

SOUTHWEST SUBURBAN SEWER DISTRICT

December 2005



Ratepayer News

DISTRICT 2005 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Inside this issue:

2005 Accomplishments	1
2006 Rates	1
Sewer Rate Comparison	2

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON BACK

During the past year your sewer dollars have been at work catching up on preventative maintenance throughout the District. In addition, the first of many necessary line replacement projects is underway.

A number of projects were budgeted in 2005. They include:

- Completion of the Rehabilitation of Pump Station #7—\$250,000
- Installed a pipe liner in a pipe on 1st Avenue So.—\$30,000

- Smoke tested 20,000 lineal feet of sewer mains.
- Cleaned the digesters at Miller Creek Treatment Plant and installed new covers—\$250,000
- Replaced the boiler at Miller Creek Treatment Plant—\$40,000
- Replaced the roof on the primary clarifiers at Miller Creek Plant—\$40,000
- Nearing completion on a \$2,000,000 pipe rehabilitation project in the North Highline area.
- Replaced 20 year old sewer cleaning and inspection equipment to improve efficiency, identify problems and extend the life of existing lines.
- Installed a variety of power conservation projects replacing 20 year old equipment with energy efficient motors and controls.

The majority of the sewer system is over 50 years old and in need of major repair or replacement. More projects are budgeted for 2006 and future years.

2006 RATES

Last year the Board of Commissioners spent a great deal of time working on the budget with the Citizens Advisory Committee, identifying methods of paying for needed repairs and replacements. The Citizens Advisory Committee recommended raising rates from \$13.50 to \$21 per month. The Board decided to phase in the rate increase over five years. The strategy was discussed at the public Rate Hearing held December 14th, 2004. Rates were raised to \$17.50 on January 1, 2005.

At the regular Board Meeting held November 8th, 2005, the Board of Commissioners ap-

proved a rate increase of \$2.00 per month. **Effective January 1, 2006, the new rate will be \$19.50 per month.** The District's rates will still be the second lowest in King County and just over 50% of the average King County sewer bill. A rate comparison chart is provided on the back of this newsletter comparing rates through the current year.

The Board of Commissioners will continue to look for low interest loans and grants, however the bulk of the repair and replacement costs of the aging sewer system will be paid with rates.

STREET LIGHTS: During the past year, City Light performed a street light audit and discovered that the District was not paying for a number of street lights that were our responsibility. In addition, the City of Burien requested the District accept responsibility for arterial lighting that King County is no longer paying. During 2005, the street lighting costs exceeded street light revenues by \$1,000 per month. After reviewing the costs related to street lighting, the Board of Commissioners **raised rates from \$.85 per month to \$1.10 per month.**

District Office:

431 SW Ambaum Boulevard
Burien, Washington 98166
Phone: 206-244-9575
Fax: 206-433-8546

Forms can be downloaded from the District website to apply for the low income rate discount or to set up electronic bill-payer service:
www.swssd.com

You are invited to attend the monthly Board of Commissioners meetings at the District Office on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Commissioners:

Tony Genzale, President
William Tracy, Vice-President
Scott Hilsen, Secretary

MONTHLY SEWER RATE COMPARISON THROUGH 2005

AGENCY:	PHONE NO.	2003 RATE	2004 RATE	2005 RATE	
SEATTLE	206-684-3000	\$ 51.90	\$ 44.25	\$ 49.35	*
VASHON SEWER	206-463-9219	\$ 34.25	\$ 40.00	\$ 47.50	*
SKYWAY	206-772-7343	\$ 41.41	\$ 43.53	\$ 46.24	*
NE SAMMAMISH	425-868-1144	\$ 41.43	\$ 41.41	\$ 45.05	*
ISSAQUAH	425-837-3050	\$ 35.12	\$ 37.40	\$ 43.61	*
SAMMAMISH PLATEAU	425-392-6256	\$ 38.25	\$ 38.25	\$ 43.60	*
WOODINVILLE	425-483-9104	\$ 38.30	\$ 40.85	\$ 43.05	*
BLACK DIAMOND	253-631-0351	\$ 41.44	\$ 41.44	\$ 41.44	*
SOOS CREEK	253-630-9900	\$ 38.20	\$ 38.20	\$ 40.40	*
RENTON	425-430-6852	\$ 36.06	\$ 36.44	\$ 39.03	*
COAL CREEK	425-235-9200	\$ 34.40	\$ 34.30	\$ 38.51	*
CEDAR RIVER W & S	425-255-6370	\$ 37.15	\$ 37.15	\$ 37.15	*
MERCER ISLAND	206-236-3560	\$ 37.73	\$ 40.31	\$ 36.06	*
LAKE FOREST PARK	206-368-5440	\$ 32.07	\$ 32.07	\$ 35.58	*
BELLEVUE	425-452-2977	\$ 38.70	\$ 36.33	\$ 35.57	*
SHORELINE W/W MGMT.	206-546-2494	\$ 31.60	\$ 44.93	\$ 35.00	*
AUBURN	253-931-3038	\$ 32.65	\$ 32.65	\$ 34.85	*
REDMOND	425-556-2152	\$ 32.59	\$ 32.59	\$ 34.79	*
ALGONA	253-833-2741	\$ 32.52	\$ 32.52	\$ 34.72	*
KIRKLAND	425-828-1124	\$ 38.38	\$ 38.25	\$ 34.60	*
NORTHSHORE	425-398-4400	\$ 32.75	\$ 33.25	\$ 34.50	*
TUKWILA	206-433-0179	\$ 28.40	\$ 30.40	\$ 32.60	*
VAL-VUE SEWER DISTRICT	206-242-3236	\$ 29.40	\$ 29.40	\$ 32.60	*
KENT	253-856-5201	\$ 31.27	\$ 31.27	\$ 31.27	*
ALDERWOOD	425-743-4605	\$ 26.73	\$ 26.78	\$ 28.92	
LAKEHAVEN	253-941-1516	\$ 22.46	\$ 22.46	\$ 22.46	
MIDWAY	206-824-4960	\$ 17.00	\$ 17.00	\$ 18.00	
SW SUBURBAN	206-244-9575	\$ 13.50	\$ 13.50	\$ 17.50	
AVERAGE		\$ 33.77	\$ 34.53	\$ 36.21	

* TREATED BY KING COUNTY METRO