

WAMC Survey and KPI Committee
April 14, 2023

Attendees:

Jenny Shaw, Brian Vilmont, Olivia Olszty-Budry, Randall Roost, Carrie Ricker Cox

- Approved Meeting minutes from March 16th
- Merged at data for round 1 and round 2
- Wastewater
 - Collection system permit may change number of wastewater submissions substantially
 - Of those asked to submit less than 50% submitted
- Is 1% enough to make up for lack of previous years investment?
 - Concern that people will latch on to 1% when this is really a floor and not necessarily what you need to save
 - 1% is good for water mains but if talking about all assets, 1% is good
 - Survey is collecting everything for CIP and replacement cost
 - Proposed to keep to better understand how little it really is that we are planning to spend
 - KPNG cares about how much money can be borrowed to invest and ASCE report card
 - Are we shooting too low for a goal?
 - Don't want to say our future needs are 1% because this isn't a reflection
 - In order to make up for lack of previous investment need 5% for next 10 years
 - Investment should be based on life expectancy and what you have done to maintain your assets over time, so with good maintenance you can extend beyond useful life
 - If you could get all the utilities to do 1% a year that would be huge
 - In the end, CIP needs to be based on your utility and its individual needs
 - This is highly variable
 - Could see 1% as a minimum and many utilities cannot hit this
- Watermains don't see condition until fail, what is the failure rate?
 - Lead service line replacement is delaying some watermain replacement
 - Rates already going up in areas some up to 20% to add lead service lines
 - Utilities looking at lining watermains to see how this works
- Just keeping the capital low is not the entire story
- Main breaks
 - How do you draw conclusions with small amount of data
 - Round 1 – most main breaks in smaller communities
 - Round 2 – most main breaks in a few larger communities
- Stormwater
 - Unsure how to fund these storm assets in the future
 - Large 20 year in plan as anticipate need but funding may not be known
 - Concern not touching 10% of the poor and very poor
 - Stormwater could be a case to do the 1% minimum or at least fix poor conditions
- Drinking Water Round 2 memo

- Recommend the pie chart percentage of the know condition – tells different story
- Should we assume unknown is poor and very poor – No
- Are we underestimating in replacing 4s and 5s in 5 year since so much is unknown
- Concern that for sanitary and storm the unknown may be more difficult to get to and otherwise left alone
 - Condition could be unknown, especially for large utility with 30 main breaks per mile
 - 5 year CIP replace poor is underrepresenting total but until data hard to say by how much
- Focus on creating operators
- Recommendations
 - Operator recommendations
 - Training – pressure pipe and some other asset specific
 - What is a good number for a community for the 1% so they don't fall further behind (training)
- MDOT bridge committee
 - Running with action item spread sheet and keep this running
 - Not deleting but crossing off and just keeping action items
 - Carrie to check to see if just action items are possible instead of official meeting minutes

ACTION ITEMS

1. Carrie to change condition pie chart so only known condition
2. Carrie to finish stormwater, sanitary, and combined role 1 and 2
3. Carrie to reschedule meeting that overlaps
4. ALL review drafts and send comments to group
5. ALL think about what the recommendations and findings in summary to WAMC to look like