

# **Community Advisory Group Meeting Summary**

Date: August 29, 2018 Time: 5:30 – 7 PM

Location: Bellevue City Hall, 1E-118 (First Floor)

#### **Attendees**

<u>CAG</u>: Jim Erckman (Bridle Trails Park Foundation), Alice Prince (Bridle Trails Community Club), Jennifer Duncan (Lake Washington Saddle Club), Suzanne Kagen (Lake Washington Saddle Club, Washington State Parks), Terre Olson (Cherry Crest resident), Kelly Gode (Pikes Peak resident), Matt Birklid (Bridle Trails Park Ranger), John Ernster (Washington State Parks), Heather Andreini (Pikes Peak resident)

<u>Project team</u>: Linda DeBoldt (Assistant Director, Utilities Engineering), Jay Hummel (Project Manager), Michael May (Public Information Officer), Tom Lindberg (Consultant), Catherine Okamura (Consultant), John Chaney (Consultant), Diana Brown (Consultant)

Absent: Steve Brand (Washington State Parks), Kelly Losse (Pikes Peak resident)

## Summary

Jay Hummel welcomed everyone to the seventh Community Advisory Group (CAG) meeting and asked attendees to introduce themselves. Jay then reviewed the meeting agenda and provided an overview of the project background and community engagement to date.

### **Project Status**

Jay reviewed the project schedule and shared that the project is nearing 30% design completion. Construction of the reservoir is expected to begin in mid-2020 and last about one year. There was concern raised that construction is projected to take longer than initially expected. Jay explained that the start of construction of the reservoir is dependent upon the Cherry Crest Pump station being complete and the schedule includes times when work will be happening in and around the reservoir and that it won't involve heavy construction the entire time.

Jay reviewed construction concerns raised during previous meetings and emphasized that the project team used the CAG's concerns during the design process. Next, Jay reviewed the conceptual site piping layout to demonstrate how piping will connect the reservoir to existing and upgraded pipes on NE 39th St. CAG members raised concerns about the area known as the gulch, which is to the south of NE 39th St, being impacted by construction. Jay explained that all work will happen in the city right-of-way and that the stormwater detention vault will control discharge into the gulch.

Next, CAG members were shown a proposed temporary construction easement (TCE) figure. Jay explained that there are a number of limitations on site, including requirements from Seattle City Light and Washington State Parks, that restrict potential construction staging areas. The figure showed the

proposed area the project team would like to temporarily acquire to stage equipment and provide space for construction work to occur. Jay explained that this would require the removal of some trees and explained that there will be more trees planted than removed from the site. A concern was raised by John Ernster that the removal of some trees in the proposed staging areas could negatively impact trees within the adjacent forested area to remain (e.g. wind blockage issues). Jay noted that the project team will work with Washington State Parks to ensure the project limits impacts to the forest to the greatest extent possible.

Jay discussed the project team's coordination with permitting agencies and property owners going forward and reviewed the status of the Cherry Crest Pump Station project.

### **Open Discussion/Topics of Interest**

Key topics of interest or concerns shared by the CAG throughout the meeting include:

- Concern about the health of the forest and trails due to tree removal and increased foot and horse traffic, due to potential trail closures.
- Concern about trail access being impacted by construction activity.
- Concern about the construction schedule and suggestions that construction take place during the off-peak season (fall-winter-spring) to avoid work occurring during the busy summer months (at least to try and avoid any heavy construction-related work during the summer months).
- Concern about construction traffic causing safety issues for those crossing residential streets to
  access the park, and especially the effects trucks would have on horses. Members requested
  clear signage to help mitigate this issue.
- Members requested that the contractor be required to not smoke in or around the construction site and remove metal construction debris that could be picked up by a horse.

#### **Next Steps**

Jay thanked everyone for sharing concerns and for a good open discussion, and then discussed next steps. He walked through the schedule going forward, including finalizing 30% design this fall, ongoing project team visits to the site, and noted that the next CAG meeting will be in early 2019, ahead of 60% design. Jay shared that CAG members are welcome to contact him any time with questions and feedback between now and the next CAG meeting.