



WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION
COMMISSION SUMMARY

AGENDA CATEGORY: Finance Department

ITEM NUMBER:


DATE: September 18, 2019


SUBJECT	Proposed FYs 2021-2026 Capital Improvements Program - Transmit to County Governments.
SUMMARY	This action transmits the WSSC's Proposed FYs 2021-2026 Capital Improvements Program to the Prince George's County and Montgomery County Governments.
SPECIAL COMMENTS	Section 23-304 of the Public Utilities Article requires WSSC to prepare, and submit to the two County Governments, a Proposed Capital Improvements Program by October 1 of each year.
CONTRACT NO./ REFERENCE NO.	Not applicable.
COSTS	CIP Six-Year Combined Program \$3,712,427,000.
AMENDMENT/ CHANGE ORDER NO. AMOUNT	Not applicable.
MBE PARTICIPATION	Not applicable.
PRIOR STAFF/ COMMITTEE REVIEW	Carla A. Reid, General Manager/CEO Joseph F. Beach, Deputy General Manager for Administration Patricia Colihan, Chief Financial Officer Letitia Carolina-Powell, Budget Division Manager
PRIOR STAFF/ COMMITTEE APPROVALS	
RECOMMENDATION TO COMMISSION	Approve.
COMMISSION ACTION	


WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION

Interoffice Memorandum

TO: CHAIR LAWSON & COMMISSIONERS

THRU: CARLA A. REID
GENERAL MANAGER/CEO 

THRU: JOSEPH F. BEACH
DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER FOR ADMINISTRATION 

FROM: PATRICIA COLIHAN
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER 

DATE: SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEARS 2021-2026 PROPOSED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
PROGRAM (CIP)

Section 23-304 of the Public Utilities Article requires the WSSC to prepare and submit to Montgomery and Prince George's counties, a Proposed Capital Improvements Program before October 1 of each year. The purpose of this memo is to update you on the status of the FY's 2021-2026 Proposed CIP.

There were no substantive changes to the document since our CIP worksession at the July 17th Commission Meeting.

Our CIP Public Hearings were held on September 4th in Rockville and September 5th in Largo. All testimony and comments received are included in the complete transcripts of each hearing, attached.

We request that you approve the document as proposed for transmittal to the counties.

Attachment

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(ALL FIGURES IN THOUSANDS)

EXPENDITURE PROJECTIONS

	EST. TOTAL COST	EXPEND THRU 19	EST. EXPEND 20	TOTAL SIX YEARS	EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE						BEYOND SIX YEARS	PAGE NUM
					YR 1 21	YR 2 22	YR 3 23	YR 4 24	YR 5 25	YR 6 26		
Montgomery County Water Projects	55,801	38,090	11,630	6,081	1,821	325	2,278	1,657	0	0	0	1-1
Prince George's County Water Projects	293,581	82,483	20,625	182,193	36,484	55,457	40,853	35,064	7,380	6,955	8,280	5-1
Bi-County Water Projects	960,670	94,088	82,065	677,513	85,314	111,620	125,584	124,445	116,415	114,135	107,004	3-1
TOTAL WATER PROJECTS	1,310,052	214,661	114,320	865,787	123,619	167,402	168,715	161,166	123,795	121,090	115,284	
Montgomery County Sewerage Projects	55,371	19,663	6,676	29,032	9,637	6,633	10,468	2,294	0	0	0	2-1
Prince George's County Sewerage Projects	464,580	267,948	61,701	133,215	38,756	46,691	34,227	6,504	4,304	2,733	1,716	6-1
Bi-County Sewerage Projects	1,777,847	447,382	180,190	957,138	203,061	212,224	180,015	134,432	101,528	125,878	193,137	4-1
TOTAL SEWERAGE PROJECTS	2,297,798	734,993	248,567	1,119,385	251,454	265,548	224,710	143,230	105,832	128,611	194,853	
TOTAL CIP PROGRAM	3,607,850	949,654	362,887	1,985,172	375,073	432,950	393,425	304,396	229,627	249,701	310,137	
Total Information Only Projects	1,949,222	1,092	218,904	1,727,255	249,229	279,817	296,233	291,261	297,428	313,287	1,971	7-1
COMBINED PROGRAM	5,557,072	950,746	581,791	3,712,427	624,302	712,767	689,658	595,657	527,055	562,988	312,108	

FUNDING SOURCES

WSSC Bonds	4,480,446	448,110	494,215	3,276,917	540,860	624,206	610,699	526,097	469,915	505,140	261,204
PAYGO	248,128	0	31,016	186,096	31,016	31,016	31,016	31,016	31,016	31,016	31,016
State Grants	382,481	238,190	21,291	123,000	21,500	21,500	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	0
System Development Charge	315,523	224,205	22,325	60,713	9,530	22,555	17,801	10,597	0	230	8,280
Contribution/Other	66,115	32,072	10,109	23,934	16,221	4,812	1,397	500	502	502	0
Government Contributions	48,809	7,599	2,835	26,767	3,675	4,678	4,745	3,447	4,122	6,100	11,608
Federal Grants	15,570	570	0	15,000	1,500	4,000	4,000	4,000	1,500	0	0
COMBINED PROGRAM	5,557,072	950,746	581,791	3,712,427	624,302	712,767	689,658	595,657	527,055	562,988	312,108

WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

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PUBLIC HEARING
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6 FY'S 2021 - 2026 CIP
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A public hearing was held on September 4, 2019,
commencing at 7:32 p.m. at 100 Maryland Avenue, 3rd Floor
Hearing Room, Rockville, Maryland.

Eloise Foster, Vice Chair

Howard Denis

Fausto Bayonet

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 MS. FOSTER: I just want to thank everyone for
3 coming out. On behalf of the WSSC Commission and its staff,
4 I want to welcome you to this public hearing. The public
5 hearing is on our draft proposed Capital Improvement Program
6 which is also known as the CIP, and the CIP is for fiscal
7 years 2021 - 2026. I'm Eloise Foster, I'm Vice Chair of the
8 Commission. I represent Montgomery County, and my two other
9 colleagues who are with me tonight are also representatives
10 of Montgomery County. We have Fausto Bayonet, and Howard
11 Denis.

12 Also here this evening, we have members of the
13 WSSC staff. We, of course, have our General Manager and
14 CEO, Carla Reid, and other members of her senior staff. If
15 you could just kind of waive your hands so folks can see who
16 you are. And, at this point, now that you've identified
17 yourselves, I'll ask Letitia Carolina-Powell and Mark
18 Brackett, who are members of the Finance Department, to
19 provide a brief overview of the CIP. They have it on the
20 screen, but I think there are also documents that are in the
21 back of the room.

22 MS. CAROLINA-POWELL: Good evening. For the
23 record, I'm Letitia Carolina-Powell, Budget Division
24 Manager, and I will be providing some information on our
25 bonds and affordability, spending affordability.

1 We've incorporated this information into the
2 briefing this year so that you will be able to see the
3 impact of the CIP on affordability. There are policy
4 guidelines we adhere to when developing an affordable and
5 attainable CIP. These guidelines include several financial
6 metrics that we must comply with in order to maintain our
7 triple A bond rating. Two of the most important metrics are
8 listed here. The first one is debt service coverage, which
9 is gross revenue minus operating expenses, and that number -
10 - well, how many times that number covers the debt. So, in
11 debt service, is the principal and interest that we pay on
12 the debt that we issue, the bonds that we issue. So, debt
13 service is paid for with rate revenue.

14 And, the second metric is to limit rate supported
15 debt to less than 40 percent of operating expenses. We've
16 also placed limits on bond issuance amounts over the six-
17 year period based on -- to smooth out demand.

18 So you may be wondering why we are discussing
19 financial metrics and bond issuance limits at a hearing on
20 the CIP. Well, we have some concerns. This slide shows
21 that large investments in our capital program has led to
22 significant growth in our outstanding debt. In fact, since
23 fiscal year 2020 -- 2010 -- our capital budget has grown by
24 72 percent, and outstanding debt has grown by 132 percent.
25 Without reductions, debt service as a percentage of total

1 expenditures could exceed 40 percent in FY '22.

2 So, debt service is the -- over the past several
3 years, debt service has been the single largest driver of
4 our rate increases, and the CIP as presented would lead to
5 an 8 percent rate increase each year for the next six years.
6 As this slide shows, the largest component of the 8 percent
7 is debt service at 3.6 percent.

8 So, this six-year CIP is fiscally responsible. In
9 order to maintain our triple A bond rating, which results in
10 lower borrowing costs, we must keep our financial ratios in
11 balance. We are also balancing affordability aligning bond
12 issuance limits over a six-year program, and eliminating,
13 scaling down, or deferring projects when possible. In
14 addition, we plan to increase PAYGO in the future in order
15 to lower debt service and improve our financial metrics.

16 So, WSSC at a glance. Our system spans over a
17 thousand square miles. We have over 11,000 pipes, both
18 water and sewer, to maintain. The infrastructure is vast.
19 And, I will turn it over to Mark Brackett, to discuss some
20 of the projects that we have in our CIP.

21 MS. FOSTER: Carolina, just remind us the last
22 time that we had a rate increase that was in the 8 percent
23 range.

24 MS. CAROLINA-POWELL: I believe it was 2011.

25 MR. BRACKETT: I'm not sure. We would have to

1 check.

2 MS. CAROLINA-POWELL: Yes.

3 MR. BRACKETT: Mark Brackett, Capital Budget
4 Section Manager. The fiscal 2021 capital budget as proposed
5 over the six years would be a \$3.7 billion program, with
6 most of that coming from bond funded sources for our
7 funding. \$3.3 billion plus another 186 million in PAYGO, as
8 was mentioned earlier about keeping the PAYGO going. In the
9 fiscal year '21 budget year, we're looking at 624.3 million,
10 and on the next slide I'll tell you a little bit about one
11 of the biggest drivers is, mandated projects. So, in the
12 fiscal year '21 capital budget, nearly a third of the
13 program is for mandated projects, including multi-
14 jurisdiction projects that we work -- for the construction
15 we do down at Blue Plains, the consent decrees that we're
16 operating under, and some other agreements, like for the
17 dams that we've been rebuilding to meet the flood
18 requirements, flood controls.

19 When we look at our CIP, we look at major
20 categories of spending which are growth, system improvement,
21 and environmental. And over 90 percent of our fiscal year
22 '21 capital budget is for reinvestment in this
23 infrastructure that Letitia mentioned, and as on the slide
24 two water filtration plants, six water resource recovery
25 facilities, over 60 water storage tanks, 11,000 miles of

1 water and sewer pipe across the two counties. It's a 1,000
2 square mile area, and we're serving 1.8 million customers.
3 So, it's quite an expansive system.

4 The other areas we spend growth, at WSSC, growth
5 pays for growth through contributions from developers and
6 through SDC fees that they pay. And, environmental projects
7 include the Potomac consent decree that we're working on,
8 and projects down at Blue Plains that have an environmental
9 impact.

10 So, the funding for this, how do we pay for all
11 this infrastructure? Well, as we mentioned, it's long term
12 debt. Nearly 90 percent of the fiscal year '21 capital
13 budget is funded through long term debt, and the debt drives
14 increases in debt service, increases in debt service drive
15 the increase in rates. So, that's how it trickles down into
16 the budget. And, as Letitia mentioned, we are adding new
17 debt faster than we're retiring the old debt. So, as she
18 mentioned, FY '10 we were \$1.4 billion outstanding debt. By
19 FY '18, we're up to \$3.2 billion. So that's the impact of
20 the sanitary/sewer overflow consent decree we're under. We
21 spent over a billion dollars on that already, and nearly all
22 of that is long term debt.

23 So maintaining the infrastructure, the biggest
24 programs are water and sewer main reconstruction programs.
25 As we mentioned, over 11,000 miles of pipes. There's four

1 programs. There's water and sewer. We do large diameter
2 pipes and small diameter pipes. In the small diameter,
3 we're programming to replace 25 miles of small pipe, and
4 water pipe, and 20 miles of small diameter sewer pipe in
5 fiscal year '21, and in the larger diameter programs, we're
6 replacing 6 miles of large water transmission mains, and 16
7 miles of large trunk sewer mains. And in FY '21, these four
8 programs add up to \$256 million.

9 Over at our Potomac water filtration plant, this
10 is our largest plant, in fiscal year '19, it did 105.6
11 million gallons of water every single day of the year.
12 There's numerous projects that are underway to improve the
13 water quality of not only the water that we produce for our
14 customers, but also the water that's returning to the
15 Potomac River, and that's the largest project right now is
16 to reduce the amount of sediment returned to the Potomac
17 River. The Potomac consent decree I mentioned earlier. We
18 also are wrapping up projects to improve the filters to have
19 more efficient operations, and also electrical upgrades to
20 certain electrical components in substations that are 30
21 plus years old. So all that is being replaced. In fiscal
22 year '21 we expect to spend \$14.2 million at the Potomac
23 plant.

24 One of our largest most significant projects,
25 Piscataway Bioenergy Project. This is known as our poop to

1 power plant. We're creating sustainable energy from the
2 wastewater flow that comes to us, and it never stops coming,
3 so we have an endless supply of fuel for our energy. We're
4 going to reduce -- the program will reduce the volume of
5 biosolids that we have to haul away for disposal, reducing
6 those costs. Reduce our need for chemicals, for certain
7 chemical use. We're going to generate 2.7 megawatts of
8 clean energy from the wastewater process, and reduce our
9 greenhouse emissions and save our customers money. And that
10 project will be well into construction. It's under
11 construction now, it'll be well into construction by FY '21,
12 and we expect to spend \$61.3 million just in fiscal year
13 '21, on this project.

14 Some other good news I didn't put on the slide is,
15 we have already been approved for over \$120 million in low
16 interest loans through the Maryland Department of the
17 Environment, state revolving loan program. And those rates
18 for us can vary between 0.9 percent for 30 years, to 1.8
19 percent for 30 years. So, some very significant savings for
20 our customers on those projects. That should be, project
21 should be completed by the end of 2023, December of 2023, if
22 we could stay on schedule.

23 And just to look, again, at how expansive our
24 system is.

25 MS. CAROLINA-POWELL: And, FY '12 is the last time

1 we had a rate increase in this area. I was 8.5 percent.

2 MS. FOSTER: Thank you, Letitia. Thank you, Mark.
3 Any questions for our staff? If not --

4 MR. DENIS: It's not a question. Just a
5 observation, a couple of observations. And, thank you very
6 much for your work, and for your work. I just want to say
7 one of the many reasons I'm so pleased that Eloise Foster is
8 a colleague and a commissioner, is because of her budget
9 expertise throughout her career, and presently, I'm not a
10 budget expert, so I rely to a very great extent on her
11 leadership, which has been outstanding, and to all of you,
12 but going forward, I would like to learn even more about the
13 budget, the CIP, and the inter-relationship of the operating
14 budget, and hope you all will feel free to debrief me or
15 anyone else who wants to be briefed in between these
16 meetings, so that I can be better informed as to what's
17 going on.

18 I would say two of my biggest takeaways from my
19 first term, as I begin my second term, is the relationship
20 of the CIP to the operating budget and the debt. I think
21 that's really been a matter of concern. We all know we have
22 to watch it, to stay on the right side of 40 percent, and
23 still do what we have to do. And also, at the same time,
24 and the ying and the yang of the situation is the centrality
25 of the Potomac plant, just for starters, and how much we

1 rely on it, not only in Montgomery County, but throughout
2 the region, and how important it is to make sure that it's
3 world class.

4 You couldn't do anything without bonds. You
5 couldn't develop anything. You couldn't develop anything
6 without water. And anytime that I read some of these clips
7 that Chuck sends around from other jurisdictions around the
8 country, around the world, of pipes that burst, and problems
9 and sometimes catastrophes that occur, the first reaction
10 locally, and the reaction that we have here in our region
11 is, well, why don't you fix the pipes before they burst.
12 And, but if you have a very aggressive program, as we do,
13 sometimes people say well, why're you spending so much money
14 on fixing the pipes. So, that's what, I think that's what
15 we've got to make sure that we communicate effectively to
16 the community, so that there's substantial support for what
17 we're doing as an entity. I just wanted to make those
18 observations. Thank you.

19 MS. FOSTER: Thank you. I want to acknowledge
20 Delegate Carr being the audience, thank you for coming out
21 tonight. And, at this point, I'm going to ask Chuck Brown,
22 who's our Director of Communications, to come up and just
23 brief us on the outreach efforts that were provided for
24 tonight's hearing.

25 MR. BROWN: Thank you, good evening. I'm Chuck

1 Brown, Director of WSSC's Office of Communications and
2 Community Relations. I'm pleased to highlight our extensive
3 customer outreach efforts to encourage public participation
4 and promote transparency for tonight's public hearing. From
5 traditional media, web, social media, and direct mail, WSSC
6 used a variety of methods to alert and inform our customers
7 about tonight's public hearing. Advertisements were
8 published in the Montgomery and Prince George's County
9 editions of the Sentinel Newspaper, as well as the
10 Washington Post on August 22, 2019.

11 WSSC placed notices about tonight's hearing in
12 customer bills starting in June and continuing through
13 August. We've been pushing this meeting out on Facebook and
14 Twitter. We issued a press release on August 30th,
15 announcing both hearings. We issued another one yesterday,
16 September 3rd. Then promoting on WSSC's website on our
17 homepage. Just so you know, all the releases that we send
18 out go to not only the media, but also, county stakeholders
19 and folks who want to be part of that distribution list.
20 Elected officials also received a letter from our General
21 Manager and CEO, Carla Reid, announcing both hearings. They
22 were sent out in mid-August. Again, put information on the
23 homepage. Finally, we worked closely, as we did last year,
24 with cable, Montgomery County Cable, to have them air
25 tonight's hearing. So I'd like to thank them for securing a

1 production team to stream this hearing. So I'd like to
2 thank you for the opportunity to share those outreach
3 efforts. Any questions?

4 MS. FOSTER: No, thank you. And thank you for the
5 extensive outreach.

6 MR. DENIS: And thank you, I too would like to
7 acknowledge the presence of Delegate Carr. I didn't quite
8 notice you before because I was too busy talking. But thank
9 you so much for your presence, really, and your leadership
10 in this area and other areas as a member of our Montgomery
11 County Delegation. Thank you.

12 MS. FOSTER: Thank you. So, in accordance with
13 state law, WSSC transmits the CIP to the Montgomery and the
14 Prince George's County governments by October 1st of each
15 year. And we will consider all public comments that are
16 provided at this hearing, as well as any comments that are
17 sent subsequently to this hearing. And we will include
18 those comments before transmitting the information to the
19 two counties. Transcripts of these proceedings will be
20 included in the transmittal. At this point, I'm going to
21 open the meeting to public comments. For the record, please
22 start off by giving your name, and your address prior to
23 making any comments. Please limit your comments to three
24 minutes. If your testimony is longer than time allows,
25 please feel free to provide us a written copy of your

1 testimony prior to the closing of the hearing date. You can
2 either give it to us tonight, or you can send it. The
3 public hearing tonight concerns the WSSC Capital Improvement
4 Program. And I would ask that if you have comments on a
5 different WSSC topic, please allow those individuals who are
6 here tonight to comment on the CIP to speak first. As
7 always, we are here to hear all comments that individuals
8 have. We just want to give those individuals who have
9 specifically come out to address the CIP to speak first. So
10 with that, I'm going to start off with the individuals who
11 signed in on the speakers list, and I'm going to ask
12 Roderick Hosang to come up. Thank you. And, if you can hit
13 the button, and proceed.

14 MR. HOSANG: This?

15 MS. FOSTER: Yes.

16 MR. HOSANG: I really don't have any comments.

17 MS. FOSTER: Push the button.

18 MR. DENIS: As long as it's red, you're on.

19 MS. FOSTER: Then everybody in the audience can
20 hear you.

21 MR. HOSANG: Good. I really don't have any
22 comments. I'm just sort of simply wanting to understand
23 what was in the amended CIP program. So, stuff looks good
24 to me. Thank you.

25 MS. FOSTER: If it looks good to you, thanks Mark

1 and thank you for your testimony. We like that. Susan
2 LaCourse?

3 MS. LACOURSE: Good evening everyone, and thank
4 you commissioners, and WSSC executives and staff. Good
5 evening and thank you for the opportunity to speak to you
6 once again tonight. I applaud WSSC for drafting a CIP that
7 prioritizes spending controls with an emphasis on keeping
8 the debt service in check. I especially note that there's a
9 commitment to keep the debt service ratio below 40 percent.
10 However, I can remember a time a few years ago, before many
11 of you became associated with WSSC, when the firm commitment
12 was to keep the debt ratio below 35 percent. I trust that
13 this increase to 40 percent is the last. We can barely
14 afford the debt load as it is.

15 I'm sure that I do not need to tell you, in fact,
16 it's been mentioned several times, that debt service is the
17 number one major driver of rate increases. If you keep
18 raising rates significantly every year, which seems to be
19 the plan to support new debt, before long rates will double.
20 Here are the doubling rates: if we have an 8 percent rate
21 increase every year, then our rates will double in nine
22 years. That's only three years out of the time period
23 covered by the CIP. At a 6 percent rate increase very year,
24 our rates will double in 13 years. At 4 percent every year,
25 our rates will double in 18 years.

1 For the sake of your customers and our future, I
2 encourage you to look at rate increases in light of the
3 doubling factor. It is a number that does not necessarily
4 impact you personally, because you may be long gone before
5 the effects are felt. But it does affect those of us who
6 live here, and will be retiring or have already retired, as
7 rates continue to rise. A 6 percent or an 8 percent
8 increase may not seem huge on the surface, but when you add
9 it up over the years, it becomes oppressive. We have
10 already seen our rates double since 2009, and many families
11 cannot afford annual increases like this. We also have to
12 factor in the impact of fixed fees, which I understand will
13 be unfrozen soon and presumably increased.

14 Congratulations on drafting a CIP that prioritizes
15 spending controls. It's a good start, but it needs to
16 continue and become a part of WSSC culture. There is
17 nothing commendable about having a world class utility if
18 people cannot afford to pay their bills. Thank you.

19 MS. FOSTER: Thank you for your comments. And,
20 for the record, again, would you give your name and your
21 address?

22 MS. LACOURSE: I'm sorry. I apologize. I'm Susan
23 LaCourse. I live on Gerald Road in Laurel.

24 MS. FOSTER: Thank you.

25 MR. DENIS: I want to thank you for your comments

1 and for following our deliberation so carefully. What you
2 say is very, very helpful to us. When I first went into the
3 history of rating increases, I discovered there was a period
4 of time, I want to say 20 years ago, but maybe, roughly 20
5 years ago, when there was zero percent rate increases for,
6 was it, four or five years, you know, it seemed to be quiet.
7 Was it five years? Six years. Six years that there was
8 zero rate increases, which have been proceeded by a lot of
9 rate increases.

10 So, but of course, what happened in retrospect was
11 that there was deferred maintenance, and things weren't done
12 that perhaps should have been done. But, as a result, there
13 were problems in the system, and then to fix the problems,
14 of course you had to have rate increases that were higher
15 than anyone would like. So, I think that's the balancing
16 act that we try to do to make sure that there's an equity
17 between what needs to be done and what we can afford to do
18 within the constraints of our bond rating and affordability.
19 And, it's why we have spending affordability guidelines.
20 It's a state law, and a good one, so I think it's a good
21 discipline for us. And it is a guideline, of course, but I
22 think over time, perhaps early on the guideline became a
23 barrier, and I think a very helpful barrier to keep us all
24 focused on the fiscal reality going forward. Thank you.

25 MS. LACOURSE: Thank you.

1 MS. FOSTER: The next individual who signed up is
2 Mr. Brenne. And, I'm looking at your address, you're my
3 neighbor.

4 MR. BRENNE: Oh really?

5 MS. FOSTER: Yes.

6 MR. BRENNE: Well, that's wonderful. Gordie
7 Brenne, Silver Spring, Maryland. And I'm here representing
8 the Taxpayers League. I'm going to make some points tonight
9 about poor capital investment decisions, and how they relate
10 to future solvency in a taxpayer bailout. Let me start by
11 saying for the record, Taxpayers League is against both the
12 Piscataway and expansion projects, and they're many, and the
13 AMI Smart Meter project, because they don't pay for
14 themselves. They produce less in return than the cost of
15 capital. And, as a consequence, they expand the debt
16 service and steal precious capital from doing the deferred
17 maintenance that you referred to, Mr. Denis. Between them,
18 they're over a half a billion dollars.

19 The commission did approve new standards for
20 capital controls on July 17th to reduce the risk of WSSC
21 insolvency, and those standards, as Sue mentioned, is 40
22 percent is the hard target for debt service. They're also
23 standards for cash on hand and fund balances. We made these
24 points in previous testimony, in discussions with Joe Beach,
25 and thank you, thank you, Joe. But your job in creating new

1 policies to manage costs is far from done. The risk of
2 insolvency remains because growing capital demands to
3 replace the aging infrastructure, deferred work on
4 environmental consent decrees, high operating costs, and
5 recession risks. Most projects approved by WSSC have a rate
6 of return that's either negative or below the cost of
7 capital.

8 One example that we oppose is the smart meter
9 project, which has a negative rate of return. It
10 illustrates what happens when cheaper alternatives like AMR
11 technology are ignored by rent seeking vendors. And, it
12 turns out, the folks that did the business justification.
13 This drives rates higher, spending more than you can get
14 back is a prescription for bankruptcy in any business. I'm
15 going to offer three tangible ways to reprioritize the CIP
16 plan. And interrupt me if I'm not making it clear. I'm a
17 bean counter and this is going to get pretty geeky real
18 quick.

19 First of all, reduce increased costs due to loss
20 water and leakages of the sewer system. The latest loss
21 water I report presented to you in May showed an 18 percent
22 loss water rate. That is a two percent increase from the
23 prior year. The cost of service study in 2017 showed sewage
24 treatment had to handle in-flows and infiltration of 43
25 percent, 43 percent of what's processed in the sewage

1 treatment plant does not originate in homes or businesses.
2 Think about that. If you think that generates wasted
3 capacity, you're right. And that cost money to operate, as
4 well as investment capital. The CIP plan needs to organize
5 projects to show you how you can prioritize around reducing
6 this lost waste, and this wasted sewer capacity to improve
7 return on investment.

8 Number two, shift more sewage treatment to Blue
9 Plains, where the return on investment is higher. Sewage
10 treatment is the most capital intensive and expensive
11 operation WSSC has. Currently, only 65 percent of the total
12 sewage is treated by Blue Plains. Eight-five percent from
13 Montgomery County, and but only 60 percent from Prince
14 George's County. That's pretty different. WSSC continues
15 to demonstrate it doesn't know how to handle sewage. The
16 Piscataway Treatment Plan and its pumping stations are
17 responsible for chronic spills, one in 2017, two last year,
18 and two others this Summer. The latest, just a couple of
19 weeks ago, August 9th -- 5.22 million gallons of sewage were
20 dumped into the Potomac watershed overnight. Wiping out
21 several years of watershed -- stormwater abatement projects
22 by the two counties, cost the taxpayers hundreds of millions
23 of dollars. I can't get anymore dramatic than that, because
24 I'm an accountant. But the numbers don't lie. Fix the
25 project.

1 Number three. Fix the project classification and
2 end justification for the projects that are in the capital
3 improvement book, and end unfair cross-subsidies from
4 Montgomery County to Prince George's customers for sewage
5 treatment. Based on some rough estimates, sewage operating
6 and debt service costs paid by Montgomery County residents,
7 we pay the same amount for sewage as do those in Prince
8 George's County, but their share of costs, but the
9 Montgomery County share of costs is only 36 percent. Part
10 of the problem is that the CIP plan tries to organize
11 projects by county, as you've seen, and the largest category
12 is bi-county.

13 And, inexplicably, the Piscataway upgrade
14 projects, and they're several that serve Prince George's
15 exclusive, are shown as bi-county projects. Does that sound
16 like a county giving free to you? It does to me. Efforts
17 to balance the projects between the two counties have been
18 unsuccessful, resulting in more money being spent on sewage
19 treatment projects in Prince George's County. We urge the
20 Commission to ask the Inspector General to investigate these
21 cross subsidies. Thank you.

22 MS. FOSTER: Thank you for your comments, if you
23 could leave a copy of your testimony, we would appreciate
24 it. Next, I'm going to ask Delegate Al Carr to come up.

25 MR. CARR: Good evening, Commissioners. Thank you

1 so much for your service. I wanted to also thank the staff
2 and the management for their work on the CIP. I'm going to
3 speak on one of the items in the CIP, it's item no. 7-10,
4 advanced metering infrastructure, also known as smart
5 meters. This is approximately \$100 million that is forecast
6 over the time period for the CIP. And the concerns that I
7 want to express about the smart meters are, number one is
8 the cost. My fear is that the -- that is a project that
9 will not lead to rate decreases, it will actually lead to
10 rate increases.

11 I'm also concerned about the environmental impact.
12 Based on my past correspondence with WSSC staff, I believe
13 that the vast majority of the installed base of meters is
14 compatible with a different alternative called AMR, and then
15 if you switch to the smart meters, the AMI, you're going to
16 have to throw away a lot of meters that have years of life
17 left and put those into the waste stream.

18 And then, finally, the -- with the smart meters,
19 it's going to put WSSC in the business of collecting massive
20 amounts of customer data, and it's, you might want to think
21 about whether that's really core business of WSSC. So, I
22 just want to encourage you to keep asking the hard questions
23 and scrutinizing it the way that you've been doing. And I
24 would encourage you to work with staff to look at what other
25 utilities are doing. When I corresponded with the general

1 manager of the Fairfax County water, he said that they have
2 rejected smart meters as too costly. So they are not going
3 in that direction. There is not consensus among area
4 utilities that that is a smart investment. And, I would ask
5 you to look at the City of Rockville, that's where we are
6 right now. The City of Rockville has their own water and
7 sewer separate from WSSC, and they are not using smart
8 meters. They are using a different system called AMR drive-
9 by meters, and this is a system that's simpler, it's less
10 costly than the smart meters, but it offers a lot of the
11 same benefits. It offers the benefits of taking the human
12 error out of the meter reading, automated that process, and
13 the way it works is you have your meter reader is not
14 walking and looking at the meters manually, they're driving
15 by in a vehicle, and in the vehicle is a piece of equipment
16 that talks to the meter, it sends a signal to the meter that
17 says wake up, send me your reading. It captures that
18 information and stores it so it can go back to the billing
19 system, and then the meter goes back to sleep, and it's not
20 the same as a smart meter, sending that information
21 continuously. I know you've been talking about the concept
22 of opt in or opt out. That issue goes away because with the
23 AMR drive-by meters, they don't have those privacy or health
24 concerns that the smart meters do. So, that's not even a
25 concern. So, in conclusion, I want to thank you again for

1 your service. Have a good night.

2 MS. FOSTER: Delegate Carr, how long has Rockville
3 had the AMR drive-by system in place?

4 MR. CARR: I'm not sure. I believe they've had
5 that in place for a number of years, but I can't tell you
6 exactly how long that it's been.

7 MS. FOSTER: Okay. All right. Well, that's
8 helpful, thank you.

9 MR. CARR: Thank you.

10 MR. DENIS: I just want to thank you again for
11 coming. I didn't realize you'd be testifying, so I just
12 wanted to incorporate by reference all the things I said
13 before, but I too am taking a closer look at the opt out
14 option for AMI, and I'm just wondering if you've done any --
15 you seem to be so expert in this, you testified without any
16 notes, it's very impressive. So you're really become an
17 expert in this (indiscernible) of sorts, at least if I can
18 put it that way, even though it's all in general, issues
19 that you're involved with. So this is clearly very
20 important to us all and thank you for that. But with opt
21 out, have you done, has your research indicated
22 approximately of what the percentage would be, or what the
23 percentage has been say for PEPCO or any of the other
24 entities that have gone the opt out route? It just occurred
25 to me that if it's only, and we're talking about one or two

1 percent, then really it would not be much of a disruption to
2 the system going forward. Would you care to comment on
3 that?

4 MR. CARR: I actually asked the Public Service
5 Commission Staff for those figures, the opt out rates for
6 electric utilities, so I have those. I can send those to
7 you through the staff, and I believe that opt out rate was
8 relatively small in the PEPCO territory, which is, you know,
9 closer to your territory, and it was a lot higher in the
10 BG&E, Baltimore territory, but I can share that with you.

11 MR. DENIS: Yeah, I noticed there's technology
12 advances and the zone of privacy shrinks, it's, as more and
13 more opt out options that are being provided for those who
14 are concerned about these matters, as I think everyone is
15 generally, and I couldn't help noticing there were new
16 technology at airports, which is starting to move around the
17 country, around the world, is facial technology for getting
18 your boarding passes, as I understand it, and as
19 problematical as that may be, theoretically, more
20 information that's out there and what if it's hacked and so
21 on and so forth, but it saves 15 seconds, so let's move
22 forward with it. But there's an opt out provision. I read
23 in one of the stories that there's an opt out, and it did
24 get my attention as only one or two percent, so, for that.
25 And as well as, I read just a couple of days ago that Whole

1 Foods is exploring a technology that is not facial
2 recognition, but with your hand. I don't know if you call
3 it, not a fingerprint, but some kind of a, your hand will
4 tell them what your credit card number is as best as I can
5 understand it, or some technology to that effect, because
6 they feel that the facial recognition is something that
7 customers won't feel comfortable with it. And, so I think
8 that there is -- I think people are exploring how best to
9 balance the equities as you utilize a technology that's
10 available. And I think that there are -- there are very --
11 there are good arguments as to why we should move in that
12 direction, but I think that there's also a good argument as
13 to why we should give people the opportunity to opt out if
14 it doesn't disrupt the overall program. Thank you.

15 MS. FOSTER: Thank you. The final individual
16 signed up tonight is Ms. Nancy Wallace, who's representing
17 the Maryland Green Party. And again, would you give us your
18 address.

19 MS. WALLACE: Hi there, my name is Nancy Wallace.
20 I am co-chair of the Montgomery County Green Party, and I
21 would like to speak tonight actually on behalf of the county
22 party, it's more relevant, I believe to this, though I, from
23 my past testimony on similar issues on behalf of the
24 Maryland Green Party in front of the state legislature, I
25 think that the party in general would support these

1 comments.

2 First of all, we are opposed to AMI, and we would
3 support at most AMR, as you just heard Mr. Carr describe
4 them. And we would ask for a one year pause on this for us
5 to communicate with you directly, and to get equal time with
6 your staff, adding up all the hours they've spent the last
7 several years developing this proposal with the sales
8 companies for AMR.

9 We have national and international experts here in
10 Maryland, specifically, Kate Keal (phonetic sp.) and
11 Theodora Scaratta (phonetic sp.), who are -- Theodora is the
12 Vice President of the National or the national leading
13 organizations on these wireless technologies, as is Kate
14 Keal, as well. And, I doubt that your staff has had
15 extensive discussions of many hundreds of hours with them at
16 all.

17 You basically are being sold a bill of goods by
18 companies that are selling you a technology product, and let
19 me be very clear, that it's a bill of goods that is not
20 regulated by federal law. I think -- and Mr. Denis, I've
21 known you, you may not recognize me, but I recognize you
22 from a long time ago, out of respect. So let's take a close
23 look. This is a technology that is subject to Section 704
24 of 1996 Telecommunications Act. There has been zero review
25 under the National Environmental Policy Act, the EIS,

1 Environmental Impact Statements, none. Endangered Species
2 Act, doesn't apply.

3 The entire federal structure of protective
4 regulations and laws was wiped out by Section 704. So you
5 have to understand the Federal Communications Commission has
6 no medical staff, and the American Academy of Pediatrics,
7 six years ago, wrote a letter, a formal letter, to the
8 Federal Communications Commission, saying that current U.S.
9 federal standards on wireless, which is what, it's
10 microwaves, why am I saying wireless, that's the polite
11 term, it's microwaves. You're putting microwaves in our
12 front yards without our knowledge or permission, to
13 microwave our children and ourselves.

14 And, this -- so the American Academy of Pediatrics
15 wrote to the FCC saying the current U.S. standards are
16 inadequate to protect children. The FCC has completely
17 ignored them, has never reopened the standards. The current
18 safety standards that you're being told by the salespeople,
19 they meet all federal standards, are from 1993, ignoring 25
20 years of research that these microwaves cause biological
21 harm. France is withdrawing all wireless, all microwaves
22 from all of their primary and middle schools, after a
23 national commission for a year. These are extremely
24 harmful. The wireless is the third leading risk factor for
25 childhood leukemia.

1 The head of Yale University of Obstetrics and
2 Pediatrics has said this is a public health disaster. Two
3 hundred international leading radio frequency experts,
4 author of 2,000 peer reviewed articles, wrote the United
5 Nations and said, this is a disaster. You must not put
6 microwaves into our front yards to increase the burden on
7 our bodies and our environment already.

8 Under the precautionary principle, which is a
9 national compliance for the green party, and, in fact, also
10 for the democratic party, although, under the precautionary
11 principle we don't roll out a technology until we've tested
12 it. Guess what? The industry made sure there was no
13 regulation or serious testing before they invested in the
14 last 20 years of development. You've been severely
15 misrepresented, and our lives, and our lives, and our
16 childrens are at stake. This is not simply a metering
17 decision.

18 This is a decision that will significantly harm
19 the human beings and the environment. There are thousands
20 of studies showing the damage. Bioinitiative.org is one
21 website which collects them all, bioinitiative.org, both the
22 positive and the ones that show no harm per se. But the
23 world right now is going in the other direction, and there's
24 a grass roots revolt of mothers in particular, across the
25 United States and the world, against these microwave

1 technologies. I opted out of PEPCO. I get a pat down at
2 the airport. I keep my cell phone on airplane mode for the
3 most part. Because I've read the studies. I've read the
4 abstracts. I know about the closing of the ion channels
5 into the cells which keep toxic waste products in the cells
6 when the external part of the cells of the human body
7 perceive an increase in electro magnetic energy as in these
8 microwaves. This is a very clear biological harm. So, the
9 World Health Organization classifies it as a possible
10 carcinogen, and their internal group is considering whether
11 to upgrade it or downgrade it to a probable carcinogen.

12 As I mentioned, there's no federal regulation.
13 I've had extensive discussions, or I sat down for a long
14 conversation with Ms. Reid at one point, and she listened
15 very nicely, but apparently there was absolutely no effect,
16 And, it's just incomprehensible that you would choose to
17 increase the microwave exposure. The glioblastoma brain
18 cancer rate in America is going way up. Testicular cancer,
19 where young men have been carrying their cell phones in
20 their pants pocket, has doubled in the United States. This
21 is a very serious health risk. We have a million times the
22 background rate right now of these microwaves, these
23 frequencies, than we evolved with, than were present 50 or
24 100 or 200 years ago. So we ask you for a year pause.

25 MS. FOSTER: Thank you very much for your

1 testimony.

2 MR. DENIS: I have a question. First, thank you
3 for the kind word. Since you exercised the opt out for
4 PEPCO, could you tell me what was your experience, did they
5 say okay, you can opt out and that's it? Was there any fee
6 or?

7 MS. WALLACE: There was an initial opt out fee of
8 \$75, and there's a \$14 per month opt out fee. And, I don't
9 know if you're aware, but the PEPCO smart meter broadcast
10 10,000 to 100,000 micro pulses of microwaves into your home
11 everyday. And the proposal that I heard, and I haven't --
12 it's a level of detail that isn't in the CIP, but what I
13 heard from the staff was, you're going to microwaving us
14 four times a day from our meters in our own front yards just
15 to collect four times the information on our water use. I
16 choose no. And I just find it incomprehensible. And this
17 is why, this is why 40 percent of Americans don't show up to
18 vote. Because people don't pay attention to science, they
19 don't care, you're stuck in these institutional mindsets,
20 and we've got to get you through that and into really
21 understanding and looking objectively at the hard science.
22 The Taxpayers League, Al Carr, who was modest and didn't
23 mention that he has a background in radio technology, which
24 is why he's aware of this, and he's the representative here
25 today. This is very, very serious.

1 MS. FOSTER: Thank you for your comments. Ms.
2 Wallace was actually the last individual to sign up. If
3 there are other individuals in the audience who would like
4 to come forth and present testimony, now is your
5 opportunity. Well, if not, this basically concludes the
6 hearing. If you have after thoughts and you'd like to
7 submit testimony, the record will be open until September
8 the 16th, so any additional comments, observations that
9 you'd like to share with WSSC and the staff, they can be
10 submitted in writing or by e-mail to the WSSC Budget
11 Division. They are located at 14501 Sweitzer Lane in
12 Laurel, Maryland, or you can e-mail them at
13 budgetgroup@wsscwater.com. And again, as I said, the record
14 will remain open until September the 16th. Yes, Ms.
15 Wallace?

16 MS. WALLACE: I'm sorry. There's one important
17 point --

18 MS. FOSTER: You could e-mail it to us.

19 MS. WALLACE: I could, but I think it's important
20 to make sure you hear it directly. This room has been
21 filled time and time again, the past couple of years, with
22 Montgomery County citizens opposed to the 5G cell towers,
23 the 4G. We have people whose children have died in
24 Montgomery County from childhood leukemia who are now active
25 advocates. The educated people, or the people who have

1 learned about microwaves and wireless, do not want these
2 metering systems. So, I just want you to not think that
3 because there aren't people here tonight, and I was pleased
4 to hear the outreach effort, but there's a massive, massive
5 resistance against these untested and dangerous
6 technologies.

7 MS. FOSTER: Okay. We appreciate your passion.
8 Thank you very much for sharing.

9 MS. WALLACE: These are scientific facts.

10 MS. FOSTER: Thank you.

11 MS. WALLACE: And thank you for the opportunity to
12 add one more comment.

13 MS. FOSTER: Absolutely. Well, that concludes
14 tonight's hearing. Again, thank you everyone for coming
15 out. And again, you have an opportunity to provide follow-
16 up comments to the budget staff. And I'd like to thank
17 Letitia and Mark for doing such a good job tonight. Thank
18 you.

19 (Whereupon, at 8:20 p.m., the hearing was
20 concluded.)

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24

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√ Digitally signed by Keena Lukacinsky

ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATE

DEPOSITION SERVICES, INC., hereby certifies that the attached pages represent an accurate transcript of the electronic sound recording of the proceedings before the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission in the matter of:

Public Hearing

FY's 2021 - 2026 CIP

By:



Keena Lukacinsky, Transcriber

EXHIBITS



WSSC CIP Plan Testimony, 9/4/2019, Gordie Brenne, Treasurer MC Taxpayers League

Tonight I'd like to make some points about the poor capital investment decisions WSSC makes, and how they relate to future solvency and a taxpayer bailout. The Commission approved new standards for capital controls on July 17 that reduce the risk of WSSC insolvency. The new standards affirm 40% as a hard target for debt service as a percentage of total expenditures, set standards for cash on hand, and fund balances at 10%. These are points we have made in previous testimony with you and in meetings with Joe Beach. Thank you.

But, your job in creating new policies to manage costs is far from done. The risk of insolvency remains because of growing capital demands to replace aging infrastructure, deferred work on environmental consent decrees, high operating costs, and recession risks. Most projects approved by WSSC have a rate of return that's either negative or below WSSC's cost of capital. One example that we oppose is the smart meter project which has a negative rate of return, and illustrates what happens when cheaper alternatives like AMR technology are ignored by rent seeking vendors. **This drives rates higher, and spending more than you get back is a prescription for bankruptcy in any business.** (Either project costs must be reduced or project revenues increased to achieve an acceptable return on investment. For example, the Piscataway upgrade has a return on investment of just 3%, well below the cost of capital. And that's only if construction costs and energy savings come in as estimated. How do you control variances from those estimates? Why wasn't a shift to Blue Plains included in the business case?_

(On the revenue side, WSSC can be best characterized as a mature business, one that must make some tough CIP decisions to remain a going concern. For example, annual rate increases are projected to be above market 6% for FY21-25 in the long-range financial plan (FY 20 budget request, 3/19) to match costs, but that's not politically sustainable. Per capita consumption will continue to stagnate because rates higher than the cost of service contribute to a decline in business investments. **Lower consumption, combined with inadequate cost controls drives higher rates.**) Three other ways the CIP plan can be reprioritized to better control costs include:

1. **Reduce increased costs due to lost water and leakage into the sewer system.** The latest lost water audit report was presented to you in May showing an increase of 16 to 18% from FY17 to FY 18. The Cost of Service study (May 2017) showed sewage treatment had to handle inflows and infiltration of 43%. The CIP plan does not organize projects to show how you can prioritize projects to reduce this waste and improve return on investment.
2. **Shift more sewage treatment to Blue Plains where the return on investment is higher.** Sewage treatment is the most capital intensive and expensive operation WSSC has. Currently, only 65% of total sewage is treated by Blue Plains, with 85% of Montgomery County sewage treated by Blue Plains vs. 60% for Prince Georges county. WSSC continues to demonstrate it doesn't know how to handle sewage. The Piscataway treatment plant and it's pumping stations are responsible for chronic spills: 1 in 2017, 2 last year, and two others this summer. The latest on 8/9/19 spilled 5.22 Million gallons into the Potomac water shed over-night, undoing years of storm water abatement that have cost the county's taxpayers 100s of millions.
3. **Fix project classifications and end unfair cross-subsidies from Montgomery to Prince Georges customers.** Based on rough estimates of sewage operating and debt service costs, Montgomery County residents pay the same rate for sewage, but their share of the costs is only 36%. Part of the problem is the CIP plan attempts to organize projects by county, and the largest category is bi-county, which inexplicably includes the Piscataway upgrade project that serves just Prince Georges county. Efforts to balance projects between the county's have been unsuccessful, resulting in more money being spent on sewage projects in Prince Georges County. We urge the Commission to ask the Inspector General to investigate these cross-subsidies.

Susan LaCourse
16007 Jerald Rd.
Laurel, MD 20707
3 September 2019

WSSC CIP Public Hearing
Rockville, MD

Dear Commissioners and WSSC executives and staff:

I applaud WSSC for drafting a CIP that prioritizes spending controls, with an emphasis on keeping the debt service in check. I especially note that there is a commitment to keep the debt service ratio below 40%.

However, I can remember a time a few years ago, before many of you became associated with WSSC, when the firm commitment was to keep the debt ratio below 35%. I trust that this increase to 40% is the last. We can barely afford the debt load as it is.

I am sure that I do not need to tell you that debt service is the number one major driver of rate increases. If you keep raising rates significantly every year (which seems to be the plan to support new debt), before long rates will double. Here are the "doubling" rates:

8% rate increase each year: rates double in 9 years.

6% increase: rates double in 13 years.

4% increase: rates double in 18 years.

For the sake of your customers and our future, I encourage you to look at rate increases in light of the "doubling" factor. It is a number that does not necessarily impact you personally (you may be long gone before the effects are felt), but it does affect those of us who live here and will be retiring as rates continue to rise. ~~A 6% or 8% increase may not seem huge on the surface, but~~ when you add it up over the years it becomes oppressive. We have already seen our rates double since 2009, and many families cannot afford annual increases like this. We also have to factor in the impact of fixed fees, which I believe will be unfrozen and presumably increased soon.

Congratulations on drafting a CIP that prioritizes spending controls. It is a good start, but it needs to continue and become a part of WSSC culture. There is nothing commendable about having a "world class utility" if people cannot afford to pay their bills.

Sincerely,

Susan LaCourse
suelacourse@juno.com

EXTERNAL EMAIL!

Dear Ms. Finlayson:

Please share with Commissioners and respective members of management my comments below in response to the Sept. 4 WSSC hearing in Rockville on the CIP.

Thank you so much!

Mary Rooker

Dear Commissioners and Managers:

I write to request that you do not move forward with AMI meters but rather go with AMR meters. I agree with the Taxpayers League's concerns that the AMI meters are too costly and fiscally unsound. They appear to be a boondoggle from the smart meter industry and are not in the best financial interests of either WSSC or WSSC customers like myself. Fairfax and Howard Counties rejected smart meters for cost reasons, and Bowie and Rockville use AMR.

And an even stronger case is for health: the World Health Organization (WHO) classifies "smart" meters as possible carcinogens, and the American Academy of Pediatrics has issued a statement that US standards not safe for kids. France is realizing the health hazards and pulling wireless out of schools.

Also, we need a full Environmental Impact Statement. Privacy issues are yet another concern that does not exist with the AMR or current meters.

Opt out is NOT acceptable -- please go with AMR only, or simply leave the meters we have now. The current meter collection system isn't broken, so why spend \$100 million "fixing" it? I do not want AMI under any circumstances - I'm not just arguing for myself; I'm arguing on behalf of hundreds of thousands of children who are also your customers.

Sincerely,
Mary Rooker
804 Larch Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912

CAUTION This email originated from outside WSSC. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

EXTERNAL EMAIL!

To: Howard Denis, WSSC Commissioner, I couldn't make the hearing yesterday evening. For your information:

From: Deborah Vollmer [<mailto:dvollmer@verizon.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2019 5:18 PM
To: 'budgetgroup@wsscwater.com' <budgetgroup@wsscwater.com>
Cc: 'Theodora Scarato' <theodorams@aol.com>; 'Molly Hauck' <mollyphauck@gmail.com>; 'A. Pascal' <apascal2003@gmail.com>; 'theodora Scorato' <theodorams@gmail.com>; 'MaryTurtle Rooker' <greentyrtle@gmail.com>; 'Kate Kheel' <kkheel@verizon.net>; 'Robert Janku' <robert_janku@verizon.net>; 'Mario Pascalev*' <mario.pascalev@gmail.com>; 'Robin Renee' <robinrenee22@earthlink.net>; 'alfred.carr@house.state.md.us' <alfred.carr@house.state.md.us>; 'Cynthia Baughman' <cynthia_baughman@comcast.net>; 'Lisa Cline' <lisajeane@aol.com>; 'heather.eatmon@tutanota.com' <heather.eatmon@tutanota.com>; 'Nancy Wallace' <safevote5@yahoo.com>; 'alfred.carr@gmail.com' <alfred.carr@gmail.com>
Subject: Comments re: proposed WSSC Proposed Capital Improvements Program

TO: WSSC Budget Group

I had thought about attending tonight's hearing in Rockville on the WSSC Proposed Capital Improvements Program, but it appears now that I will not be able to make it. I have, however, been following this issue; and I have some concerns, and I would like to make some comments.

I share the concerns of my elected representative, Delegate Al Carr, that the WSSC should not be hasty, in its efforts to modernize infrastructure. In particular, I am very concerned about the proposed implementation of smart meter technology in connection with the metering of water. I say this, as one of a number of Pepco customers who has opted out of having a smart meter to measure my electricity.

I have two separate, serious concerns about smart meters. First, is a health concern: smart meters emit electromagnetic radiation, which has been linked to problems in some individuals such as

sleeplessness and headaches, and in large doses are a known carcinogen. We don't know at this point in time just what the long term effects might be on the population as a whole. Some people are probably more sensitive than others to the effects. What I do know is that I do not choose for myself to be like the canary in the coal mine, or proverbial guinea pig. When it comes to exposure to electromagnetic radiation, I prefer to follow the example of Rachel Carson, and choose the precautionary principle.

Second, I have grave concerns about the effect of smart meters on our right to maintain personal privacy.

For these reasons, I am against the use of smart meters, and have opted out of having a smart meter with Pepco. No one should be forced to have a smart meter installed on their property without their consent. And if smart meters are implemented, one should be allowed to opt out without having to pay a fee. The opt out fees charged by Pepco are exorbitant, unfair and discriminatory (especially against those of low income) to the point that I believe them to be unconstitutional, and thus, illegal. WSSC should not follow Pepco's horrible example.

If smart meters are coming, then opt out should be allowed, at no cost. But there is a decision to be made ahead of that one: is the implementation of smart meters even worth the cost? I understand that there is a plan for a study. I am no expert in the field, but I do take the precautionary principle seriously, and thus, my own view is that smart meters are not worth the cost, especially when one considers both the health and privacy issues.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me, if you have any questions.

Deborah A. Vollmer

20815

7202 44th Street
Chevy Chase, Maryland,

Telephone: 301-652-5762

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

August 27, 2019

Ms. Letitia Carolina-Powell
Budget Division Manager
Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission
14501 Sweitzer Lane
Laurel, Maryland 20707

RE: WSSC Draft Proposed FYs 2021 – 2026 CIP Staff Draft

Dear Ms. Carolina-Powell:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the WSSC Draft Proposed FYs 2021 – 2026 CIP Staff Draft. Montgomery County Planning Department staff in consultation with Parks Department staff has reviewed the Proposed CIP document and submit the following comments:

In General

1. All WSSC projects must comply with the County or State Forest Conservation Law, the Environmental Guidelines, and applicable master plans.
2. All WSSC projects must identify and minimize impacts to forests, wetlands, headwaters, springs and seeps, rare-threatened or endangered species, trees, and other natural resources. The natural resources need to be field-verified for exact location and size of the resources.
3. When designing WSSC alignments, impacts to forests and trees, particularly trees larger than 30 inches in diameter, should be averted via realignment around the resource.
4. Early coordination is recommended to minimize potential multiple disruptions of both urban and natural areas for installation of sewer infrastructure. Perhaps a cooperative sewer infrastructure groups could be created for large projects that include all potential landowners/developers.
5. A link to GIS shapefiles for CIP projects would be helpful to agencies that review this document.
6. Where water or sewer projects areas outside of the SHA or DOT ROW and within Park boundaries, a Park Construction Permit will be required from the Park Development Division before any work can begin. Contact Matt Harper (matthew.harper@montgomeryparks.org) with the Resource Analysis Section to conduct a concept plan review before the permit is sought, to ensure that the initial design work is in compliance with park standards and regulations and minimizes impacts to existing natural resources. Any stream crossings on or adjoining parkland must be designed and constructed to maintain ecological connectivity through the watershed. Any impacts to existing parkland

will be subject to mitigation and would need to be approved by the Montgomery County Planning Board if the use of the land is deemed “non-park-use of parkland.”

7. For forced main installation or replacement projects (such as S94.13 and S94.14), it is critical that the projects be designed with redundancies that would allow for avoidance of sewer discharge in the event of a pipe failure. In addition to the obvious cost to the environment caused by these incidents, the costs associated with extended pump-around practices (and other measures) could be significantly reduced when failures do occur, if redundancies are not in place. Parks is interested in working with WSSC to come up with creative solutions to tackle this issue on a case by case basis.

Montgomery County Sewer Projects

S-84.67 Milestone Center Sewer Main

8. Include M-NCPPC as a coordinating agency.

S-84.68 Clarksburg Wastewater Pumping Station & Sewer Improvements

9. Include M-NCPPC as a coordinating agency.

Bi-County Water Projects

W-73.32 Potomac WFP Main Zone Pipeline

10. The M-NCPPC Montgomery County Planning Board should be involved in the alignment decision for this project. Forest loss on previously undeveloped WSSC land and potential disruption to River Road could be significant, depending on the method—tunneling or trenching—selected for this project.

W-175.05 Regional Water Supply Resiliency

11. While conducting planning for the Regional Water Supply Resiliency (A-101), please involve M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks as a coordinating agency since the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park is directly adjacent to the Travilah Quarry, which is being considered for a backup regional water supply. Current maps from the “Evaluation of the Travilah Quarry for Water Supply Storage” study by the ICPRB show the proposed pipeline passing through or under parkland where it enters the quarry.

Bi-County Sewer Projects

S-170.09 Trunk Sewer Reconstruction Program

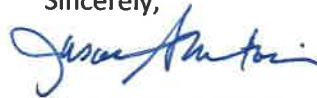
12. Please ensure that WSSC coordinates with M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks when planning and carrying out aerial pipe maintenance in Northwest Branch and on any other locations on parkland as part of the Trunk Sewer Reconstruction Program. As always, work on parkland will require a Park Permit from the Park Development Division to limit the impacts to park resources. Early coordination is recommended to minimize potential disruptions to both urban and natural areas for installation of sewer infrastructure. Where water or sewer project fall outside of the SHA or DOT ROW and within the Park boundary, a Park Construction Permit will be required from the Park Development Division of the Parks Department. Contact Matt Harper (matthew.harper@montgomeryparks.org) with the Resource Analysis Section to conduct a concept plan review before the permit is sought to

Ms. Letitia Carolina-Powell
August 27, 2019
Page 3

ensure that the initial design work is in compliance with park standards and regulations and minimizes impacts to existing natural resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this document. If you have any questions about these comments, please contact Mark Symborski at (301) 495-4636 or mark.symborski@montgomeryplanning.org.

Sincerely,



Jason Sartori, Chief
Functional Planning and Policy Division

JS:MS:aj

CC:

Gwen Wright
Tanya Stern
Carrie Sanders
Richard Weaver
Mark Symborski
Steve Findley
Katherine Nelson
Audra Lew
Geoffrey Mason
Alan Soukup



14501 Sweitzer Lane • Laurel, Maryland 20707-5901

COMMISSIONERS

Chris Lawson, Chair
T. Eloise Foster, Vice Chair
Fausto R. Bayonet
Howard A. Denis

GENERAL MANAGER
Carla A. Reid

August 16, 2019

Dear Elected Official:

As part of our ongoing efforts to expand customer outreach and share information on the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission's (WSSC's) projects and services, we invite you to the following public hearings on the WSSC's Staff Draft Proposed Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for fiscal years (FYs) 2021 - 2026, which begins July 1, 2020.

IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Wednesday, September 4, 2019

7:30 PM

Stella B. Werner Building
3rd Floor Hearing Room
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Thursday, September 5, 2019

7:30 PM

Department of the Environment Building
Conference Room A
1801 McCormick Drive
Largo, Maryland 20774

For your reference, a list of projects in your election district is enclosed should you choose to attend a hearing or provide written comments. The draft FYs 2021 - 2026 CIP document is available on our web site at www.wsscwater.com/fin. Our Adopted FYs 2020 - 2025 CIP is also available on-line. By providing electronic versions of our documents, we offer more communication choices to our customers while reducing printing and mailing costs. For additional information or printed copies, please call our Intergovernmental Relations Office at 301-206-8228.

Written testimony for the public hearing record will be accepted through noon on September 16, 2019 and should be sent to Mrs. Letitia Carolina-Powell, Budget Division Manager, WSSC, 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD 20707 or emailed to budgetgroup@wsscwater.com

Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Carla A. Reid
General Manager/CEO

Enclosures

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

August 16, 2019

bcc: Commissioners
Corporate Secretary (Finlayson)
Deputy General Manager for Administration (Beach)
Deputy General Manager for Operations (Price)
Deputy General Manager for Strategic Partnerships (Johnson)
Executive Administrative Assistant - GM (Sullivan)
Chief of Engineering & Construction (Harmer)
Chief of Utility Services (Lampley)
Chief Financial Officer (Colihan)
General Counsel (Conn)
Intergovernmental Relations Director (Riley)
Director Communications and Community Relations (Brown)
Budget Division Manager (Carolina-Powell)

DRAFT Proposed Capital Improvements Program Fiscal Years 2021 - 2026

Projects listing prepared for:

The Honorable Marc Elrich

District M-99

The following projects are in your district:

Project Number:	Project Name	Page Number
W-90.04	Brink Zone Reliability Improvements	1-5
S-84.60	Cabin Branch Wastewater Pumping Station	27
S-84.61	Cabin Branch WWPS Force Main	27
S-103.16	Cabin John Trunk Sewer Relief	27
W-46.24	Clarksburg Area Stage 3 Water Main, Part 4	1-3
W-46.25	Clarksburg Area Stage 3 Water Main, Part 5	1-4
W-46.15	Clarksburg Elevated Water Storage Facility	27
S-84.68	Clarksburg Wastewater Pumping Station	2-4
S-84.69	Clarksburg WWPS Force Main	27
S-94.13	Damascus Town Center WWPS Replacement	2-7
W-139.02	Duckett & Brighton Dam Upgrades	3-8
W-161.01	Large Diameter Water Pipe & Large Valve Rehabilitation Program	3-9
S-84.67	Milestone Center Sewer Main	2-3
W-3.02	Olney Standpipe Replacement	27
W-73.33	Potomac WFP Consent Decree Program	3-7
W-73.32	Potomac WFP Main Zone Pipeline	3-6
W-73.22	Potomac WFP Pre-Filter Chlorination & Air Scour Improvements	3-4
W-73.30	Potomac WFP Submerged Channel Intake	3-5
W-175.05	Regional Water Supply Resiliency	3-14
S-170.08	Septage Discharge Facility Planning & Implementation	4-10
S-85.22	Shady Grove Neighborhood Center	2-6
W-138.02	Shady Grove Standpipe Replacement	27
S-85.21	Shady Grove Station Sewer Augmentation	2-5
S-94.14	Spring Gardens WWPS Replacement	2-8
S-170.09	Trunk Sewer Reconstruction Program	4-11
W-113.20	White Oak Water Mains Augmentation	1-6



Budget Division
(301) 206-8110
www.wsscwater.com

DRAFT Proposed Capital Improvements Program Fiscal Years 2021 - 2026

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The Honorable Marc Elrich

District M-99

The following projects are in your district:

Project Number:	Project Name	Page Number
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The following projects are not in your district, but may be of interest to you:

Project Number:	Project Name	Page Number
S-22.07	Blue Plains WWTP: Biosolids Management, Part 2	4-4
S-22.10	Blue Plains WWTP: Enhanced Nutrient Removal	4-6
S-22.06	Blue Plains WWTP: Liquid Train Projects, Part 2	4-3
S-22.09	Blue Plains WWTP: Plant-wide Projects	4-5
S-22.11	Blue Plains: Pipelines & Appurtenances	4-7
S-43.02	Broad Creek WWPS Augmentation	6-5
W-172.07	Patuxent Raw Water Pipeline	3-11
W-12.02	Prince George's County HG415 Zone Water Main	5-2
W-172.08	Rocky Gorge Pump Station Upgrade	3-12



Budget Division
(301) 206-8110
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

WSSC will hold two public hearings on the Proposed Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2021 through 2026, which commences July 1, 2020. The six-year CIP proposes planning, design and construction expenditures for major water and sewer projects. The hearing dates and times are as follows:

Montgomery County

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 - 7:30 p.m.
Stella B. Werner Building
3rd Floor Hearing Room
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Prince George's County

Thursday, September 5, 2019 - 7:30 p.m.
Department of the Environment Building
Conference Room A
1801 McCormick Drive
Largo, MD 20774

Please contact WSSC as soon as possible at 301-206-8200 if your attendance at a meeting will require an accommodation under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

After public comment, the CIP will be transmitted to the County Executives and County Councils by October 1, 2019.

Copies of the preliminary draft of the FY2021–2026 CIP will be available on the WSSC website at wsscwater.com/fin, at the WSSC Communications & Community Relations Office, 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD 20707, or by phone at: 301-206-8100 by August 16, 2019. Please submit any comments for consideration by September 16, 2019. Written comments can be emailed to BudgetGroup@wsscwater.com or mailed to WSSC Budget Division at 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD 20707.

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Published 1 time(s). Date(s):22 of August 2019

Account 1010028517

THE WASHINGTON POST

By


Nicole McKinney
BILLING MANAGER

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Certificate of Publication

State of Maryland SS
County of Montgomery

Sherry Sanderson, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Legal Advertising Representative of The Montgomery County Sentinel, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published in Rockville, Montgomery County, Maryland; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on

August 22, 2019

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 22nd day of August, 2019.

Certificate of Publication

State Of MARYLAND }
County of PRINCE GEORGE'S } SS

Carman Thornton, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Legal Advertising Representative of PRINCE GEORGE'S SENTINEL, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published in SEABROOK, PRINCE GEORGE'S, MARYLAND; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on

August 22, 2019

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 22nd day of August 2019,



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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WASHINGTON SUBURBAN SANITARY COMMISSION
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

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PUBLIC HEARING :
FY'S 2021 - 2026 CIP :
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A public hearing was held on September 5, 2019,
commencing at 7:30 p.m. at 1801 McCormick Avenue, Largo,
Maryland.

Christopher Lawson, Chair

A P P E A R A N C E S

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Chuck Brown	12
Sandra Mason	14

1 first one is debt service coverage, and that is gross
2 revenue minus our operating expenses, and that amount is
3 basically how much, how many times that amount covers your
4 debt service.

5 Now, debt service is the principal and interest
6 that we pay on the money we borrow. In other words, those
7 are the bonds that we issue to pay for our infrastructure.
8 And that ratio that -- the target for that ratio is 1.1.
9 And, I'd like to also point out that debt service is paid
10 for with rate revenue. The other metric that is important,
11 that's listed here, is that we limit -- our goal is to limit
12 rate supported debt service to less than 40 percent
13 operating expenditures. We also have placed limits within
14 the CIP on bond issuance amounts over the six-year period.

15 So you may be wondering why we are discussing
16 financial metrics and bond issuance limits on the CIP this
17 year. Well, we have some concerns. We invested a lot in
18 our infrastructure over the last 10 years. Outstanding debt
19 has grown 132 percent. Our capital budget over that same
20 time period has grown 72 percent. So, without reductions,
21 we could be facing debt service expenditures exceeding that
22 40 percent limitation in fiscal year '22.

23 So, the single largest driver of debt service, of
24 our rate increases, is debt service. It's been that way for
25 many years, and what we're looking at over the next six

1 years are about 8 percent per year rate increases, the way
2 the CIP is presented in this budget. And, as you can see
3 here, the largest component of that 8 percent is debt
4 service at 3.6 percent. So, this CIP is fiscally
5 responsible, and in order to maintain the triple A bond
6 rating which we have that allows us to borrow at lower
7 interest rates, we must keep our financial ratios in
8 balance. We're also balancing affordability. We are trying
9 to keep rates low. We are aligning our bond issuance limits
10 over the six-year program. We're also eliminating, scaling
11 down, or deferring projects whenever possible. We also plan
12 to increase PAYGO, or pay as you go, to lower future debt
13 service and improve our financial metrics.

14 And with that, I will turn it over to Mark
15 Brackett to talk about our future investments in our
16 infrastructure.

17 MR. BRACKETT: So this is WSSC at a glance. We
18 have a pretty extensive infrastructure to maintain covering
19 an area of over 1,000 square miles for both counties,
20 Montgomery and Prince George's County. We have two water
21 filtration plants, one on the Potomac River and one in
22 Laurel on the Patuxent River. We have six water resource
23 recovery facilities, where we're treating wastewater from
24 the households. They're in both counties. We have 60
25 finished water storage, so after we filtered the water, we

1 send it out in the system in the 60 storage tanks spread
2 across the two counties. And then by gravity it's driven
3 down -- it presses down and goes into the homes, so it
4 doesn't have to be pumped or pushed. We don't worry if we
5 lose power, hurricane, ice storm, anything, you're going to
6 get your water. All of this -- and 42,000 fire hydrants for
7 fire protection. This is all required to serve the 1.8
8 million residents of the two counties that are customers of
9 WSSC.

10 So what we're talking about tonight is the fiscal
11 year 2021 capital budget, the CIP. The proposed six-year
12 program is \$3.7 billion, so pretty extensive and most of
13 that is bond funded as you can see, 3.3 million of it. And
14 there's also the PAYGO that was mentioned earlier, to help
15 reduce that amount. In fiscal year '21, the budget year
16 cost \$624 million, is what we expect to spend in fiscal year
17 '21, in one year on all this infrastructure work we want to
18 do.

19 I want to point out too that a large percentage,
20 almost a third of these expenditures, are for mandatory
21 projects. We have two consent decrees that we're operating
22 under, the Sanitary Sewer Overflow Consent Decree, and also
23 the Potomac Water Filtration Plan Consent Decree. These are
24 mandatory expenditures that can't be deferred or delayed.
25 We also have multi-jurisdictional agreements with Blue

1 Plains and with Mattawoman Wastewater Treatment Plant down
2 in Charles County, to treat our wastewater. Two-thirds of
3 all of our wastewater goes to Blue Plains in D.C. to be
4 treated, and we pay them to treat that. So the capital
5 investments we have to make down there are all part of the
6 agreement. We can't say we're not going to contribute to
7 the projects. We have to work with them on that.

8 So when we look at the CIP, we look at three major
9 categories of projects. We have projects for growth. We
10 have projects for environmental regulations, such as the
11 Potomac Consent Decree, and projects that are a reinvestment
12 in our system infrastructure. And over 90 percent of our
13 expenditures in fiscal year '21, are all going back into our
14 infrastructure that supports all of our customers. It's
15 \$198, almost \$200 million. I'm sorry, 90 percent of the
16 capital budget reinvestment system infrastructure, as you
17 can see, \$580 million in fiscal year '21.

18 So how are we paying for all this infrastructure?
19 And, as Letitia mentioned earlier, it's through bonds.
20 Nearly 90 percent of the fiscal year '21 plan will be funded
21 by bonds. It's those bonds, selling the bonds, and we have
22 to repay the debt service, and the debt service is what
23 drives the rate increase, and that's the biggest part of
24 what we're asking for with the rate increases, years to
25 cover that debt service for this reinvestment in our

1 infrastructure. And, as she also pointed out, we are adding
2 debt faster than we're retiring debt. The slide it showed
3 earlier, fiscal year '10 we were \$1.4 billion in outstanding
4 debt. By end of fiscal year '18, we were \$3.2 billion in
5 outstanding debt. And we've made significant investments
6 into our infrastructure, specifically the sewer
7 infrastructure, to meet the terms of the Sanitary Sewer
8 Overflow Consent Decree, over a billion dollars in less than
9 10 years, all invested back into our sewer system.

10 Again, investment in the infrastructure is the
11 main area of expenditures - are water and sewer main
12 reconstruction programs. There's four programs, water side,
13 sewer side, large pipes and small pipes. So, combined it's
14 over 11,000 miles of pipe that we maintain, approximately
15 5500 miles each in the water system and the sewer system.
16 So it's a lot of pipe. It covers a lot of area, over 1,000
17 square miles service area. So, long distances. In fiscal
18 year '21, we are planning on replacing 25 miles of the small
19 diameter water pipe, which is the same amount we've
20 programmed for fiscal year '20, that we're in now. And
21 also, in the small diameter pipes, we're programming to
22 replace 20 miles of sewer main, the smaller pipes. This is
23 what will be in your residential neighborhoods.

24 Moving to the larger pipes, which are the water
25 transmission lines are bringing the water from the plant out

1 into the system, we plan to replace six miles of the large
2 water transmission mains, including steel pipes and also
3 precast concrete cylinder pipes, PCCP pipes. And the large
4 diameter sewer, we call those the trunk sewers because it's
5 like the trunk of a tree, and the smaller limbs feed down
6 into the trunk, the trunk goes into the plan for treatment.
7 We're planning on rehabilitating 16 miles of large diameter
8 pipe during fiscal year '21. So in the six year program,
9 the investment here is \$1.7 billion, and in fiscal year '21,
10 \$256 million, just in these four reconstruction programs,
11 and there's over 70 projects in the CIP, and these four
12 projects make up \$256 million of it.

13 So I mentioned earlier our Potomac Water
14 Filtration Plant is our larger plant located on the shore of
15 the Potomac River. In fiscal year '19, the plant produced
16 105.6 million gallons of water every single day of the year.
17 And we're projecting those approximate amounts again going
18 forward in fiscal years '20 and '21. The largest project at
19 the plant is the Potomac Consent Decree, that is reducing
20 the sediments and other materials that are returned to the
21 river after we finish with our treatment process. So,
22 that's a significant expense. We also have projects to
23 improve the filters at the plan so we can have more
24 efficient operations and better filtration of water, and
25 also electrical upgrades. The plant was built more than 40

1 years ago, and a lot of the switch gear, electrical switch
2 gear needed to be changed out to make sure that the plant is
3 running, because the plant runs 24 hours a day, seven days a
4 week, 365 days a year, it never stops. Never stops running.
5 So, it's important to have the electrical upgrades in place.
6 Those projects are actually winding down. So we're wrapping
7 those projects up. In fiscal year '21 we expect to -- we're
8 projecting to spend \$14.2 million just at the Potomac Water
9 Filtration Plan.

10 Another major project is our Piscataway Bioenergy
11 project. You may have heard about this before. It -- we
12 call it our poop to power plant. We are taking the
13 wastewater that comes into the plant, we are running it
14 through anaerobic digestion process that produces gas, and
15 the gas is near natural gas quality, and we run it through
16 another process to clean it up, and it's basically just like
17 natural gas that you would use to heat your home. And, this
18 is a great project because the -- as we say, the flow never
19 stops coming, so we have an endless supply of this energy
20 coming to us, we're going to convert it into electricity.
21 It's going to reduce the amount of hauling we have to do on
22 the roads, hauling away biosolids because this process will
23 greatly reduce the amount of biosolids. We're going to
24 generate 2.7 megawatts of energy, and that's enough to power
25 the plant. So the plant can be, this can serve as backup

1 power for the plant, and can allow us to run off grid, if we
2 have to, so it never has to stop running. It's going to
3 reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, and it's going to save
4 our customers money every year.

5 In the six-year program, this is a \$212 million
6 project, in fiscal year '21 we've already begun construction
7 on the project, we will be well into construction by fiscal
8 year '21, and we're programming to spend \$61 million just in
9 fiscal year '21, at that plant building this project. Some
10 of the good news, the other good news for this project is,
11 in cooperation and participation with Maryland Department of
12 the Environment, we've already secured over \$120 million
13 worth of low interest loans for this project, so approaching
14 the 50 percent of the project will be financed through this
15 state revolving loan program. We took the first draw on the
16 loan just last month, and it's at 0.7 percent interest for
17 the first draw on the loan. So, it's a really good project,
18 really good financing on that, and we expect to have that
19 wrapped up by December of 2023.

20 So I'll just leave you there with a look at the
21 extensive infrastructure we have, so. Thank you very much.

22 MR. LAWSON: Okay, all right. I want to thank you
23 Letitia and Mark for the presentation. And so we'll go
24 ahead and shift to our Director of Communications and
25 Community Relations Office, Chuck Brown, and he's going to

1 give us a update on the outreach efforts for this evening's
2 meeting.

3 MR. BROWN: Thank you. Good evening, I'm Chuck
4 Brown. Thank you for coming out this evening. I'm pleased
5 to highlight our extensive customer outreach efforts to
6 encourage public participation and promote transparency for
7 tonight's meeting. From traditional media, social, web,
8 direct mail, we used a variety of methods to make sure
9 people were aware of tonight's meeting. We published
10 advertisements in the Montgomery and Prince George's County
11 Sentinels, along with the Washington Post, on August 22nd.
12 We placed notices about tonight's meeting in the customer
13 bill insert that you will receive. We ran those from June
14 until August. We promoted on Facebook, on Twitter on social
15 media, we're streaming now on Facebook Live, put information
16 up on our website, up on our calendar. We sent letters to
17 elected officials back in mid-August from the general
18 manager, alerting those elected officials to tonight's
19 meeting. Yeah, so we did a lot of extensive outreach to
20 make sure that folks were aware of tonight's meeting. So,
21 do you have any questions?

22 MR. LAWSON: All right. I do not. But I'm sure
23 someone else may, as we move throughout the evening.

24 MR. BROWN: Okay. Thank you.

25 MR. LAWSON: So, thank you, Chuck, I appreciate

1 that. Let me share that the CIP is transmitted to the two
2 county governments by October 1st of each year, and that's
3 in accordance with state law. So, we will consider all
4 public comments before transmitting the CIP to the two
5 counties, and transcripts of these proceedings will be
6 included in the transmittal. So what I'll do now is open
7 the meeting to public comments. And, for the record, if you
8 are coming up to make comments, and I did notice that others
9 came in, so I don't know if they'll need to consider signing
10 up or not, but please limit your comments to three minutes.
11 If your testimony is longer than the time allows, you can
12 provide written copy of your testimony to us either now or
13 prior to the close of the hearing record period.

14 So this public hearing is concerning the WSSC
15 Capital Improvement Program, and I would ask that if you
16 have comments on a different WSSC topic, please allow those
17 individuals who have actually come to comment on the CIP to
18 speak first, and, you know, just rest assured that we will
19 welcome all comments this evening. I show one name, is
20 there a Ms. Manning with us this evening? Okay. All right.
21 Since we don't have anyone for, you know, the public
22 comments, at this time I'll ask Mark Brackett, from our
23 Finance Department, again, to report on any updates or any
24 written comments that, you know, we may have received with
25 regards to the public record.

1 MR. BRACKETT: So far we've only received two
2 comments. We had a customer contact us through a phone call
3 and was concerned about the new rate structure. And, we
4 just received an e-mail recently from a customer who's
5 concerned about the automated metering infrastructure
6 project, AMI Program. So those comments will be included in
7 the public record. That's all we've received so far.

8 MR. LAWSON: So far so good, okay. All right,
9 well, if there are no additional comments, thank you, Mark.
10 Additional comments, however, for consideration may be
11 submitted in writing to the WSSC Budget Division at 14501
12 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, Maryland 20707, or you can e-mail us
13 at budgetgroup@wsscwater.com. The hearing record will
14 remain open until Noon on September 16th, 2019. So, that's
15 pretty much it. I want to thank you all for coming out
16 tonight to participate in the CIP process. And before I
17 adjourn, yes ma'am?

18 MS. MASON: I hadn't really planned to speak --

19 MR. LAWSON: Why don't you come up anyway. You
20 want to wait? Off record conversation?

21 MS. MASON: I just want to ask a question about
22 this.

23 MR. LAWSON: I would like for you to come up.

24 MS. MASON: So where's it going to be broadcast?

25 MR. LAWSON: It'll be okay. We like to hear from

1 you. Can you state your name and just tell us where you're
2 from? Where you live.

3 MS. MASON: Is that the microphone?

4 MR. LAWSON: Yes, it is. To your left. Good
5 evening. My name is Sandra Mason. I live in Mitchellville,
6 Maryland. I just wanted to ask a couple of questions. As I
7 was reading this paper, I was just wondering how long the
8 pipes are going to last? I know it's not really a -- it's
9 more of a science question, maybe.

10 MR. LAWSON: Tough question.

11 MS. MASON: But you said that you're going to
12 replace the pipes with zinc coated pipes. I just wonder how
13 long they last? I mean, is it something you have to do
14 every 50 years? Every 20 years or whatever?

15 MR. LAWSON: Okay. What would you like to
16 address, or we'll take that for the record and get back to
17 you.

18 MS. MASON: And then the other question I had,
19 probably, I mean, it's obvious this isn't the place for it,
20 but with all the new construction that's going on in the
21 county, how do you all account for your projected usage, or
22 the projected uses of all the needs for all the water and
23 sewage, and all that stuff?

24 MR. LAWSON: Okay.

25 MS. MASON: Because it's like it's mushrooming.

1 MR. LAWSON: Got you.

2 MS. MASON: I'm done.

3 MR. LAWSON: Okay. And you're questions have been
4 recorded, and we will make sure that they are addressed back
5 to you.

6 MS. MASON: So where would I go --

7 MR. LAWSON: We'll have staff touch base with you.
8 That's why I was asking you to state your name and where
9 you're from, and we'll get your information, and get your
10 questions answered. But we appreciate you putting those
11 forth for the record. Anyone else? Hearing none, the
12 public hearing is now adjourned. Thank you very much.

13 (Whereupon, at 7:53 p.m., the hearing was
14 concluded.)

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√ Digitally signed by Keena Lukacinsky

ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATE

DEPOSITION SERVICES, INC., hereby certifies that the attached pages represent an accurate transcript of the electronic sound recording of the proceedings before the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission in the matter of:

Public Hearing - Fiscal Year 2021 - 2026 CIP

By:



Keena Lukacinsky, Transcriber

EXHIBITS



SPEAKER'S SIGN-UP SHEET

WSSC PUBLIC HEARING PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

PROPOSED FYs 2021-2026 CIP
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2019 @ 7:30 p.m.

PLEASE PRINT <u>NAME</u>	PLEASE PRINT <u>ADDRESS</u>	PLEASE PRINT <u>REPRESENTING</u>
Ms. Manning		

WSSC CIP Plan Testimony, 9/4/2019, Gordie Brenne, Treasurer MC Taxpayers League

Tonight I'd like to make some points about the poor capital investment decisions WSSC makes, and how they relate to future solvency and a taxpayer bailout. The Commission approved new standards for capital controls on July 17 that reduce the risk of WSSC insolvency. The new standards affirm 40% as a hard target for debt service as a percentage of total expenditures, set standards for cash on hand, and fund balances at 10%. These are points we have made in previous testimony with you and in meetings with Joe Beach. Thank you.

But, your job in creating new policies to manage costs is far from done. The risk of insolvency remains because of growing capital demands to replace aging infrastructure, deferred work on environmental consent decrees, high operating costs, and recession risks. Most projects approved by WSSC have a rate of return that's either negative or below WSSC's cost of capital. One example that we oppose is the smart meter project which has a negative rate of return, and illustrates what happens when cheaper alternatives like AMR technology are ignored by rent seeking vendors. **This drives rates higher, and spending more than you get back is a prescription for bankruptcy in any business.** (Either project costs must be reduced or project revenues increased to achieve an acceptable return on investment. For example, the Piscataway upgrade has a return on investment of just 3%, well below the cost of capital. And that's only if construction costs and energy savings come in as estimated. How do you control variances from those estimates? Why wasn't a shift to Blue Plains included in the business case?_

(On the revenue side, WSSC can be best characterized as a mature business, one that must make some tough CIP decisions to remain a going concern. For example, annual rate increases are projected to be above market 6% for FY21-25 in the long-range financial plan (FY 20 budget request, 3/19) to match costs, but that's not politically sustainable. Per capita consumption will continue to stagnate because rates higher than the cost of service contribute to a decline in business investments. **Lower consumption, combined with inadequate cost controls drives higher rates.**) Three other ways the CIP plan can be reprioritized to better control costs include:

1. **Reduce increased costs due to lost water and leakage into the sewer system.** The latest lost water audit report was presented to you in May showing an increase of 16 to 18% from FY17 to FY 18. The Cost of Service study (May 2017) showed sewage treatment had to handle inflows and infiltration of 43%. The CIP plan does not organize projects to show how you can prioritize projects to reduce this waste and improve return on investment.
2. **Shift more sewage treatment to Blue Plains where the return on investment is higher.** Sewage treatment is the most capital intensive and expensive operation WSSC has. Currently, only 65% of total sewage is treated by Blue Plains, with 85% of Montgomery County sewage treated by Blue Plains vs. 60% for Prince Georges county. WSSC continues to demonstrate it doesn't know how to handle sewage. The Piscataway treatment plant and it's pumping stations are responsible for chronic spills: 1 in 2017, 2 last year, and two others this summer. The latest on 8/9/19 spilled 5.22 Million gallons into the Potomac water shed over-night, undoing years of storm water abatement that have cost the county's taxpayers 100s of millions.
3. **Fix project classifications and end unfair cross-subsidies from Montgomery to Prince Georges customers.** Based on rough estimates of sewage operating and debt service costs, Montgomery County residents pay the same rate for sewage, but their share of the costs is only 36%. Part of the problem is the CIP plan attempts to organize projects by county, and the largest category is bi-county, which inexplicably includes the Piscataway upgrade project that serves just Prince Georges county. Efforts to balance projects between the county's have been unsuccessful, resulting in more money being spent on sewage projects in Prince Georges County. We urge the Commission to ask the Inspector General to investigate these cross-subsidies.

Susan LaCourse
16007 Jerald Rd.
Laurel, MD 20707
3 September 2019

WSSC CIP Public Hearing
Rockville, MD

Dear Commissioners and WSSC executives and staff:

I applaud WSSC for drafting a CIP that prioritizes spending controls, with an emphasis on keeping the debt service in check. I especially note that there is a commitment to keep the debt service ratio below 40%.

However, I can remember a time a few years ago, before many of you became associated with WSSC, when the firm commitment was to keep the debt ratio below 35%. I trust that this increase to 40% is the last. We can barely afford the debt load as it is.

I am sure that I do not need to tell you that debt service is the number one major driver of rate increases. If you keep raising rates significantly every year (which seems to be the plan to support new debt), before long rates will double. Here are the "doubling" rates:

8% rate increase each year: rates double in 9 years.

6% increase: rates double in 13 years.

4% increase: rates double in 18 years.

For the sake of your customers and our future, I encourage you to look at rate increases in light of the "doubling" factor. It is a number that does not necessarily impact you personally (you may be long gone before the effects are felt), but it does affect those of us who live here and will be retiring as rates continue to rise. ~~A 6% or 8% increase may not seem huge on the surface, but~~ when you add it up over the years it becomes oppressive. We have already seen our rates double since 2009, and many families cannot afford annual increases like this. We also have to factor in the impact of fixed fees, which I believe will be unfrozen and presumably increased soon.

Congratulations on drafting a CIP that prioritizes spending controls. It is a good start, but it needs to continue and become a part of WSSC culture. There is nothing commendable about having a "world class utility" if people cannot afford to pay their bills.

Sincerely,

Susan LaCourse
suelacourse@juno.com

EXTERNAL EMAIL!

Dear Ms. Finlayson:

Please share with Commissioners and respective members of management my comments below in response to the Sept. 4 WSSC hearing in Rockville on the CIP.

Thank you so much!

Mary Rooker

Dear Commissioners and Managers:

I write to request that you do not move forward with AMI meters but rather go with AMR meters. I agree with the Taxpayers League's concerns that the AMI meters are too costly and fiscally unsound. They appear to be a boondoggle from the smart meter industry and are not in the best financial interests of either WSSC or WSSC customers like myself. Fairfax and Howard Counties rejected smart meters for cost reasons, and Bowie and Rockville use AMR.

And an even stronger case is for health: the World Health Organization (WHO) classifies "smart" meters as possible carcinogens, and the American Academy of Pediatrics has issued a statement that US standards not safe for kids. France is realizing the health hazards and pulling wireless out of schools.

Also, we need a full Environmental Impact Statement. Privacy issues are yet another concern that does not exist with the AMR or current meters.

Opt out is NOT acceptable -- please go with AMR only, or simply leave the meters we have now. The current meter collection system isn't broken, so why spend \$100 million "fixing" it? I do not want AMI under any circumstances - I'm not just arguing for myself; I'm arguing on behalf of hundreds of thousands of children who are also your customers.

Sincerely,
Mary Rooker
804 Larch Ave.
Takoma Park, MD 20912

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EXTERNAL EMAIL!

To: Howard Denis, WSSC Commissioner, I couldn't make the hearing yesterday evening. For your information:

From: Deborah Vollmer [<mailto:dvollmer@verizon.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 04, 2019 5:18 PM
To: 'budgetgroup@wsscwater.com' <budgetgroup@wsscwater.com>
Cc: 'Theodora Scarato' <theodorams@aol.com>; 'Molly Hauck' <mollyphauck@gmail.com>; 'A. Pascal' <apascal2003@gmail.com>; 'theodora Scorato' <theodorams@gmail.com>; 'MaryTurtle Rooker' <greentyrtle@gmail.com>; 'Kate Kheel' <kkheel@verizon.net>; 'Robert Janku' <robert_janku@verizon.net>; 'Mario Pascalev*' <mario.pascalev@gmail.com>; 'Robin Renee' <robinrenee22@earthlink.net>; 'alfred.carr@house.state.md.us' <alfred.carr@house.state.md.us>; 'Cynthia Baughman' <cynthia_baughman@comcast.net>; 'Lisa Cline' <lisajeane@aol.com>; 'heather.eatmon@tutanota.com' <heather.eatmon@tutanota.com>; 'Nancy Wallace' <safevote5@yahoo.com>; 'alfred.carr@gmail.com' <alfred.carr@gmail.com>
Subject: Comments re: proposed WSSC Proposed Capital Improvements Program

TO: WSSC Budget Group

I had thought about attending tonight's hearing in Rockville on the WSSC Proposed Capital Improvements Program, but it appears now that I will not be able to make it. I have, however, been following this issue; and I have some concerns, and I would like to make some comments.

I share the concerns of my elected representative, Delegate Al Carr, that the WSSC should not be hasty, in its efforts to modernize infrastructure. In particular, I am very concerned about the proposed implementation of smart meter technology in connection with the metering of water. I say this, as one of a number of Pepco customers who has opted out of having a smart meter to measure my electricity.

I have two separate, serious concerns about smart meters. First, is a health concern: smart meters emit electromagnetic radiation, which has been linked to problems in some individuals such as

sleeplessness and headaches, and in large doses are a known carcinogen. We don't know at this point in time just what the long term effects might be on the population as a whole. Some people are probably more sensitive than others to the effects. What I do know is that I do not choose for myself to be like the canary in the coal mine, or proverbial guinea pig. When it comes to exposure to electromagnetic radiation, I prefer to follow the example of Rachel Carson, and choose the precautionary principle.

Second, I have grave concerns about the effect of smart meters on our right to maintain personal privacy.

For these reasons, I am against the use of smart meters, and have opted out of having a smart meter with Pepco. No one should be forced to have a smart meter installed on their property without their consent. And if smart meters are implemented, one should be allowed to opt out without having to pay a fee. The opt out fees charged by Pepco are exorbitant, unfair and discriminatory (especially against those of low income) to the point that I believe them to be unconstitutional, and thus, illegal. WSSC should not follow Pepco's horrible example.

If smart meters are coming, then opt out should be allowed, at no cost. But there is a decision to be made ahead of that one: is the implementation of smart meters even worth the cost? I understand that there is a plan for a study. I am no expert in the field, but I do take the precautionary principle seriously, and thus, my own view is that smart meters are not worth the cost, especially when one considers both the health and privacy issues.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me, if you have any questions.

Deborah A. Vollmer

20815

7202 44th Street
Chevy Chase, Maryland,

Telephone: 301-652-5762

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

August 27, 2019

Ms. Letitia Carolina-Powell
Budget Division Manager
Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission
14501 Sweitzer Lane
Laurel, Maryland 20707

RE: WSSC Draft Proposed FYs 2021 – 2026 CIP Staff Draft

Dear Ms. Carolina-Powell:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the WSSC Draft Proposed FYs 2021 – 2026 CIP Staff Draft. Montgomery County Planning Department staff in consultation with Parks Department staff has reviewed the Proposed CIP document and submit the following comments:

In General

1. All WSSC projects must comply with the County or State Forest Conservation Law, the Environmental Guidelines, and applicable master plans.
2. All WSSC projects must identify and minimize impacts to forests, wetlands, headwaters, springs and seeps, rare-threatened or endangered species, trees, and other natural resources. The natural resources need to be field-verified for exact location and size of the resources.
3. When designing WSSC alignments, impacts to forests and trees, particularly trees larger than 30 inches in diameter, should be averted via realignment around the resource.
4. Early coordination is recommended to minimize potential multiple disruptions of both urban and natural areas for installation of sewer infrastructure. Perhaps a cooperative sewer infrastructure groups could be created for large projects that include all potential landowners/developers.
5. A link to GIS shapefiles for CIP projects would be helpful to agencies that review this document.
6. Where water or sewer projects areas outside of the SHA or DOT ROW and within Park boundaries, a Park Construction Permit will be required from the Park Development Division before any work can begin. Contact Matt Harper (matthew.harper@montgomeryparks.org) with the Resource Analysis Section to conduct a concept plan review before the permit is sought, to ensure that the initial design work is in compliance with park standards and regulations and minimizes impacts to existing natural resources. Any stream crossings on or adjoining parkland must be designed and constructed to maintain ecological connectivity through the watershed. Any impacts to existing parkland

will be subject to mitigation and would need to be approved by the Montgomery County Planning Board if the use of the land is deemed “non-park-use of parkland.”

7. For forced main installation or replacement projects (such as S94.13 and S94.14), it is critical that the projects be designed with redundancies that would allow for avoidance of sewer discharge in the event of a pipe failure. In addition to the obvious cost to the environment caused by these incidents, the costs associated with extended pump-around practices (and other measures) could be significantly reduced when failures do occur, if redundancies are not in place. Parks is interested in working with WSSC to come up with creative solutions to tackle this issue on a case by case basis.

Montgomery County Sewer Projects

S-84.67 Milestone Center Sewer Main

8. Include M-NCPPC as a coordinating agency.

S-84.68 Clarksburg Wastewater Pumping Station & Sewer Improvements

9. Include M-NCPPC as a coordinating agency.

Bi-County Water Projects

W-73.32 Potomac WFP Main Zone Pipeline

10. The M-NCPPC Montgomery County Planning Board should be involved in the alignment decision for this project. Forest loss on previously undeveloped WSSC land and potential disruption to River Road could be significant, depending on the method—tunneling or trenching—selected for this project.

W-175.05 Regional Water Supply Resiliency

11. While conducting planning for the Regional Water Supply Resiliency (A-101), please involve M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks as a coordinating agency since the Serpentine Barrens Conservation Park is directly adjacent to the Travilah Quarry, which is being considered for a backup regional water supply. Current maps from the “Evaluation of the Travilah Quarry for Water Supply Storage” study by the ICPRB show the proposed pipeline passing through or under parkland where it enters the quarry.

Bi-County Sewer Projects

S-170.09 Trunk Sewer Reconstruction Program

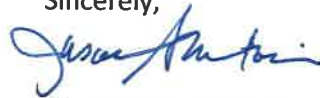
12. Please ensure that WSSC coordinates with M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks when planning and carrying out aerial pipe maintenance in Northwest Branch and on any other locations on parkland as part of the Trunk Sewer Reconstruction Program. As always, work on parkland will require a Park Permit from the Park Development Division to limit the impacts to park resources. Early coordination is recommended to minimize potential disruptions to both urban and natural areas for installation of sewer infrastructure. Where water or sewer project fall outside of the SHA or DOT ROW and within the Park boundary, a Park Construction Permit will be required from the Park Development Division of the Parks Department. Contact Matt Harper (matthew.harper@montgomeryparks.org) with the Resource Analysis Section to conduct a concept plan review before the permit is sought to

Ms. Letitia Carolina-Powell
August 27, 2019
Page 3

ensure that the initial design work is in compliance with park standards and regulations and minimizes impacts to existing natural resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this document. If you have any questions about these comments, please contact Mark Symborski at (301) 495-4636 or mark.symborski@montgomeryplanning.org.

Sincerely,



Jason Sartori, Chief
Functional Planning and Policy Division

JS:MS:aj

CC:

Gwen Wright
Tanya Stern
Carrie Sanders
Richard Weaver
Mark Symborski
Steve Findley
Katherine Nelson
Audra Lew
Geoffrey Mason
Alan Soukup



14501 Sweitzer Lane • Laurel, Maryland 20707-5901

COMMISSIONERS

Chris Lawson, Chair
T. Eloise Foster, Vice Chair
Fausto R. Bayonet
Howard A. Denis

GENERAL MANAGER
Carla A. Reid

August 16, 2019

Dear Elected Official:

As part of our ongoing efforts to expand customer outreach and share information on the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission's (WSSC's) projects and services, we invite you to the following public hearings on the WSSC's Staff Draft Proposed Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for fiscal years (FYs) 2021 - 2026, which begins July 1, 2020.

IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Wednesday, September 4, 2019

7:30 PM

Stella B. Werner Building
3rd Floor Hearing Room
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Thursday, September 5, 2019

7:30 PM

Department of the Environment Building
Conference Room A
1801 McCormick Drive
Largo, Maryland 20774

For your reference, a list of projects in your election district is enclosed should you choose to attend a hearing or provide written comments. The draft FYs 2021 - 2026 CIP document is available on our web site at www.wsscwater.com/fin. Our Adopted FYs 2020 - 2025 CIP is also available on-line. By providing electronic versions of our documents, we offer more communication choices to our customers while reducing printing and mailing costs. For additional information or printed copies, please call our Intergovernmental Relations Office at 301-206-8228.

Written testimony for the public hearing record will be accepted through noon on September 16, 2019 and should be sent to Mrs. Letitia Carolina-Powell, Budget Division Manager, WSSC, 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD 20707 or emailed to budgetgroup@wsscwater.com

Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Carla A. Reid
General Manager/CEO

Enclosures

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

August 16, 2019

bcc: Commissioners
Corporate Secretary (Finlayson)
Deputy General Manager for Administration (Beach)
Deputy General Manager for Operations (Price)
Deputy General Manager for Strategic Partnerships (Johnson)
Executive Administrative Assistant - GM (Sullivan)
Chief of Engineering & Construction (Harmer)
Chief of Utility Services (Lampley)
Chief Financial Officer (Colihan)
General Counsel (Conn)
Intergovernmental Relations Director (Riley)
Director Communications and Community Relations (Brown)
Budget Division Manager (Carolina-Powell)

DRAFT Proposed Capital Improvements Program Fiscal Years 2021 - 2026

Projects listing prepared for:

The Honorable Angela D. Alsobrooks

District P-99

The following projects are in your district:

Project Number:	Project Name	Page Number
W-34.04	Branch Avenue Water Transmission Improvements	5-4
S-75.19	Brandywine Woods Wastewater Pumping Station	27
S-75.20	Brandywine Woods WWPS Force Main	27
S-43.02	Broad Creek WWPS Augmentation	6-4
W-62.05	Clinton Zone Water Storage Facility Implementation	27
W-139.02	Duckett & Brighton Dam Upgrades	3-8
S-131.10	Fort Washington Forest No. 1 WWPS Augmentation	6-12
W-111.05	Hillmeade Road Water Main	5-13
S-28.18	Konterra Town Center East Sewer	6-3
W-93.01	Konterra Town Center East Water Main	5-11
S-68.01	Landover Mall Redevelopment	6-5
W-161.01	Large Diameter Water Pipe & Large Valve Rehabilitation Program	3-9
W-34.05	Marlboro Zone Reinforcement Main	5-5
W-105.01	Marlton Section 18 Water Main, Lake Marlton Avenue	5-12
W-34.02	Old Branch Avenue Water Main	5-3
S-77.20	Parkway North Substation Replacement	6-7
W-172.07	Patuxent Raw Water Pipeline	3-12
S-103.02	Piscataway Bioenergy	4-8
S-96.14	Piscataway WRRF Facility Upgrades	6-9
S-131.07	Pleasant Valley Sewer Main, Part 1	6-11
S-131.05	Pleasant Valley Sewer Main, Part 2	6-10
W-84.05	Prince George's County 450A Zone Water Main	5-10
W-12.02	Prince George's County HG415 Zone Water Main	5-2
W-84.02	Ritchie Marlboro Road Transmission Main & PRV	5-7
W-172.08	Rocky Gorge Pump Station Upgrade	3-13
W-62.06	Rosaryville Water Storage Facility	5-6



Budget Division
(301) 206-8110
www.wsscwater.com

DRAFT Proposed Capital Improvements Program Fiscal Years 2021 - 2026

Projects listing prepared for:

The Honorable Angela D. Alsobrooks

District P-99

The following projects are in your district:

Project Number:	Project Name	Page Number
S-170.08	Septage Discharge Facility Planning & Implementation	4-10
W-84.03	Smith Home Farms Water Main	5-8
W-137.03	South Potomac Supply Improvement, Phase 2	5-15
S-86.19	Southlake Subdivision Sewer	6-8
W-65.10	St. Barnabas Elevated Tank Replacement	27
W-120.14	Timothy Branch Water Main	5-14
S-170.09	Trunk Sewer Reconstruction Program	4-11
W-34.03	Water Transmission Improvements 385B Pressure Zone	27
S-57.92	Western Branch Facility Upgrade	27
S-157.02	Western Branch WRRF Process Train Improvements	6-13
S-27.08	Westphalia Town Center Sewer Main	6-2
W-84.04	Westphalia Town Center Water Main	5-9



Budget Division
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www.wsscwater.com

DRAFT Proposed Capital Improvements Program Fiscal Years 2021 - 2026

Projects listing prepared for:

The Honorable Angela D. Alsobrooks

District P-99

The following projects are in your district:

Project Number:	Project Name	Page Number
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The following projects are not in your district, but may be of interest to you:

Project Number:	Project Name	Page Number
S-22.07	Blue Plains WWTP: Biosolids Management, Part 2	4-4
S-22.10	Blue Plains WWTP: Enhanced Nutrient Removal	4-6
S-22.06	Blue Plains WWTP: Liquid Train Projects, Part 2	4-3
S-22.09	Blue Plains WWTP: Plant-wide Projects	4-5
S-22.11	Blue Plains: Pipelines & Appurtenances	4-7
S-75.21	Mattawoman WRRF Upgrades	6-10
W-73.33	Potomac WFP Consent Decree Program	3-6
W-73.32	Potomac WFP Main Zone Pipeline	3-5
W-73.22	Potomac WFP Pre-Filter Chlorination & Air Scour Improvements	3-3
W-73.30	Potomac WFP Submerged Channel Intake	3-4
W-175.05	Regional Water Supply Resiliency	3-14



Budget Division
(301) 206-8110
www.wsscwater.com



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

WSSC will hold two public hearings on the Proposed Capital Improvements Program (CIP) for Fiscal Years 2021 through 2026, which commences July 1, 2020. The six-year CIP proposes planning, design and construction expenditures for major water and sewer projects. The hearing dates and times are as follows:

Montgomery County

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 - 7:30 p.m.
Stella B. Werner Building
3rd Floor Hearing Room
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Prince George's County

Thursday, September 5, 2019 - 7:30 p.m.
Department of the Environment Building
Conference Room A
1801 McCormick Drive
Largo, MD 20774

Please contact WSSC as soon as possible at 301-206-8200 if your attendance at a meeting will require an accommodation under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

After public comment, the CIP will be transmitted to the County Executives and County Councils by October 1, 2019.

Copies of the preliminary draft of the FY2021–2026 CIP will be available on the WSSC website at wsscwater.com/fin, at the WSSC Communications & Community Relations Office, 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD 20707, or by phone at: 301-206-8100 by August 16, 2019. Please submit any comments for consideration by September 16, 2019. Written comments can be emailed to BudgetGroup@wsscwater.com or mailed to WSSC Budget Division at 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD 20707.

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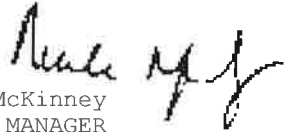
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THE WASHINGTON POST

By


Nicole McKinney
BILLING MANAGER

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County of Montgomery

Sherry Sanderson, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Legal Advertising Representative of The Montgomery County Sentinel, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published in Rockville, Montgomery County, Maryland; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on

August 22, 2019

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 22nd day of August, 2019.

Certificate of Publication

State Of MARYLAND }
County of PRINCE GEORGE'S } SS

Carman Thornton, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Legal Advertising Representative of PRINCE GEORGE'S SENTINEL, a weekly newspaper of general circulation, published in SEABROOK, PRINCE GEORGE'S, MARYLAND; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on

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That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

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