



November 7, 2019

Olympia City Council
PO Box 1967
Olympia, WA 98507- 1967

Dear Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Draft 2019 Wastewater Management Plan

This letter provides a recommendation from the City's Utility Advisory Committee to City Council regarding the Draft 2019 Wastewater Management Plan.

The City's Utility Advisory Committee (UAC) work plan for this year tasked the Committee with review of the Draft 2019 Wastewater Management Plan and providing subsequent recommendations to City Council.

The UAC participated in the scoping of the Wastewater Plan in 2018. Emerging wastewater issues were discussed and incorporated into the outline for the Plan. During the spring and summer of 2019, the UAC reviewed a draft of the Plan and provided City staff with comments and suggestions. Key topics of discussion included climate change, capacity issues and financial implications.

The UAC agrees with staff regarding the overall status of the Wastewater Utility. The City's Wastewater Utility is in good shape after implementing strategies from the 2013 Wastewater Management Plan. The draft 2019 Plan presents no surprises. Rather, it takes advantage of the strong position of the Utility to suggest long-term refinements in the delivery of its services. The UAC's suggestions for the Utility have been incorporated into the document.

Financial Implications

The financial analysis associated with the draft Plan confirms that the Utility is financially stable. The financial evaluation investigated both six and 20-year capital facility plans. These capital plans anticipate proactively implementing infrastructure needs at a rate that is consistent with current expenditures.

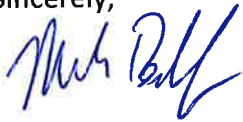
Wastewater general facility charges (GFCs) were also evaluated, considering a 20-year horizon for planning purposes. The UAC will review a specific recommendation on Wastewater GFCs as part of our rate discussions for the 2021 budget.

Recommendation to City Council

The UAC supports the draft 2019 Wastewater Plan and recommends the City Council approve it.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please let me or Luke Bowerman, UAC Vice Chair, know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Buffo", with a stylized flourish at the end.

MIKE BUFFO

Chair, Utility Advisory Committee

cc. UAC Members