



NEWS & NOTES

A PUBLICATION OF THE MWRA ADVISORY BOARD

JANUARY 2011

FY12 PRELIMINARY WATER & SEWER ASSESSMENTS

The MWRA will distribute preliminary community water and sewer assessments by February 20th. Wastewater assessments will be calculated utilizing the 2000 Federal Census Data, which was last updated July 2009 and distributed to communities this past July. This is consistent with prior practice at the Authority and the Advisory Board concurs with this approach

If the Authority attempted to utilize the 2010 Federal Census figures, not only would the data be raw and untested, it also might not be available until late March; this would delay the setting of preliminary wastewater assessments until April.

The 2010 Federal Census Data will be utilized in setting the FY13 wastewater assessments.

2011-2012 LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

The Advisory Board staff, along with MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey, recently visited MWRA Legislative Caucus Chairman Ron Mariano at the State House to file the 2011-2012 Legislative Package. The package included 11 pieces of legislation that were being refiled from the previous session along with one new piece of legislation that would grant any accrued wages or benefits to the appropriate heir or beneficiary upon the death of any active or retired MWRA employee. Chairman Mariano, Representative Stanley and Senator Petrucci filed the legislation on behalf of the MWRA Advisory Board and the Authority.

GOVERNOR PATRICK'S HOUSE 1 RECOMMENDATIONS

On January 26th, Governor Patrick released his budget for FY2012. The Governor's budget did include an outside section for expansion of the bottle bill, however, the funds were not slated for debt service assistance. In addition, there was not any funding included for the Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant, as well as any other funding for debt service assistance. Despite this, the Advisory Board, along with the Authority, will continue to make its

presence known on Beacon Hill by continuing to advocate for these initiatives throughout the upcoming months as the legislative and budget process develops.

MMA PANEL DISCUSSION

On January 21, 2011 the MWRA Advisory Board hosted a workshop at the MMA's Conference at the Hynes Convention Center. The discussion was entitled "An Environmental Success Story: MWRA's 25-year Journey through Rates, Regulations and Ultimately Rebirth." There was a lively discussion amongst the panelists and those in attendance that proved to be an insightful and informative discussion. The Advisory Board was pleased that 90 people attended and participated in the forum, which was vital in making it a success.



Pictured above are the panelists from the MMA Conference, from left to right: Fred Laskey, MWRA Exec. Dir; Robert Varney, Former EPA Reg. Admin; Katherine Dunphy, MWRA AB Chair; William Golden, Former State Senator; Robert DeLeo, Speaker of the House and John Carroll, Vice Chair of the MWRA Board of Directors and Moderator for the event.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Feb. 3 Joint WAC/WSCAC Meeting in Boston
- Feb. 11 Advisory Board Executive Committee Meeting
- Feb. 16 MWRA Board of Directors Meeting
- Feb. 17 AB Meeting at Bradley Estate in Canton
- Feb. 21 President's Day-Office Closed

If you have any questions regarding topics raised in this newsletter or any other MWRA issue, please contact:

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