

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

May 9th, 2024

1. **Readings** – Currently taking our fourth set of readings for 2024.
2. **Meetings and Calls – (Virtual Via Zoom, Google Meet, and Microsoft Teams platforms)**
 - Virtually met with the City's Green Infrastructure (GI) Working Groups on the following dates:
 - GI Coordination/Maintenance: 3/22, 4/5, 4/19, 5/3
 - GI Policy: 3/15, 3/29
 - GI Working Group: 4/11
 - Attended “A Vision for the Future of Preservation in Boston” at City Hall. (3/12)
 - Virtually met with students from Boston College to discuss their research project regarding possible improvements to the Symphony Hall area in the Fenway. (3/13)
 - Virtually met with Abdulrhman Almalki, PhD program in Geotechnical Engineering at Northeastern University, to discuss the impact of sea-level rise on infrastructure. (3/20)
 - Spoke at the 17th annual utility construction kickoff meeting about preserving our observation wells throughout construction. (3/28)
 - Virtually attended the Boston Water & Sewer Commission meeting. (4/4)
 - Virtually met with Kristen Peterson, Tufts University/Simpson, Gumpertz, & Heger, to discuss her GIS class project about groundwater. (4/2)
 - Virtually met with Purvi Patel, Assistant Director for Water Policy at EEA, to discuss groundwater and the City-State Groundwater Working Group. (4/18,4/23)
 - Met with Elliott Laffer, of the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay, to discuss serving as Trustee. (4/23)
 - Virtually met with Councilor Sharon Durkan. (4/24)
 - Virtually met with the project team for the 165 Park Drive project in the Fenway to review GCOD requirements. (4/25)
 - Virtually met with BPDA staff and proponents to review the GCOD requirements for the 615 Albany Street Project Office-to-Residential Application in the South End. (4/25)
 - Attended the Fenway CDC 51st Annual Meeting. (4/25)



- Along with BWSC personnel I conducted site visits with the Central Branch of the BPL and 1 Trinity Place buildings in the Back Bay. (4/30)
 - I attended and presented at the May Boston Water & Sewer Commission Commissioners meeting. (5/2)
 - Virtually testified at the March and April Zoning Board of Appeals hearings.
 - Communicated with residents, engineers, attorneys, & developers throughout the GCOD to discuss ZBA procedures and advised them on what they need to submit to meet the GCOD zoning.
3. **BluCloud Automated Readers Update-** I spoke with Daniel McCormack of BluCloud on 5/1 to review the performance of the units deployed and the current data hub interface.
4. **City & State Agency Updates**
- The Boston Water & Sewer Commission (BWSC) has various repair contracts in the design phase, focusing on Lower Beacon Hill, North End, South End, and Back Bay. Anticipated repairs are scheduled for the North End during the upcoming Summer or early Fall season. BWSC continues its investigative work across neighborhoods with low groundwater levels, utilizing televised inspections to detect and repair leaks.
 - All City-State Groundwater Working Group partners are actively inspecting manholes, pipes, and sewer laterals within low groundwater level zones. In April, the group convened to share progress updates on their work.
 - The Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) has outlined plans for the interim rehabilitation of the Storrow Drive underpass. The underpass evaluation will precede contract preparation for bidding, with the projected commencement of work estimated at around 18 months from now. Nightly closures are likely anticipated for the repair operations to enhance safety and efficiency.

