

August 30, 2020

Dear WWA Members,

What a strange summer. Social distancing. Staying at home. Wearing masks. For us the time has felt like it flew by. We are almost into September and already the cool evenings and mornings have the feeling of an early fall.

### Summer demand and the Canyon Well

When we last wrote we had concerns that our service capacity might not quite be enough to allow us to keep the canyon well off for a 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive summer. As it turned out we had just enough capacity to achieve that milestone. We had to push the Anderson wells harder than we would have liked for short periods but in the end, things have worked out in our favor. For the last 10 years we have averaged July-August consumption of about 54.5 gpm and this year we are right at this average. Operating the Anderson well field in the way we would like, we have about 58 gpm capacity and if we push it we can generate 65 gpm for a few days at a time to cover hotter periods of higher usage. This is all to say that we don't have much extra capacity.

### Adding another source

At the Annual Meeting we talked about our ongoing quest to improve the supply-demand situation and we are pleased to say that we are in the final stages of formalizing an agreement with a member for the acquisition of an existing well. It is a deep well with >25 gpm capacity so it will give us the needed margin on top of our current sources. Water quality of this new source is not quite as perfect as for the Anderson wells but still a good source for WWA (Arsenic levels are 4-5 parts per billion (ppb) against a maximum level of 10 ppb; manganese and iron levels are also somewhat higher than for Anderson).

The transaction for this acquisition involves a payment of \$20,000 to the well owner plus the conveyance of two water shares in WWA. In addition to this direct compensation there are additional costs for the engineering, pump, electrical, piping and chlorination system. In total we estimate that the addition of this source will cost WWA about \$65,000. We have the financial strength to cover this cost in the short term while the Board discusses how we will cover it in the long term. If members would like a zoom meeting for us to go over the details, we would welcome that. Please e-mail or phone in your interest in such a meeting and we will set it up (probably, if there is interest, we will set up a morning meeting and an evening meeting to accommodate people's schedules).

### Leaks

We have succeeded in getting our leakage rate back down under 5 gpm this summer. A number of leaks have been reported by members (THANK YOU!!) and we have been able to

quickly fix them. As always, we ask that as you walk the roads in our district you keep your eyes alert to wet spots.

### [King County Right of Way Fee](#)

As we reported earlier this year the State Supreme Court ruled in favor of King County in their pursuit of collecting a right of way fee (for which we have been accruing). Somewhat surprisingly we have not heard from them as yet but do expect to in the coming months. We will be appealing the level of fee that they are proposing to charge us based on a revised length of right of way that we actually use compared to their calculation. Stay tuned.

Here's hoping that we can return to a new normal over this winter. Stay well, friends.

The WWA Board