

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

1. **Readings** – Hired a new field engineer and started our first set of readings of 2020.
2. **Meetings/Presentations** –
  - Wrote comment letters for the Fenway 1252-1270 Boylston Street (11/14/19) and 282-308 Breman Street (11/20/19) projects.
  - Attended Citizens Advisory Committee meeting for the Back Bay/South End Gateway project. (11/19/19)
  - Attended webinar on Utility Action for Climate Resilience in Cities. (12/3/19)
  - Met with City Councilor Lydia Edwards to review groundwater levels in East Boston. (12/09/19)
  - Attended scoping session (12/6/19) and wrote a comment letter (12/11/19) for the Boston Medical Center Institutional Master Plan.
  - Attended the Mayors State of the City at Symphony Hall. (1/7/20)
  - Met with members of the Boston Water & Sewer Commission (BWSC) to review locations of low groundwater levels throughout our monitoring area. (1/10/20)
  - Spoke & met with residents, engineers, & developers throughout the GCOD to discuss ZBA procedures and advised them on what they need to provide us to meet the zoning.
3. **BluCloud** – Our automated readings project has hit a bit of a technical snag. A new Board has been designed and currently being tested in a controlled environment. I met with Blu Cloud and received an update on when a unit will be deployed into the field for testing and also discussed the possibility of developing an app for field readers. (12/17/19)
4. **LightWell** - I met with Michelle Laboy from team LightWell to review 2020 Project LightWell relaunch. (12/13/19)
5. **MBTA** - Approximately 45.1 gpm is being injected into recharge wells in the South End Ellis Neighborhood area along Appleton, Berkeley, Saint Charles, Cazenove, and Clarendon Streets. In addition to our manual monitoring we have 4 wells in the area with dataloggers recording a water level every 60 min.
  - The MBTA has committed to continue funding the current recharge well solution for the next 10 years and have assured me that funding will be provided beyond the 10 years if this current solution is still in place.
  - In an effort to conserve water and limit operational costs, flow rates are slowly being reduced.



- MBTA consultant exploring the feasibility of installing a jet grout barrier wall as discussed at the April, 2019 MBTA technical advisory committee meeting.
6. **DCR** – Dataloggers are installed in 3 wells to monitor the levels along the Storrow Drive tunnel pump station groundwater recharge system and assure that they remain in their usual range. The DCR and their consultants continue to work with the DOT on traffic studies in support of a redesign effort for the underpass. Recharge will be part of that redesign and is targeted for upgrade. Potential for a DCR and DOT partnership for repairs. DOT would do construction and then give back to DCR upon completion.
  7. **BWSC** – An update on the following:
    - In the South End, additional CCTV inspections have shown new areas of infiltration in sewers, manholes, and laterals. They have submitted these findings to their internal engineering design team and to include the repairs in their 2019-2021 Capital Improvement Program (CIP).
    - In the North End, at the corner of Richmond and Commercial Streets, repairs were made to manholes but so far no bump in water levels. Additional CCTV inspections in Richmond & Commercial Streets & Columbus Park are planned.
    - In the Stuart Street area of the Back Bay, between Berkeley and Dartmouth Streets, sewers and manholes indicated areas of infiltration. Repairs were made in mid-June but no change has been observed in the groundwater levels. BWSC to follow-up with additional CCTV inspections. In addition, they will coordinate with building owners in the area to conduct on-site inspections.
    - In the Fenway, at Boylston and Kilmarnock Streets, infiltration was observed. BWSC to has filed change work order to current construction contract to push up the repair and have it included in their 2019-2021 CIP.
  8. **MWRA** – CCTV inspections indicated infiltration at the intersection of Breman and Porter streets in East Boston. MWRA is coordinating with BWSC on the next steps to divert flow and inspect the entire regulating structure at this intersection.

