

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

November 16th, 2017

1. **Website** – The redesign of our website went live in September. A press release was issued. Website traffic saw a nice bump and the feedback has been very positive.
2. **Social Media** - The Trust is now on Twitter @BostonGwT.
3. **Readings** – We have started our seventh set of readings for 2017.
4. **Project LightWell** – We moved our 10 interactive well covers to Newbury Street in September. This will be the last street in 2017. We will relaunch the program along Boylston Street in the spring of 2018. We hope to coordinate with the Boylston branch of the Boston Public Library to display our interactive map and cover currently on display at the AutoDesk facility.
5. **Meetings/Presentations** –
 - I presented to the Boston Association of Structural Engineers at Babson College (9/20).
 - I presented at the Goethe-Institut 50th anniversary celebration. (9/22)
 - I met with ISD Commissioner Christopher, his staff, and the abutter of 839 Beacon Street to review potential impacts of new construction on area groundwater levels (9/25).
 - I wrote comment letters for the Back Bay South End Gateway and Landmark Center Projects (9/29).
 - I presented to the Donnelly & Co. Real Estate and Warsaw, Dicarolo & Associates teams and their clients at the University Club (10/3).
 - I met with ISD Commissioner Christopher, his staff, the proponent of 829-833 Beacon Street project, and the abutter of 839 Beacon Street to review potential impacts of new construction on area groundwater levels and to ensure that the proponent's activities would have no negative impact on groundwater levels (10/4).
 - I attended the scoping session and wrote a comment letter for the Exchange South End Project (10/4).
 - Along with Mike Atwood of Haley and Aldrich I was interviewed by Don Schechter of Charles River Media on the groundwater issue and the underpinning process for the upcoming underpinning video (10/5).
 - I attended a neighborhood meeting in the Back Bay hosted by BWSC to review the Fairfield and Beacon Street sewer repairs (10/5).
 - I met with Michael Norkus, resident of 172 Beacon Street to review the groundwater levels in the area (10/9).
 - I attended scoping sessions and wrote a comment letters for the 112 Shawmut Avenue and the 1000 Boylston Street Projects (10/10).
 - I met with Daniel McCormack of Blu Cloud Technology on potential remote data logging equipment that could be deployed in our wells (10/11).
 - I attended the preservation of Burbank Gardens celebration in the Fenway (10/12).
 - Along with Noel Dicarolo of Warsaw, Dicarolo & Associates I presented to the Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage Newbury street office (11/7).
 - I met with Don Wiest of Dain, Torpy, Le Ray, Wiest & Garner, P.C. and John Schmid, PE of Nitsch Engineering to review the ground water recharge plans for the 202 Ipswich Street Project (11/7).

- I've met weekly with Professor James Lambrechts and Vincent Umipig of Wentworth. We reviewed an outline to begin writing a follow-up to Professor Lambrechts 1986 paper on Groundwater in the Back Bay.
 - I spoke & met with residents & developers throughout the GCOD to discuss ZBA procedures and advised them on what they need to provide us to satisfy the zoning.
6. **MBTA** - Approximately 42 gpm is being injected into recharge wells in the Ellis Neighborhood area along Appleton, Berkeley, Saint Charles, Cazenove, and Clarendon Street. 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 confirmed that funds set aside for the ongoing recharge efforts in the South End will be made available to them through the Mass DOT FY2018-2022 Capital Investment Plan. At the last City-State Groundwater Working Group meeting the MBTA's consultant updated the group on the history of the depressed levels in the Ellis neighborhood. Going forward I'll be working with the MBTA, members of the City-State, and residents to revisit finding a long term solution for the Ellis Neighborhood area.
 7. **DCR** - I have dataloggers installed in 3 wells to monitor the levels along the Storrow Drive tunnel pump station groundwater recharge system. Levels are within their usual range and the system continues to work as designed. The DCR and their consultants are working with the DOT on traffic studies in support of a redesign effort for the underpass. Recharge will be part of that plan and will be targeted for possible upgrade.
 8. **BWSC** - An update of the following:
 - Things are on schedule along Fairfield Street. Both liners have been installed and the manholes in the area will be rehabilitated. All work is expected to be completed by this Thanksgiving.
 - BWSC is continuing their investigations in the South End, North End, and Stuart Street area between Berkeley and Dartmouth Streets.
 9. **MWRA** - Inspected the Boston Marginal Conduit (BMC) (approx. 4,000ft.). Minor signs of infiltration at four spots were discovered during the inspection. Those four spots will be repaired. Additional inspections were conducted this in July and no new leaks were observed. A final investigation will be conducted once groundwater levels rise and repairs are scheduled for the spring of 2018.
 10. **MassDOT** - Repairs to 60' of the 30" reinforced concrete pipe were made this summer. So far there has been no benefit to area groundwater levels. The plan is inspect during dry weather this fall to verify that the repairs have held. Additional investigations will be conducted.
 11. **Vacation** - I'll be on Vacation the week of Thanksgiving and the last two weeks in December. I'll be checking email and the office phone for correspondence.