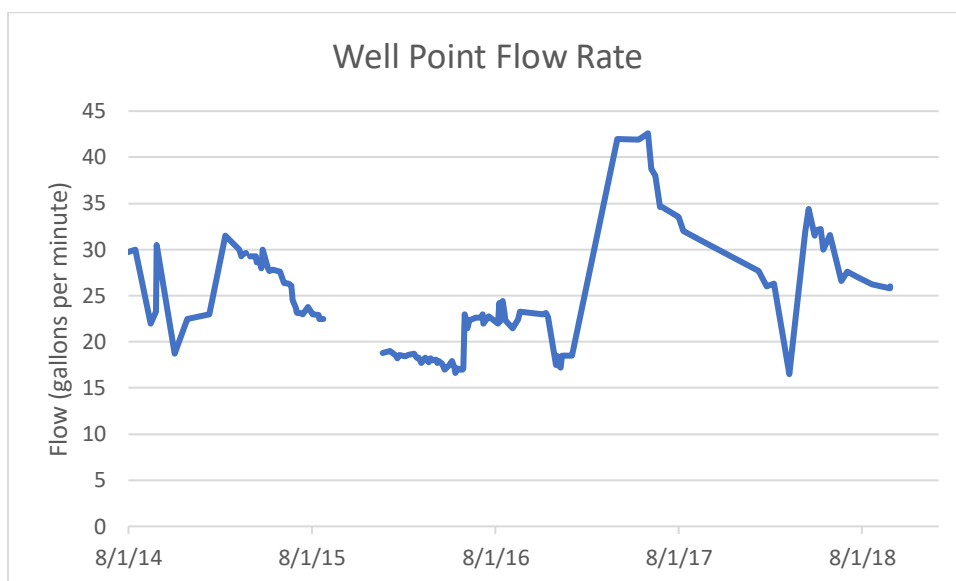


December 2018

Dear Westside Water Association Members,

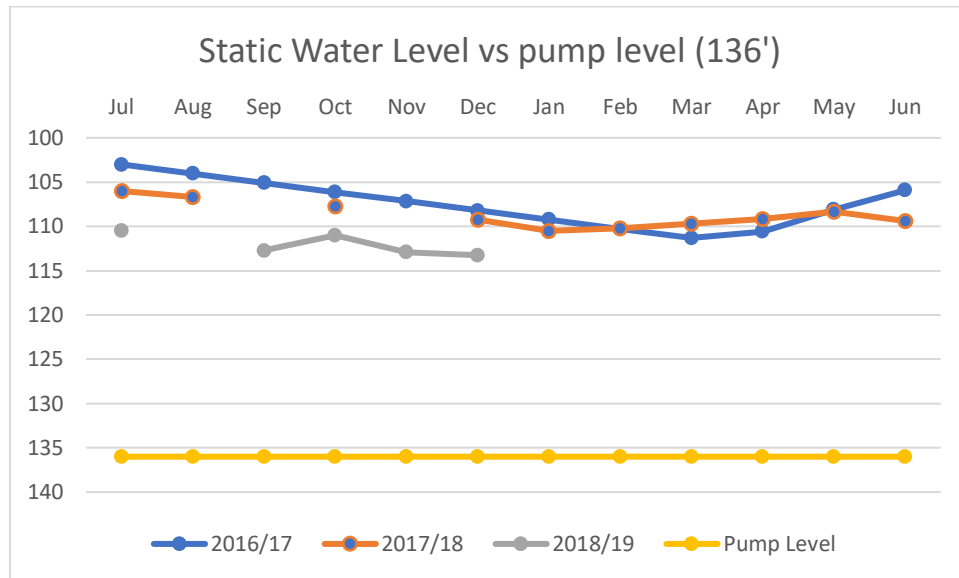
Current Events

- Winter has now arrived with some below freezing temperatures. Please save yourself some trouble (and the system some expense) by decoupling hoses from outside faucets, blowing out irrigation systems and performing other cold weather prep tasks to reduce the chances for freeze related problems.
- We are also continuing through an extended draught period which started in April this year. We are monitoring our water sources regularly and don't forecast a problem with meeting next year's high season demand at this point but preventing and quickly addressing leaks where ever they are found is important.
- The well point flow rates are holding steady at around 25 gallons per minute as shown in the graph below.



- We are continuing to see a small decline in the elevation of the water table of the Anderson Well field as documented in the following graph. We are hoping to see this level recover some during the remaining wet months of the winter season and monitor the water table monthly. At current levels we can sustain about 60 gallons per minute from the Anderson Field which along with the well points is adequate to supply our peak usage from recent years' actual results. Nevertheless, the WWA Board is actively looking at conservation plans in the event that demand exceeds supply for our system. A key part of the process is to arrive at an understanding as to how much water is associated with a WWA share (known in the water business as an Equivalent Residential

Unit or ERU) to assist in our planning efforts. Clearly our system has finite capacity under any circumstances and how we allocate that capacity in times of system stress has never been defined by WWA. We expect to have that policy ready in time to discuss at our Annual Meeting in May 2019. Any members interested in working on that policy are welcome to join in and should contact Doug Dolstad (206 715-3805) or Pat Call (206 567-4011) to be included.



Middling Well Update

In our last newsletter we spelled out our plan for developing an additional water source in cooperation with a WWA member (Jake Middling). That well was drilled in late October and it has taken us a bit of time to get the accurate data we needed to determine if this source would be a good one for WWA. In the end we have decided not to pursue this project beyond our initial contribution to the drilling of the well (~\$7,500). The well met neither our quantity threshold (>20 gpm) nor our water quality requirements for iron, manganese and arsenic and thus we decided that further investment in this project would not be in the interest of WWA. We are disappointed in this result but believe it was a reasonable gamble that just didn't work out. We want to thank Jake Middling for his collaboration in this venture that had a significant beneficial potential to the membership.

King County Right-of-Way Rental Fee

As reported in The Beachcomber a few weeks ago, a consortium of water and sewer districts affected by the proposed King County Right of Way program to charge rent to utilities for the use of the right-of-way, was successful at the first level of legal challenge. In light of that news some members have inquired as to whether WWA will continue to accrue funds from members

in anticipation of that fee. The WWA Board believes it is prudent to do so. The legal process is likely to go on for some time and we are in receipt of a recent letter from King County asserting that they intend to prevail and will retain the original fee collection start date (April 2018) if they do so. Rather than charge members a large amount if and when the legal challenges are decided in King County's favor, your Board decided it was easier on members financially to behave "as if" the County will prevail and collect a smaller amount with each billing. If King County loses its case, we will return the accrued funds to members.

In an effort to reduce the potential financial impact on members, we have responded to the original King County notification with a clarification on the distance of right-of-way that WWA is currently using. With the detailed GIS map developed by our consulting engineering partner BCH, we have submitted a value for the right of way length used by WWA of 29,455 feet versus the King County estimate of 45,457 feet. This distance parameter is a direct factor in the estimate of the rental fee so if our value is accepted, we could benefit by a reduction of our fee by 30+%. Again, we don't intend to adjust our accrual rate until we have a formal amendment of the fee from King County but if we get that confirmation, we will adjust the rate as well as account for any over-accrual from the beginning.

5-year Sanitary Survey

Every five years the Department of Health conducts an on-site inspection of WWA to ensure compliance with regulations. This survey was conducted in the last week of November this year and it was a very successful event. In particular the work that the Board has done over the five years since the last survey to develop detailed analytics on water production and supply, to provide transparency on WWA finances and to generate a detailed GIS map of the system were all praised by the inspector.

Asset Replacement Projects

115th south of Cove Road

One of our scheduled projects to replace a 500' section of the distribution main south of Cove Road on 115th is almost complete. This project involved expensive directional boring under Cove Road, and, per King County road inspector, the removal of ditch spoils and purchased fill for the trench. We added a system blow off at the south end. We want to thank member Frank Brown for his willingness to accept dirt from the trench onto his property.

We wish all of our members a Happy Holiday season.

The WWA Board