



## **JOINT-ELECTED OFFICIALS WORKSHOP – Summary Report Olympia City Hall - January 31, 2018**

### **INTRODUCTION**

As a companion to the January 18, 2018 Open House and Community Workshop, a joint meeting of the City of Olympia Council, LOTT Clean Water Alliance Board of Directors and the Port of Olympia Commission was held on January 31, 2018. The January 31, 2018 elected officials workshop was an opportunity for discussion among elected officials and leadership staff. Public comment was limited to written form.

### **QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

An abbreviated summary of the comments and questions raised by elected officials during the January 31, 2018 meeting organized by subject matter follows.

#### ***Capitol Lake***

For the flooding scenarios, what future for Capitol Lake was used - keeping Capitol Lake a lake or restoring to an estuary? How frequently will we update the scenarios to allow for new information resulting from the Capitol Lake Environmental Impact Statement? How will the sea level rise plan be updated to account for the Capitol Lake Environmental Impact Statement?

I would be interested in seeing information on the positive and negative consequences associated with Capitol Lake remaining a lake or reverting to an estuary.

How will we get our plan into the Capitol Lake Environmental Impact Statement work – how will we coordinate findings between both processes?

#### ***General***

It is important to consider the residents and business located downtown that will be impacted by increased flooding, resulting in economic impacts.

The long planning horizon we are discussing has caused me to reflect back on what the city looked like 100 years ago, 80 years ago and what it might look like in the future. What will sewer treatment look like in 82 years? 82 years ago people did not expect to treat waste and send it out to the ocean. It is hubris to defend protecting today's vision of the city, including the idea of protecting existing essential infrastructure. If we continue to treat wastewater like we do now into the future, we have failed in raising our children.

### ***Agency and Stakeholder Involvement***

As presented, one of the strategy decision making criteria involves protecting public health. Addressing public health is important to everyone, therefore others should be included in the discussion. Are you involving the state and tribal interests?

Over the next year of public process, I have one request: that environmental and social justice stakeholders and interests have the same seat at the table as economic interests.

I agree with others that the state needs to be involved. What do we know about the actions of the Department of Natural Resources – can we predict its involvement?

I would like to see the Department of Ecology involved in the planning process since the Port is involved in clean-up efforts.

### ***LOTT Budd Bay Treatment Plant***

Lacey (and Tumwater) does not have a combined storm and sewer system. Lacey, at high ground, is not particularly concerned with sea level rise. Help me to understand if we should be. Will sea level rise issues for LOTT impact Lacey, Tumwater and Thurston County's ability to flow sewage to the treatment plant?

In addition to sea water and stormwater, will untreated wastewater go in downtown streets with increased sea levels?

### ***Science and Sea Level Rise Projections***

Science is always changing. How will we review the plan and reevaluate over time? Is it a constant re-looping around the planning process circle? Has the potential for backflow into Moxlie Creek, and flooding occurring upstream as a result, been analyzed?

The discussion appears to be on mitigating impacts from sea level rise not on taking measures to eliminate or alleviate climate change. Are there any natural, self-correcting measures that could occur in the next 50 to 100 years to stop some of the effects of climate change or alleviate sea level rise?

On the sea level rise projection chart, what serves as zero? On the project charts, zero appears to be year 2000. Have we seen a rise in sea levels since 2000? What is the observed rise to date?

### ***Funding***

I would like to request that the project include research on how to fund the strategies/solutions required. A budget with costs for each agency is not necessary. Instead, information about potential funding sources and funding methodologies such as appropriate taxing districts would be informative.

