

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
March 15th, 2018

1. **Readings** –I have hired a new part time Field Engineer from Wentworth Institute of Technology and he is wrapping up our first set of well readings of 2018.
2. **Meetings/Presentations** –
 - Along with Noel Dicarolo of Warsaw, Dicarolo & Associates I presented to the Re/Max Leading Edge brokerage Newbury street office. (1/18)
 - I wrote a comment letter for the 1241 Boylston Street Project (1/26).
 - I was deposed for Samuel D Perry vs. Board of Appeals case (1/23). In addition, I reviewed the recording of my deposition and provided the corrections to the Errata Sheet. (2/1)
 - I met with Bashir Madamidola of the MBTA to discuss the reactivation of the groundwater action plan team and finding a permanent solution for the low water levels in the South End Ellis Neighborhood. (2/5)
 - Along with Councilor Josh Zakim, I presented the groundwater issue to newly elected Councilors Lydia Edwards, Edward Flynn, and a representative from Councilor Kim Janey's staff. (2/7)
 - 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.
3. **Project LightWell** – I'll be meeting with Michelle Laboy and Josh Fiedler in the coming weeks to discuss relaunching the program along Boylston Street in the spring of 2018. I'm coordinating with the Boylston branch of the Boston Public Library to display our interactive map and interactive cover currently on display at the AutoDesk facility.
4. **Video Project** – I continue to work with Don Schechter of Charles River Media and Mike Atwood of Haley and Aldrich to develop our video project. I anticipate having a deliverable by our next Board meeting in May.
5. **MBTA** - Approximately 43 gpm is being injected into recharge wells in the South End 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, residents, and the appropriate elected officials to find a permanent solution for the South End Ellis Neighborhood.
6. **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 upgrade.

7. **BWSC** – An update on the following:
 - Repairs along Fairfield Street, in the vicinity of Beacon and Marlborough Streets in the Back Bay, have continued to have a positive effect on groundwater levels. Around a half a dozen wells in the area have hit all-time highs. We continue to datalog 3 wells in the area to verify that the repairs hold.
 - BWSC and their contractor did an excellent job of performing the work in a timely manner and coordinated with abutters in the neighborhood to help minimize impact of the repairs to their daily activities.
 - BWSC continues their investigations in the South End, North End, and Stuart Street area of the Back Bay between Berkeley and Dartmouth Streets.
8. **MWRA** - Inspected approximately 4,000-ft. of the Boston Marginal Conduit (BMC), which runs along the Storrow Drive embankment. Minor signs of infiltration at four spots were discovered during the inspection. Those four spots will be repaired. Additional inspections were conducted this past 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.
9. **MassDOT** - Repairs to 60' of the 30" reinforced concrete pipe, which runs parallel along the Turnpike and terminates at the prudential garage, 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.
10. **Website** – Traffic on the website remains steady. We have around 150 visits/day and just over 300 page views/day.