King County Water District 90

Winter 2018

Newsletter

Calendar

Board of Commissioner Meetings (4:30pm) First and Third Tuesdays at the District Office

Commissioners

Dick Gidner
President
Sam Amira
Vice President
Bryon Murgatroyd
Secretary

Contact Us

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Darcey J. Peterson
District Manager
Joshua Drummond
Operations Manager

Check out our website at:
www.kcwd90.com

Pay your bill online or by phone at:
www.kcwd90.com
1-855-984-1191

Meet Joshua Drummond, New Operations Manager for KCWD90

If you resided in our District for a period of time, you might recall, at some point meeting Joshua Drummond. Joshua was employed by KCWD90 in 2004 as a Field Technician. He also worked for a time at Sammamish Plateau Water District. Thereafter, Joshua decided to expand his knowledge, education, and adventurous side, so he accepted employment in Antarctica to work on the water treatment plant at McMurdo Station. From there, Joshua traveled to New Zealand to work on infrastructure projects and rebuild Christchurch after the earthquake in 2011. Missing the States, (and Water District 90) he accepted the Operations Manager position in January 2018. He has immense knowledge in the water industry and says, "*he enjoys working with the dedicated people in the water industry and the advancing technology.*" The District staff is elated to have him back. Welcome Home, Drummond!

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - SPRING & SUMMER 2018

KCWD90 has identified the need to replace about 7,000 feet of existing steel water main in an area located north and west of Lake Kathleen. The map to the right roughly shows the water mains to be replaced. This project was originally scheduled for the summer of 2016, but issues regarding trees, road access, and easements proved to be time-consuming. Now that these issues are worked out, construction is scheduled for early summer 2018. The West Lake Kathleen Project is expected to cost about $2.3 million. The District has received a Federal Drinking Water Loan for 87.5% of this project and the State of Washington will contribute 12.5% to the Loan amount. Now that the State of Washington has approved the 2018 Capital budget, we are finalizing this project to go out to bid in the next few weeks.

UPDATE ON KING COUNTY'S PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY TAX

Over the past year we have been updating our customers on King County's Proposed Right-of-Way Tax. As a reminder, on November 7, 2016, the King County Council passed Ordinance No. 18403, which will result in a significant increase to your utility rates. The Ordinance requires utilities, consisting of **electric, gas, water, and sewer**, to pay rent (a tax) to the County for the right to use County right-of-ways (streets and roads). Early estimates from King County set the tax amount at about $5.00 per household, per month, per utility, and could equal as much as $240.00 per year, per household.

KCWD90 fundamentally disagrees on King County's right to impose this tax. **Thank you** to all of our customers who contacted King County regarding the Proposed Right-of-Way Tax. We even had some customers attend the public comment on the proposed rule. Unfortunately, King County is still moving forward on collecting this illegal tax. Their 2018 budget includes $10 million in planned revenue related to this new tax.

KCWD90 has partnered with 20 other Special Purpose Water and Sewer Districts to fight this illegal tax. While this currently does not impact our customers within the City of Renton boundaries, we suspect that the cities will follow suit, if King County is authorized to collect this tax.

Fortunately, Reagan Dunn is the King County Council member serving KCWD90 customers and we are happy to report that Councilmember Dunn voted **NO** on this proposal. However, it is not too late to contact the other members of the Council and let them know how you feel about this Ordinance/Tax.

There are 182 Sewer and Water Districts throughout the State of Washington, each governed by locally elected officials. These Special Purpose Districts provide cost effective sewer and water services – ranging from the state's largest population centers, to the smallest rural communities. To the right are 8 top reasons why Sewer and Water Special Purpose Districts are beneficial to our Community.

FOR MORE BENEFITS BY COUNTY, VISIT OUR INTERACTIVE MAP AT WWW.WASWDMAP.ORG

2018 SAVVY GARDENER CLASSES ON KCWD90 WEBSITE

Review our fabulous new class topics and register now for one or all the classes. Special Kickoff class is Thursday, April 12, 2018, 5-6:30 p.m. All class topics and all instructors (except one) are new this year. To register call 425 255-9600 or email debg@kcwd90.com.

8 Benefits of Washington State Sewer and Water Districts

1	**Nearly a Quarter of State Water Services** Special Purpose Water Districts provide clean, affordable water to 19% of the state's population (22% on a public water system).
2	**One Fifth of the State Sewer Service** Special Purpose Sewer Districts provide environmentally costs effective sewer transmission and/or treatment to 14% of the state's population (21% connected to sewer system and treatment plant).
3	**$595 Million Service with No Property Tax** State Sewer and Water Districts collectively operate $595 million dollar annual enterprise without imposing any property taxes.
4	**$135 Million Invested in Infrastructure** State Sewer and Water Districts collectively invest over $135 million annually on capital improvement projects that ensure reliable service.
5	**$55 Million Contracted with Small Business** State and Sewer and Water Districts throughout the state spend $55 million annually contracting with small business.
6	**$17 Million in Support of State Investments** State Sewer and Water Districts help support critical state investments by paying $17 million annually in B&O and Utility Excise taxes.
7	**$5 Million in Support of Local Governments** State Sewer and Water Districts help local governments collect utility taxes to fund local government services - currently in excess of $5 million annually.
8	**Gainful Employment** State Sewer and Water Districts directly support 1,345 jobs with an average annual salary of $68,500.