

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**1. Readings** – Currently on pause until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

**2. In Person and Virtual Meetings** –

- Met with Luke Gray, MIT BS '18 MS '20 PhD Candidate, to discuss researching a potential alternative to underpinning. (3/11)
- Met with James Heiss, Assistant Professor, Department of Environmental, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences at Umass Lowell, to discuss sea level rise and the potential tidal and biological effect on groundwater. (3/12)
- Zoomed with Ann Donner, Ann Donner Consulting, to review draft outline of business contingency plan. (3/25)
- Spoke with Mike Atwood of Haley & Aldrich about projects located in the Groundwater Conservation Overlay District (GCOD). (3/27)
- Spoke with Johanna Margaretha Engels, graduate student at Utrecht University in the Netherlands, about researching and comparing building structures in Boston to the Netherlands. (3/30)
- Spoke with Bryan Glascock, Deputy Director for Regulatory Planning and Zoning at the BPDA, about the Boylston Street Overlay district and rehab concept in the Fenway. (4/1)
- Zoomed with Luke Gray, to review his draft of a potential alternative to underpinning. (4/1)
- Spoke with Trustee Croteau about hosting Zoom meetings. (4/16)
- Spoke with Giuliana Zelada-Tumialan and Steven Keppel of Simpson, Gumpertz, & Heger to discuss an October, 2020 presentation to the company and establishment of a universal foundation information database. (4/23)
- Spoke with Daniel McCormack, Justin Comeau, & Ashu Pathak of BluCloud, Inc. to discuss the abandonment of their remote monitoring solution. (4/24)
- Zoomed with co-chair's Tim Mitchell and Gary Saunders to review draft of business contingency plan. (4/27)
- Spoke with Tal Avrahami, Ayyeka Technologies, about a potential remote monitoring solution for observation wells. (5/4 & 5/7)
- Spoke with Barbara Boylan, Vice President The Druker Company, Ltd., about 350 Boylston Street project. (5/4)
- Spoke 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** – After a promising start, our 5 unit automated readings project has been terminated. Several technical difficulties and the company shuttering its doors resulted in the project ending.
4. **MBTA** - Approximately 45.4 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.
  - In an effort to conserve water and limit operational costs, flow rates are slowly being reduced.
  - MBTA consultant has provided a proposal for installing a jet grout barrier wall as discussed at the April, 2019 MBTA technical advisory committee meeting. The proposal is currently in a comment period.
5. **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.
6. **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.
7. **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.

