

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

March 18th, 2021

1. Readings – Completed first set of readings for 2021. Close to a one-third of the wells were inaccessible due to snow and ice cover. Second set of readings started last week.

2. Meetings and Calls–

- Zoomed proposed GCOD amendments to the Audubon Circle Neighborhood Association (ACNA). (1/19)
- Zoomed scoping session for the proposed 125 Lincoln Street project in the Leather District. (1/15)
- Zoomed with project team for the proposed 41 Berkeley Street project (Benjamin Franklin Institute) in the South End. (1/29)
- Met with John Braught, new Director of Operations at the Old South Church, to discuss groundwater levels and on-site observation well access. (2/10)
- Zoomed with newly appointed Trustee Edward McGuire. (2/11)
- Attended the 2nd meeting for the renovation of Copley Square via Zoom. (2/11)
- Zoomed proposed GCOD amendments to the Boston City Council. (2/19)
- Attended public meeting via Zoom and wrote a comment letter for the proposed 149-155 Newbury Street (The Aubry) project in the Back Bay. (2/22)
- Zoomed with members of the Climate Resilience Department and BPDA staff about Groundwater levels and potential sea-level rise mitigation efforts for East Boston. (2/25)
- Zoomed with Mark Balfe, Haley & Aldrich, to discuss the proposed Cross Street Boutique Hotel project in the North End. (3/2)
- Zoomed our proposed GCOD amendments to members of the Fort Point Channel Neighborhood Association (FPNA). (3/4)
- Zoomed with co-chair Rob Whitney to review agenda items for upcoming Board meeting. (3/5)
- Attended scoping session via Zoom for the proposed Cross Street Boutique Hotel project in the North End. (3/8)
- Participated via Zoom in the first of three Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP) meetings. (3/9)
- Attended via WebEx Inspectional Services Department (ISD) Zoning 101 Workshop. (3/10)
- Testified via WebEx Zoning Board of Appeals hearings in January and February.
- Communicated with residents, engineers, & 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** –A new, custom device from their partner company has been connected and making successful readings in the BluCloud platform. 5 new units were manufactured and deployed. The team will provide access to the data this week.
4. **BWSC** – An update on the following:
 - In the South End significant repairs were completed Dartmouth & Montgomery Streets area last week. We will be reading the wells in this area next week and hope to see an increase in groundwater levels. Pipes and laterals at Clarendon & Gray Streets will be repaired as part of Capital Improvement Projects. Two manholes at Warren & Clarendon Streets were relined and groundwater levels in the area are at all-time highs. Investigations along Tremont Street, from the West Canton to Herald Street corridor are ongoing.
 - In the North End additional CCTV inspections in Richmond & Commercial Streets revealed leaking joints. Repairs are slated under the Capital Improvement Project with the timeline to be determined.
 - In Lower Beacon Hill a leaking manhole at Brimmer and Beacon Streets was relined at the beginning of October, but groundwater levels have not responded. BWSC will go back and reinspect.
 - In the Back Bay, a deep sewer on Berkeley Street, between Beacon & Back Street, revealed leaks at the crown (top) of the pipe which is at approximately El. 5', where current groundwater levels have been measured. Additional inspections and repairs are scheduled.
5. **MBTA** - Approximately 44.3 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.
6. **DCR** – Dataloggers are installed in 3 wells to monitor the levels along the Storrow Drive tunnel pump station groundwater recharge system.
 - Storrow Drive Tunnel Pump Station, recharge galleys, and flood control pumps operating normally with no anomalies.
 - The DCR will be putting in a new fence and repairing the seawall which runs adjacent to Storrow Drive in the Clarendon Street to Massachusetts Avenue section.

