

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
October 14, 2014

1. **Transition** – For those of you who may/may not know me my name is Christian Simonelli and I'm the new Executive Director of the Trust. I've been with the Trust since 1999 and since 2004 I've been the Technical & Recharge Coordinator. I'd like to thank the previous Executive Director, Elliott Laffer, for making it such a smooth transition and for his brilliant leadership over the past 10 plus years. Elliott is one of a kind and I'm honored to have had the time and opportunity to learn under him. Elliott will continue with us until March as Chief Strategy Officer. He will be working on streamlining the GCOD process and is writing a history of the Trust which I'm confident will be an excellent read and an even better resource.
2. **City-State Groundwater Working Group** – The Working Group will meet again next Thursday October 23rd.
3. **MBTA** – Levels in the Ellis Neighborhood area of the South End remain consistent. We have four dataloggers in this area to monitor the performance of the recharge systems that are in place. The level near the corner of Appleton and Tremont Streets has stabilized at a level considerably below what was projected. The T and their consultant continue to monitor the performance of the system and make adjustments as necessary. They will update us at the next Working Group Meeting.
4. **BWSC** – Levels in the North End at the corner of Commercial and Richmond Streets remain low. BWSC continues to look for the potential source of the problem. BWSC is coordinating with MassDOT to attempt to understand the cause of low groundwater levels near Blagden St, Exeter St, and Huntington Ave in the Back Bay and both will update their efforts at the next Working Group meeting. In the South End, the Benjamin Franklin Institute has put their recirculation system into operation, they have not yet agreed to do repairs to reduce infiltration; levels in the well on Berkeley St in front of the Institute have risen significantly, although the effect does not appear to have spread much further than that.
5. **MassDOT** – MassDOT has completed repairs to the identified leaks in the drain line from the Turnpike Prudential tunnel. They continue to work with BWSC to make sure that the work has eliminated the drain line as a problem and will update their progress at the next Working Group meeting.
6. **Exeter St/Huntington Ave Area** – Although still very low, levels in this area have rebounded significantly. A nearby underpinning project may have had an effect on levels in the nearby wells since last April. We have three dataloggers in the area and will keep these in place until the nearby underpinning work has been completed.
7. **GCOD** – Efforts are being made to streamline the GCOD process and potentially remove compliant projects that only trigger GCOD requirements because of substantial renovations from the Board of Appeal process. I met with ISD Commissioner William Christopher, Gary Moccia,

and Harry McGonagle of Inspectional Services to review a draft proposal. I also reviewed the proposal with Elliott and he forwarded his comments to Commissioner Christopher.

- 8. Porous Alley** – I attended a post construction site visit for Porous Alley No. 543 to review our datalogger protocol. Porous Alley No. 543 has been installed with informational plaques at both ends of the Alley detailing the purpose of the Porous Alley. Although it has been very dry we did have some significant rain at the beginning of the month and our dataloggers showed some nice increases in the two wells we have installed in the Alley. We are data-logging an additional four wells in the area to monitor the levels on the perimeter of the Alley. We hope to have a dedication ceremony later this year.
- 9. Meetings** – I met with ISD Commissioner Christopher, Gary Moccia, and Harry McGonagle of Inspectional Services to obtain a better handle on gathering information for buildings which have test pits dug or that will be underpinned. It was a productive meeting. I met with Tani Marinovich, the interim Executive Director of the Esplanade Association. We reviewed the efforts to restore the Hatch Shell Oval lawn and to ensure that the Trust's wells in the area are protected during construction.
- 10. Website** – I added some new content to our website. The most recent items are posted under our "Newest" tab on our homepage. As always, I would appreciate any feedback you may have.