

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

November 17th, 2022

1. **Readings** - Completed our sixth set of readings of 2022.

2. **Meetings and Calls** -

- Spoke with John F. Houton, Jr., Assistant Corporation Counsel, City of Boston Treasury Department, to review the approved City Council Ordinance for legal representation. (9/20)
- Attended scoping session via Zoom for the 409 Huntington Avenue project. (10/3)
- Google met with Daniel McCormack and Justin Comeau of BluCloud to review performance of the 5 remote readers. (10/5)
- Met with Beatrice Nessen, of the Boston Preservation Alliance to discuss serving as Trustee. (10/6)
- Zoomed with Sarah Francoeur, a fifth-year Architecture and Graphic Design student at Northeastern University to discuss her senior capstone project around the promotion of groundwater recharge methods in the city. (10/6)
- Zoomed with Ryan McNeil, new Project Manager at DOT, to discuss the City-State Groundwater Groups mission. (10/6)
- Met with representatives from the Church of the Advent to discuss and review groundwater levels in the vicinity. (10/11)
- Wrote comment letter for the Parcel 13 project. (10/12)
- Wrote comment letter for the 49-63 Hudson Street (Parcel R-1) project. (10/17)
- Attended Burbank Terrace project groundbreaking ceremony in the Fenway. (10/20)
- Google met with Daniel McCormack and Justin Comeau of BluCloud to review performance of the 5 remote readers. (10/24)
- Zoomed with Giuliana Zelada-Tumialan and members of InSAR (Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar). InSAR's technology is used for mapping ground deformation using radar images of the Earth's surface that are collected from orbiting satellites. We discussed its potential use on roads and wood pile supported buildings to detect settlement and their upcoming presentation at the January Trustees meeting. (10/24)
- Zoomed with all members of the City-State Groundwater Working Group. (10/27) Agency updates are below.
- Google met with Daniel McCormack and Justin Comeau of BluCloud to review performance of the 5 remote readers and their presentation at the November Trustees meeting. (11/4)
- Testified via Zoom the Zoning Board of Appeals hearings in September, October, & November.



- Communicated with residents, engineers, attorneys, & developers throughout the GCOD to discuss ZBA procedures and advised them on what they need to submit to meet the GCOD zoning.
3. **BluCloud Remote Monitoring Solution** - The 5 units have been transmitting readings daily since the beginning of March. The plan moving forward is evaluate the performance of these units over the following months and have BluCloud update the Board at the November meeting.
 4. **BWSC** - An update on the following:
 - In the process of designing repairs to address the spots where groundwater infiltration has been observed in the North End, Back Bay, and the South End.
 - Lower Beacon Hill
 - Investigations continue at Brimmer and Beacon Streets. Catch basins were cleaned and no signs of infiltration were observed. Low sewer line (at approx. El. 1'-3') upstream of a regulator indicated some infiltration. Will look to get it lined.
 - Back Bay
 - Ongoing construction to repair a deep CSO on Fairfield Street, in the Beacon-Back Street block with an estimated completion date of late Nov/Early Dec. We have installed dataloggers in the two wells closest to the repair and hope to record a positive impact on groundwater levels.
 - At Exeter and Boylston Street, 48 bottles of green dye were injected in BGwT OW at that corner over a 3-hour period on 9/22/22. No green appeared in their systems or in the Lenox Hotel. Contractor currently in the area televising, will report any findings.
 - Low area along Beacon St., Fairfield-Hereford St. blocks, contractor is currently in the area televising, will report any findings.
 - Repairs for the Blagden Street sewer and laterals are currently in design phase. Infiltration entering around a lateral of BPL, may be able to grout this location. Will add to grouting list and also televise the lines around the BPL. Also working with Vicinity Energy to check their manholes for infiltration since there are two 1.5" discharge lines tapped into BWSC sewer line. If Steam manholes are experiencing infiltration at Elev. 3' or below, this could be contributing to loss.
 - South End
 - Investigations at a low spot along Harrison Avenue, in the East Concord Street – Worcester Square blocks, revealed groundwater infiltration in an adjacent manhole. Manhole was grouted in August 2022 but no change in GW elevation. Will continue to investigate.



- North End
 - No infiltration in 66" line or 84" lines under Columbus Park. Found leaky laterals along 30" sewer on Commercial St, will add to grouting list.
- 5. **MBTA** - Approximately 36. 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 impact of the drought is being felt on Cazenove Street where levels have dropped slightly below El. 5' BCB. The Cazenove St. recharge systems are at their maximum flow rate of 7.1 gpm. We worked with the MBTA, and their consultant to increase the flow in the Saint Charles St. recharge system from 9.0 gpm to 12.8 gpm to bring levels back up to El. 5' BCB.
- 6. **DCR** - One of the two recharge pumps for the Storrow Drive Tunnel pump station had an issue. As a result, both recharge pumps will be replaced. Typically, a 2-day process to replace the pumps. DCR will let BGwT know when the pumps are replaced.
- 7. **MWRA** – Continue to work with BWSC on sewer separation and CSO improvements in East Boston.
- 8. **DOT** – Ryan McNeil, DOT, has replaced Rick McCullough. He has met with operations & maintenance and a contractor to review the work required to line the turnpike pipe drain line.
- 9. **TIME OFF** – I'll be off November 21st-23rd, December 21st -23rd and 27th-31st.

