committee

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

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Thursday, May 3, 2018

5:40 PM

City Hall, Room 207

1. CALL TO ORDER (5:40 pm)

Chair Haffner-Ratliffe called the meeting to order.

1.A ROLL CALL (5:40 - 5:41 pm)

Present: 8 - Chair Dever Haffner-Ratliffe, Vice Chair Mike Buffo, Committee member Dennis Bloom, Committee member Luke Bowerman, Committee member Steve Fossum, Committee member Austin Hildreth, Committee member Arland Schneider and Committee member Roger Wilson

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (5:41 - 5:42 pm)

The agenda was approved.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5:42 - 5:45 pm)

[18-0421](#) Approval of April 5, 2018 UAC Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (5:45 - 5:50 PM) TIME VARIES DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

Jim Lazar and Lisa Reiner spoke about Olympia's sea level rise response planning project. John Pettit and Terry Ballard spoke about stormwater concerns.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM UAC AND STAFF (5:50 - 6:00 pm)

Committee member Wilson brought a postcard he received from the City recently regarding the increase of the water pH. Water Resources Director and Staff Liaison Andy Haub explained that under public health mandates, the City is required to increase the pH of the water so it doesn't leach lead and copper from household plumbing. The City notified water customers in case they have fish tanks, do home brewing or have medical concerns where pH changes can be a factor.

Water Resources Engineering and Planning Manager Eric Christensen provided an update on two drinking water construction projects, the Meridian Corrosion Control facility and the Log Cabin Reservoir.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

[18-0422](#) Downtown Toilets Update

Downtown Programs Manager Amy Buckler and Downtown Business Liaison Mark Rentfrow provided a briefing to the UAC. Mr. Rentfrow is the lead on creation of a Downtown Sanitation Master Plan and the downtown restroom pilot project. The City also hired a consultant from Young Architecture to assist with the Sanitation Plan.

Ms. Buckler talked about the outcomes of the 24-hour access bathroom pilot projects. She reminded the UAC that public restrooms is one of the goals of the Downtown Strategy. The City piloted porta-potties at Fertile Grounds, Olympia and Franklin, and a 24-hour bathroom at Percival West (owned by Parks Department). Staff provided a map and information on the locations of the other bathrooms in downtown Olympia, including the location at the Artesian Commons.

The porta-potties at Fertile Grounds and Olympia and Franklin have since been removed due to mis-use. After staff's recommendation to City Council's Land Use and Environment Committee (LUEC) earlier this year, the Percival West bathroom has returned to normal operating hours and is no longer open 24 hours.

UAC members asked clarifying questions, especially in regards to different ways to fund downtown restrooms. Chair Haffner-Ratliffe thanked Ms. Buckler and Mr. Rentfrow for the briefing.

The UAC will continue to stay engaged in this discussion, especially with how wastewater funds are utilized and the effect on rates. Committee member Wilson will draft a letter to City Council. The UAC plans to send the letter no later than August, before 2019 budget discussions begin. Committee member Wilson will have the letter drafted in advance of the June UAC meeting. Staff will add 15 minutes to the June UAC agenda to allow time for review and discussion of the letter.

The information was provided.

[18-0423](#) Sea Level Rise Response Planning Update

Mr. Christensen provided a briefing on the sea level rise response planning project. He noted this project is a collaborative planning effort with the City, LOTT Clean Water Alliance and the Port of Olympia.

He shared the project timeline and showed draft design concepts the project consultant, AECOM Technical Services, provided to show the different concepts that could be built to protect Olympia from sea rise. The concepts will continue to be refined over the summer with input from the community.

The project team is planning the following outreach this summer and early fall:

- Meetings with downtown businesses
- Self-guided walking tour
- Community meeting
- Meeting of the joint elected officials

The UAC asked clarifying questions and had a brief discussion with staff. The UAC members thanked Mr. Christensen for the briefing.

The information was provided.

[18-0424](#) Water Resources Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) for 2019-2024

Mr. Christensen presented the 2019-2024 Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) for the utilities of Drinking Water, Wastewater and Storm and Surface Water. The annual review of the CFP is a requirement of the Growth Management Act.

He provided an overview of the CFP planning process and explained how staff evaluates and chooses capital projects. He explained how the UAC reviews the CFP every year to ensure alignment with the Utility Master Plans and the City's Comprehensive Plan and noted the CFP is closely related to the determination of utility rates.

The Committee will continue to review the 2019-2024 draft CFP as a part of the 2019 budget and rates item discussion in September/October 2018. In the fall, the UAC will write a letter of recommendation to the City Council on the CFP.

The information was received.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Haffner-Ratliffe adjourned the meeting.