

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Sitting as the Governing Body of Water Environment Services

Policy Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 11/26/2019 **Approximate Start Time:** 10:30am **Length:** 30 Minutes

Presentation Title: WES Rules and Standards Project Update

Department: Water Environment Services

Presenter: Ron Wierenga/Greg Geist

Other Invitees:

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

This is an update on the project to revise WES's rules and standards, so no formal action is required from the Board at this point. Staff will present updates on key policy issues in the future and later seek the Board's approval of the rules and standards.

BACKGROUND & ISSUES:

WES initiated a project to revise its rules and standards in mid-2018. The project's overarching goal is to unify WES's disparate rules and standards for its different rate zones into a unified set of rules and standards for WES. The work is an extension of the formation of WES as an intergovernmental entity over the past several years and offers several benefits that include clarifying rules and WES's authority, modernizing standards, creating administrative efficiencies, and the opportunity to consider several key fiscal and technical policy changes.

The initial phase of the project included listening sessions with stakeholders who use the current rules and standards, a task force of practitioners and partner cities gathered to more deeply vet issues, and internal workshops with staff focusing on administration. The listening sessions yielded over 50 recommendations for rule and standard updates, and identified about a dozen key policies for WES to review.

WES has engaged its advisory committee on fiscal policies being considered, and is currently engaging the community in presentations on the project status and key policy proposals. The draft rules and standards are in the process of being written and reviewed by WES and its contractor. Public forums where participants can engage more deeply in learning and discussion about the project are planned for early December. A formal public comment period is planned for early 2020, with formal consideration for adoption by the Board planned for the spring of 2020.

WES staff wish to update the Board on the project status and flag key policy issues under consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None related to this policy session. A contract in the amount of \$357,000 was awarded to a consultant to support the Rules project.

Are these items in your current budget? YES NO*

What is the funding source? WES Sanitary/Surface Water Operating Funds

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

This project aligns with several of WES' Strategic Goals relating to permitting and environmental protection:

- 90% of industrial customers are in compliance with wastewater discharge rules
- 80% of sanitary and storm plan reviews are completed within three weeks of submittal
- 50% of sanitary and storm plan reviews are approved in three or fewer submittals
- 30% of streams within WES' jurisdiction meet or exceed water quality standards
- 50% of inspected businesses comply with stormwater standards upon initial inspection, as evidenced by adequate pollution controls and storm system maintenance
- 100% of new assets mapped and entered into the maintenance management system within six months of acceptance

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS:

Any significant proposed changes to existing WES policies will be identified for the Board in future presentations and policy sessions. Next year Board will consider adopting the proposed rules and standards by ordinance in accordance with required administrative processes.

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:

PGA staff are involved in developing and implementing the stakeholder and community engagement plan, community presentations, and the public forums. PGA staff also created a web page for the project.

OPTIONS:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS: Draft presentation slides

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____

Department Director/Head Approval _____

County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Lauren Haney at 503-742-4591
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Water Environment Services

Project Update

Sanitary and Stormwater Rules and Standards



Presentation Agenda

- Introduce Water Environment Services
- Provide an overview of rules and standards project
- Present key policies under review
- Identify next steps and opportunities for input

Water Environment Services

WES is your clean water provider

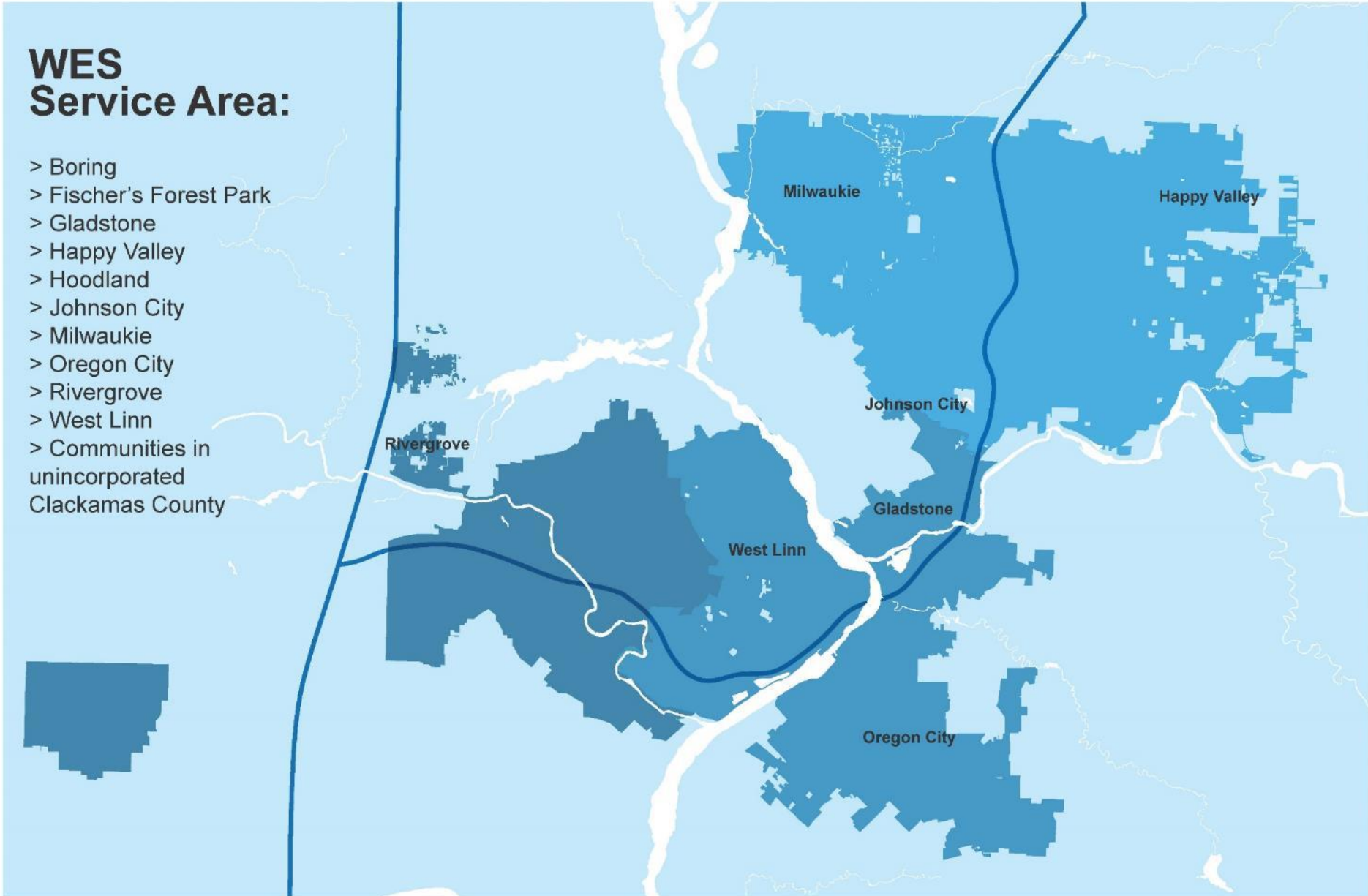
Our job is to...

- ✓ Protect public health and the environment
- ✓ Provide infrastructure to support economic development
- ✓ Educate the public on what they can do to help keep our watersheds healthy



WES Service Area:

- > Boring
- > Fischer's Forest Park
- > Gladstone
- > Happy Valley
- > Hoodland
- > Johnson City
- > Milwaukie
- > Oregon City
- > Rivergrove
- > West Linn
- > Communities in unincorporated Clackamas County



Benefits of Regionalizing Sewer & Surface Water

- ✓ Regulatory alignment and efficiencies
- ✓ Predictability in rates and long-range capital planning
- ✓ Administrative efficiencies
- ✓ Regionalized operations
- ✓ System resiliency



Overview of WES Rules and Standards Project

Why Update the Rules and Standards

Develop uniform stormwater and sanitary rules and standards across WES service areas

- ✓ Provide for regional alignment
- ✓ Streamline development review and approval processes
- ✓ Address regulatory drivers and mandates
- ✓ Update fiscal and technical policies
- ✓ Reflect new technologies, approaches, and development patterns



Project Goals and Objectives

Develop consistent, comprehensive sanitary and stormwater rules and standards for WES's service districts

Engage WES Staff and external stakeholders to identify and resolve key policy issues

Establish rules and standards that provide infrastructure to support economic development while protecting public health and environment

Stakeholder Input

- What would improve the standards?
- What project types need modification to the standards?



What we heard from stakeholder input

Collected 50 recommendations for updates to the Rules and Standards to be included in the review process.

- ✓ Few concerns with sanitary standards
- ✓ Need to update fiscal policies related to development
- ✓ Lack of consistency within WES and also the need for a straight-forward review process
- ✓ WES's stormwater standards are challenging to implement on some development sites
- ✓ Need for stormwater design tools that match typical development and facility types.



Key Policies to Review

Key Policies

Administrative Improvements

- Single set of rules for all WES service areas
- Streamline development review and approval processes

Stormwater Policies

- LID/GI prioritization
- Water quality standards/pollutant removal goals
- Flow control strategy
- Downstream analysis requirements

Sanitary Sewer Policies

- Sanitary Sewer Design
- Pretreatment Program
- Fats, Oils & Grease Requirements

Fiscal Policies

- EDU assignments
- Reimbursement Districts
- Low income discounts

Inspection and Enforcement

- Streamlined notifications and processes

Next Steps and Opportunities for Input

Stakeholder Forums

- December 5, 6:00-8:00, Clackamas CC, Harmony Campus
- December 10, 2:00-4:00, WES DSB

Public review of draft rules and standards

- Winter 2020
- Public comment period
- Available on WES website

Clackamas County Commission review and adoption

- Public hearings and testimony opportunity

Implementation Workshop

- Development and engineering community
- Following adoption

Thank you! Questions?



www.clackamas.us/wes