On Oct 24, 2023, at 5:46 PM, Tim Harris <tim.harris@carnationwa.gov> wrote:

Hi Kazia,

Thank you for the prompt.

Something that has been bothering me, and Chair Balducci alluded to this at our last meeting… we are focused primarily on the rate being charged by KCWTD for wastewater services. I think we need to uplevel our focus to DNRP, and not just KCWTD. We need to be looking at the bigger picture of both Stormwater and Wastewater, and we need to be working on policy proposals to rationalize the two.

So much of the cost driver behind KCWTDs rate increases is Stormwater related. IMO, a "major countywide policy" we need to be trying to tackle is how to get the stormwater and wastewater services across the county working together, and how do we update the working relationships between the jurisdictions to account for the differences in investment and differences in impact they are having on DNRP's CIP.

I think Option 1 is important to prioritize, but I think we also need to be asking for the same thing from DNRP as relates to Stormwater.

Option 2 seems like a "nice to have", but doesn't really do anything other than give us advance warning of the bad news we're going to have to share with our rate payers. If resourcing is a concern, I'd rather have #1.

Option 3 makes sense on its face. Taken in combination with my asks on Option 1, it becomes more interesting.

Option 4 I see this as being aligned with Option 1, and I think this needs to be a DNRP presentation that combines WTD and Stormwater services.

Option 5 I support adding it to the work program, and providing advance notice to the council that we want to start looking at wastewater and stormwater more holistically given the linkage between the two.

I believe we need to be pushing for rate policies that work across all the county's water systems, and that are equitable to jurisdictions based upon their impact on the region's water quality.

Lastly, I don't want to lose sight if the Biosolid conversation. Where does that fit into this frame?

Tim