



LAKEHAVEN UTILITY DISTRICT

31627 1st Ave. S. | PO Box 4249 | Federal Way, WA 98063-4249
Federal Way: 253-941-1516, Tacoma: 253-927-2922 | www.lakehaven.org

September -October 2000

Commissioner's Corner

Donald L. P. Miller



As a customer, your expectation is that we continue to provide an affordable supply of water. The water we provide must be both of a quality and quantity to meet your needs. To many of us, this includes having water available to water our gardens, flowers and yards to a reasonable degree. With the extra demand placed on the system during the dry summer, we have seen a peak water-use day this summer of over 20 million gallons. This is roughly double the normal demand for water during the year.

In order for the District to be able to meet the demands that growth places on water resources, we must continue to plan for a reliable future supply of water. As previously reported, we have recently completed construction of the western section of the Second Supply Pipeline. Not only will this help in bringing about the ultimate construction of the Pipeline, which will make available the delivery of a large supply of water to our system from the Green River, it enables us to purchase a firm supply of water from Tacoma in the interim.

Much of the water you take in is, of course, returned to us through the sewer system. Currently, we discharge an average of about 7 million gallons of treated wastewater per day to the Puget Sound. In many areas throughout the country, however, advanced water treatment technologies are allowing this water to be "recycled" for subsequent non-consumptive uses. As these technologies evolve, more and more uses, or "re-uses", of the water, become available.

The subject of water reuse has been discussed as a longer range project. A couple of benefits are:

- An ability to reduce discharge of the treated effluent. A reduction of effluent discharge at our treatment plants is an emerging regulatory goal and could create some savings in the permits under which the plants are operated.
- Replacement of valuable drinking water to irrigate greenways, parkways and golf courses. This makes more sense if we can obtain grant funding to help offset the significant costs of developing the system to treat and distribute the water for these uses.

With an interest in the benefits of a water reuse program, I have had the opportunity to make contact with the Bureau of Reclamation on this subject during the past several years. The Bureau, which oversees a number of these programs in other parts of the country, seems to be receptive to helping to fund a reuse program in Western Washington. In order to help make federal grant funds available to the District for a reuse project, Commissioner Bev Tweddle recently traveled to Washington D.C. on two occasions to testify in support of legislation which would authorize funding for reuse projects here and in other areas of the country. Other board members and staff have contributed support and provided information to encourage federal participation in a District reuse project as well.

All in all, our mission still remains to provide the best service to our customers at the most reasonable cost. We welcome your calls and comments.

Leonard D. Englund
Commissioner

Charles I. Gibson
Commissioner

Timothy A. McClain
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Donald L.P. Miller
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Ronald E. Nowicki
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South 320th and Pacific Highway South Intersection Improvement Project

The City of Federal Way and Lakehaven Utility District have entered into an Interlocal Agreement on this intersection improvement project. South 320th Street at the Pacific Highway intersection will be improved to provide three (3) through lanes and double left turn lanes on S 320th Street for both east and west bound traffic. West bound traffic will also have a dedicated right turn lane on to Pacific Highway north bound.

Modification to the District's water facilities are required. Up to 450 feet of 12-inch water main will be relocated along with the installation of 4 new fire hydrants. Trenching, re-paving, and traffic control in this high traffic area is also included. To accomplish this work the District and the City of Federal Way entered into an Interlocal Agreement to maximize the coordination of this effort. The District will "piggyback" on the City's design and construction contracts. In other words, the District will utilize the City's design consultant, CH2M Hill, to provide the water plans and specifications. The District will also use the City's construction contractor, R.W. Scott Construction, for the actual construction work required on the project. The District has agreed to pay the City the estimated design costs and the actual construction costs. Not only is maximum coordination achieved, but costs are minimized by this arrangement. Construction management is also provided by the City's consultant under the monitoring of the District's staff in relation to the water facilities.

The bid for both the street and water portions was for \$2,402,277.40. The District's portion of construction costs is \$160,622.66 to be adjusted by final costs. Total costs to the District which include design, construction management and contingencies is estimated to be \$209,007.33.

R. W. Scott Construction provided a tight construction schedule at the Pre-construction Conference. The project is to be substantially complete before December 31st. Underground work on water facilities is to begin by August 21, 2000 and be completed by the first week in October.

Status of the NE Tacoma/Federal Way Transmission Main Project

The NE Tacoma/Federal Way Transmission Main Project is operational! The entire project, which provides a nine mile direct pipeline from Tacoma to Federal Way, is in the final stages of completion. The \$16 million dollar pipeline project became operational on June 29th, 2000. The final site restoration work is expected to be complete by the end of September. The most visible portion of the project is Lakehaven's flow control facility at 1st Way S under the Bonneville Power Lines, the terminus of this project.

Eventually, the NE Tacoma/Federal Way Transmission Main Project will be used as part of the Second Supply Project that will extend the 60-inch diameter pipeline from 1st Way S to Howard Hanson Dam in the foothills of the Cascades. The participants in this larger regional water supply project, Tacoma, Seattle, Kent, Covington and Lakehaven, have a draft agreement which will make Green River water available for South King and Pierce Counties. This regional project includes an additional 33 miles of pipe, numerous fish and habitat enhancement elements, additional water storage, and as much as 65 million gallons of water a day for future use. Lakehaven would receive a 1/9 share of the project's water. It is anticipated that the agreement could be signed near the end of the year with construction completed in the year 2005.

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ASR Technical Advisory Committee

In the last legislative session Lakehaven Utility District successfully sponsored a bill that would allow the Department of Ecology to permit an aquifer as an underground water storage reservoir. When the new law went into effect on June 8, 2000, Lakehaven submitted a permit application to classify the Mirror Lake Aquifer as a storage reservoir. The Mirror Lake Aquifer is a large pocket of sands and gravel located approximately 300 feet below ground in the vicinity of Mirror Lake. The aquifer has the potential to store 9.4 billion gallons of water. That's enough water to supply Lakehaven customers for nearly two and a half years!



Left to right: Representative Kelli Linville, Governor Locke, Mark Triplett, and John Bowman

Unfortunately, since the legislation is so new, the rules have not been written on how to process such an application or how to manage this type of facility. In July, the Department of Ecology set up an Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Technical Advisory Group to help write these rules for Washington State. Since Lakehaven has the only application in under this new legislation, we will be participating with the Department of Ecology in the development of these rules. This is an exciting opportunity not only for Lakehaven, but also for other water suppliers around the State. With the ability to store and recover water from aquifer reservoirs, utilities will be capable of supplying water through drought years or other types of emergencies. Water suppliers will also be able to use this tool to better manage the water needs of both people and the environment.

Field Day 2000

Every year during the 4th weekend in June, the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) holds their annual shakedown exercise or "Field Day." This is a 24-hour event where approximately 35,000 amateur radio operators ("hams"), throughout the U.S. and Canada, operate on emergency power only and fine-tune their radio skills. The idea is to put together a self-sufficient working station quickly and begin making contacts. The Federal Way Amateur Radio Club (FWARC) participated in the Field Day for the second year and set up their site at the Top Foods/Wal-Mart RV parking area.



The concern and support towards emergency preparedness in the greater Federal Way area was evident through the outpouring of support by local businesses. Many helped sponsor this event in the form of food and supplies for the many radio club volunteers. The FWARC managed to maintain and operate six radio stations all using generator power during this period. In real life, these stations could be passing emergency traffic messages for police, fire or other emergency support groups.

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The Federal Way Amateur Radio Club is a non-profit volunteer organization that provides auxiliary communication for public service agencies and is a participating member of the Federal Way Emergency Management Planning Committee. Our representatives for Lakehaven Utility District are Ron McCoy and Rich Fujimoto pictured.

Your Board of Commissioners

Beverly J. Tweddle - President

Donald L. P. Miller - Vice President

Tom Jovanovich - Secretary

Dick Mayer - Commissioner

Ed Stewart - Commissioner

Regular Board of Commissioners meetings are held at the Lakehaven Center at 31531 First Ave. S., Federal Way at 6 p.m.

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