



SKY LINES

www.skyways.org

September 2018

Commissioner's Corner

It often helps to "get back to basics" and answer questions such as: **Who** (are your Commissioners), **What** (do they do), **Where** (are they from), **When** (do they work), **Why** (a district)?

Who: Your three commissioners are citizens like yourself who live within the Skyway Water and Sewer District service area.



Board of Commissioners

Don Henry Jon Ault Gary Schulz

What: They oversee a staff of 10 professionals who manage, operate and maintain the water and sewer facilities that serve you. The District's mission is to provide quality service and fiscally and environmentally sound management of the utilities.

Where: Each commissioner must live within the water or sewer service area boundary of the district during their time in office. Commissioners serve a 6-year term. Election of commissioner positions is staggered so that one commissioner position is up for election every 2 years.

When: Regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM at the Skyway Water and Sewer District office, 6723 South 124th Street. Commissioners also represent the District on various boards and committees and attend conferences and training related to District business.

Why: The Skyway Title 57 special purpose district provides water and sewer service to you as an independent government agency. There is regulatory oversight by various state and federal agencies related to health and safety compliance, but the District exists because of you, our customers, as authorized by state statute and is overseen by your duly elected commissioners.

King County **NEWS**

On **November 7, 2016**, King County adopted **Ordinance 18403** which would charge the District fees for using the public right-of-way under our franchise agreement with the County. On January 25, 2018 King County filed a lawsuit in King County Court seeking a judgment that the Ordinance is valid. Since the Ordinance was adopted, the District has advocated in a number of ways **on behalf of our customers** that the County cannot charge the District for use of the public right-of-way in the manner intended by the Ordinance.

On **July 7, 2018**, after considering the cross motions filed by the districts, King County and a group of private utilities, a Summary Judgment Hearing was held at the King County Courthouse in Seattle. Numerous representatives of water, sewer, and water/sewer districts, as well as other public utilities, attended the hearing. During the hearing, the parties were given the opportunity to present their arguments to the Court. At the end of the hearing, the presiding Judge announced that an oral ruling would be provided on Wednesday, **August 1, 2018**.

On that date, at 3:30 in the afternoon came great news! The court ruled that King County **cannot charge rent** for use of the public right-of-way and granted summary judgment to the defendants, which includes Skyway Water and Sewer District. Although there is the potential that the ruling will be appealed by King County, this decision supports the District's position that it has authority to construct, operate and maintain utility infrastructure within the King County franchised area without paying rent.

The District will continue, if needed, to **advocate on behalf of our customers** that the County cannot charge the District fees, rent or a tax for use of the public right-of-way in the manner intended by Ordinance 18403.

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction of the District's Well Site & Treatment Upgrades Phase 2 project with McClure & Sons Inc has moved along well and is closing in on substantial completion! The treatment building is closed in; the emergency generator installed; pervious paving work in progress; and the last well pump has been installed. Work continues on site drainage, sidewalk and curb; and electrical power. Contact the District if you would like more information on the project.



Imagine a Day Without Water

Imagine this: No water to drink, or even to make coffee with. No water to shower, flush the toilet, or do laundry. Hospitals would close without water. Firefighters couldn't put out fires and farmers couldn't water their crops. **On October 10, 2018**, please join Skyway Water & Sewer District and other organizations across the country as we raise awareness about the value of water.



Water is life.
It nourishes us.
It cleans us and sustains us.
Put simply, water is you.

- ◆ The average American uses 80 - 100 gallons of water per day—that's roughly 32,850 gallons a year!
- ◆ How is water used in your home? On average, 19% goes toward showering, 28% is used by the toilet, your faucet drains 16%, your clothes washer another 22%, and those pesky water leaks steal another 14%.
- ◆ If drinking water and soda pop cost equally, your water bill would skyrocket more than 10,000%.

#ValueWater

October 10, 2018



In 2017, 750 organizations came together for Imagine a Day Without Water, the third annual day of action that asks Americans and our elected leaders to think about our often-overlooked water systems. Across the country, municipal water agencies, city halls, coffee shops, breweries, schools, nonprofits and more hosted events in their communities, called on their elected officials, and engaged their networks on social media—all in the name of valuing water! During Imagine a Day Without Water, millions of Americans participated in raising awareness about the value of water and the need to invest in water infrastructure so no communities have to imagine—or live—a day without water again. We're hoping to raise that awareness even more in 2018 and educate our customers about this most vital resource. **Please use water wisely!!**

**SkyWest
Tool
Library**

**Sharing, Caring
Teaching, Learning!**

*Make the SkyWest Tool Library a reality!!
Join us at 7:00 PM on the 4th Thursday
of the month (except holidays) at the
Skyway Water and Sewer District office.
Share your thoughts and ideas, learn more,
volunteer or just see what it's all about!*



NEED TO REGISTER?



bit.ly/WestHillVotes
(case sensitive!)

Get registered, plus access a powerful
dashboard full of great voting tools!

Register by October 8 for November Election

Election Day is November 6, 2018 - don't let your voice go unheard!

West Hill Action Mob Fall Cleanup on 9/15

Volunteers needed! Details at: MyWestHill.org and [FB.com/MyWestHill](https://www.facebook.com/MyWestHill)

WHCA Voter Education Forum next month!

Meet the candidates, learn more about what's on your ballot, get registered. Details at: MyWestHill.org and [FB.com/MyWestHill](https://www.facebook.com/MyWestHill)

WHCA Bowling Alley Takeover on 10/29

Fun surprises and free goodies await at our annual Halloween-themed bash. Details at: MyWestHill.org and [FB.com/MyWestHill](https://www.facebook.com/MyWestHill)

How can I directly support real change in my community?

☑ Become a monthly supporter (even \$5!) at MyWestHill.org/donate!

What's going on in my neighborhood this week?

📅 Check out the events calendar at MyWestHill.org/calendar!



WEST HILL
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MyWestHill.org

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