

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

April 2, 2012

1. **City-State Groundwater Working Group** – The Working Group will meet again on April 26.
2. **MBTA** – The T and their consultant, GZA, plan a series of tests in the very near future to determine exactly how several of the Southwest Corridor pumping stations are operating and how their interaction affects groundwater levels. They continue to work to gain us access to the data loggers along the track-bed that were installed by the Columbus Center project and are not operating properly. These are planned to be part of the network that will be monitored during the tests.
3. **BWSC** – BWSC is once again recharging water from the hydrant on Dartmouth Street near Beacon Street in the Back Bay and plans to continue until they begin the relining project. This project, along with the relining project on Richmond Street in the North End and the reconstruction project on Blagden Street behind the Boston Public Library, is scheduled for April.
4. **MassDOT** – MassDOT completed repairs to the drain line from the Turnpike, repairing multiple leaks. We found significantly higher groundwater levels in the Bay Village area just north of the Turnpike when we read them just after repairs in that area were completed; hopefully, we will see continued increases in the area when we read it this month.
5. **East Boston** – We have seen some significant drop back in the increased levels in parts of the Paris Flats section of East Boston, although levels are still generally well above those seen before the MWRA repairs. The geography seems to be a little different than what we had seen previously, and we are trying to determine a potential cause.
6. **GCOD** – Compliance with GCOD continues to be excellent, thanks to the efforts of ISD, BWSC, the BRA, and the Board of Appeals. At least 148 recharge systems are in, have been inspected by BWSC, and are operating. For the first time, an applicant appeared recently with a recharge system that we felt was unlikely to meet the standards; the Board deferred action until they could design a system that would be approved by BWSC.
7. **Website** – Traffic on the website in March was at the highest level in over a year. Of particular interest have been many hits on the newly posted map of the colonial shoreline.
8. **Meetings** – I did a well-received presentation on groundwater to members of the Greater Boston Real Estate Board. I also met with the new Neighborhood Services rep for Back Bay/Beacon Hill, Shaina Aubourg to go over the groundwater issue. I met with the engineer for Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center to go over a small project that triggered GCOD recharge, as well as with another civil engineer to go over several projects.
9. **Comment Letters** – We filed comments on projects at Ink Block, Emmanuel College, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston Conservatory, and Wheelock College. All of which are (or soon will be) posted on our website.
10. **Vacation** – I will be on vacation the week of April 16. I will be checking email during that time, and Christian will be covering the office.