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SKYWAY LINES

September 2022

King County Sewage Treatment Rates

King County provides wastewater (sewage) treatment service to 34 local agencies, including Skyway, and the County's 2023 Sewer Rate-Setting process is complete. Per King County Ordinance 19447, the King County Council has adopted a 2023 sewer rate of \$52.11 per residential customer equivalent. This is the rate charged each single-family residence monthly and the rate charged for each 750 cubic feet of water used by other customer classes (multifamily, commercial, industrial) that enters the sewer system.



Your Opportunity to Vote

We are all adapting to life with COVID-19 and Fall will find us adapting to other things – cooler weather, students returning to school in person, remotely or hybrid, tree leaves changing color and more. Fall is also the time for all registered voters to make their voices heard. The General Election is Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Be informed on the issues before you vote to ensure your best decision.



CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Construction on the **Small Diameter Watermain Replacement** capital project which began November 1, 2021 in the Bryn Mawr neighborhood has gone very well and is physically complete. As this issue goes to print, administrative tasks associated with the project are being finalized prior to the project being accepted by the Board of Commissioners. This project included replacement of ~5,900 linear feet of aged and undersized water main with new 8-inch ductile iron pipe, replacement of service lines from the water mains to the meters, and installation of new fire hydrants and will provide improved system performance, reliability, and increased fire flow capacity and fire protection coverage.

The asbestos cement water lines that were replaced were more than 70 years old, had exceeded their useful life and had a history of repeated breaks and leaks that resulted in lost water, water system outages and unplanned and excessive maintenance expenses. Contact the District at info@skywayws.org or 206-772-7343 if you would like more information.



Preparation of contract documents is in progress for the Skyway **Park North Sewer Replacement Phase 1** project. This project is located north of Renton Ave between 72nd Place So and 76th Ave So and is funded by a 20-year low-interest Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) loan from the Department of Commerce. It replaces ~5,800 lineal feet of gravity sewer main, 36 sewer manholes, and redirects/reconnects side sewers for ~123 single-family homes and two apartment buildings. It also replaces ~4,000 lineal feet of watermain. Construction is planned to begin this winter.

Design of the **Rainier Ave So/So 113th Watermain Replacement** project is also in progress. This project replaces ~1,250 linear feet of 6-inch asbestos cement pipe and 2-inch galvanized pipe with new 8-inch ductile iron pipe and replaces existing water service lines, valves and fire hydrants. The project is located on the eastside of Rainier Ave So, north of So 113th Street, and along So 113th Street east of Rainier Ave So and is also funded by a 20-year low-interest PWTF loan.

In July 2021, the District submitted eight applications for low-interest PWTF construction loans and **were awarded loans** for the two projects mentioned above. In September 2022, the District will be submitting applications for two watermain replacement projects located in the Lakeridge neighborhood along So Sunnycrest Rd between Cornell Ave So and So Lakeridge Drive and along Forest Ave So between So Rustic Rd and Oakwood Ave So. Check our website at www.skywayws.org for project updates or contact the District at info@skywayws.org or 206-772-7343 if you would like more information.



Boathouse Inc Renton Skyway Cleanup

Residents within 1/4 mile of the former Ken's Skyway Cleaners at 12548 Renton Ave S should have received a fact sheet recently from the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) about a cleanup being done by GardnerGlobal, Inc. Operations at the dry-cleaning facility resulted in the release of hazardous chemicals to soil and groundwater and DOE is providing funding for site cleanup through their new Affordable Housing Cleanup Grant Program. Ongoing water quality testing shows that the District's drinking water supply **has not been impacted** by this contamination. An online public meeting was held on August 3, 2022 which District staff and consultant attended. DOE is asking for comments on two documents at this time: Prospective Purchaser Consent Decree and Public Participation Plan. We will be providing comments on the documents and will continue to monitor the DOE/developer cleanup. For more information, go to <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/cleanupsearch/site/567>.

DID YOU KNOW?



WATER AND SEWER CHARGES STAY WITH THE PROPERTY

Property owners may not be aware that, unlike other utilities, water and sewer charges are associated with (tied to) a physical property/parcel rather than to the person who lives at the property and incurs the charge. This means that **when a property sells or changes ownership, any unpaid water and sewer bill or account balance transfers with the property to the new owner.**

Upon request, Skyway Water and Sewer District does prepare a final bill for the seller or previous owner. If they do not pay the bill, however, the responsibility for the bill lies with the new property owner. If you are in the process of or thinking about a home sale – or if you are in the process of purchasing a new home – please talk with your escrow agent to make sure that all unpaid bills are taken care of prior to or with your property sale closing. This also applies to rental properties. Although property owners are ultimately responsible for water and sewer charges incurred by a tenant, new tenants should make sure that all previous water and sewer bills have been paid prior to moving in.



WHCA News and Updates



CINEMA IS BACK (for our 20th year!)

Virtual in 2020. Hybrid in 2021. *LIVE AND IN PERSON FOR 2022.* We can hardly contain our excitement. Get ready for some incredible, unforgettable Friday nights this August:

MyWestHill.org/soc



Local News, Updates, and Info

MyWestHill.org or just point your phone camera at this fancy QR code



Check Out Your Local Events Calendar

MyWestHill.org/calendar There's always something new being added to our online events calendar. Take a look!

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE: In these uncertain times, things change and news updates quickly. Our website, social media accounts, and newsletter are great ways to stay in the loop: MyWestHill.org/connect



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"Do Not Flush" Law



On July 1, the Washington Association of Sewer & Water Districts recognized the effective date of a new law that the agency says will benefit the environment, wastewater infrastructure, and residents throughout the state of Washington. July 1, 2022 is the date the **"Do Not Flush"** symbol must be on packaging of

disposable wipes products sold in Washington, including baby wipes and cleaning wipes. Disposable wipes that are flushed instead of disposed of in the trash can pose a danger for creating clogs and wastewater overflows to waterways around the state.

"Utilities across the country spent an estimated \$440 million in a year removing clogs caused by improperly flushed single-use wipes products. Here in Washington state is no exception," said Judi Gladstone, WASWD Executive Director. "Proper disposal of wipes in the trash can is the easiest way to help our planet and help our community at the same time."

Improper disposal of non-flushable products can clog pipes in family homes. These products can congeal with fats, oils, and grease to create concrete-like masses known as fatbergs in community wastewater systems. This can result in sewage spills, contamination of the environment, and infrastructure damage at wastewater facilities. **Please help by disposing of wipes in the trash, not the toilet.**