

From: [Tabatha Wiggins](#)
To: [Ben Shumaker](#)
Cc: [Eric Hansen](#); [Carla Cosentino](#); [Bratz, Cyndy](#); [Bob Craig](#); [Kari Fagerness](#); [Pat Albaugh](#)
Subject: Re: Walking Man Sewer Rates and EDA Grant
Date: Tuesday, August 08, 2017 10:33:12 AM

Hi Ben,

Thank you for meeting with us and for the encouragement that we can find working solutions to a huge community problem. I am on board to help in any way I can. Although a huge issue, we can tackle it together.

It's very unfortunate that the city hasn't taken previous measures to anticipate the \$15M upgrade our plant requires. It's also unfortunate that the businesses that drive the bulk of our economy, tourism/hospitality, will bear the biggest burden. How long has the city known the plant is inadequate and will require these upgrades? I don't direct this to you personally, but it feels the mess is the result of poor city planning. Additionally, the suggested growth data presented at the last pre-planning meeting was proven inaccurate. Has the data been corrected? Have other discrepancies been found?

Issuing permits to additional beverage producers with such high load expectations could have required pre-treatment right out of the gate. Those businesses and the Port in general are more equipped to invest in costly pre-treatment facilities than our small business. I do appreciate that the impact will be based on a tiered system of actual output. As you mentioned, Walking Man began implementing daily practices to reduce our load as soon as we were aware of the issue. I would like to request a re-test as soon as possible to determine if these practices are directly effecting the output of BOD. They are labor intensive, which is also an expense.

Regarding our single output sewer line, also makes our "beverage industry" load misleading as the restaurant portion and production portion are combined. Short of re-plumbing our entire building, which is not economically possible, it would be fair to consider offsetting a portion for the restaurant side. This could be based on the average load of other local restaurants or directly on the percentage of our business done retail vs. production.

We know tourism contributes to the increased BOD load. A proposed city sales tax (even on food and/or beverage only) could be a workable solution. Many cities implement these types of taxes for system upgrades to offset the burden to the citizens and businesses that make the city thrive.

I have every confidence you'll do what you can to support the businesses that have sustained this community and contributed to its growth over the years. I will be at the hearing on August 24th. Please keep me informed of anything relevant until then.

Kind regards,

—

Tabatha Wiggins, Owner
WALKING MAN BREWING
STEVENSON, WASHINGTON
Pub: (509) 427-5520

Cell: (636) 725-8448

www.walkingmanbeer.com

On Aug 8, 2017, at 9:02 AM, Ben Shumaker <ben@ci.stevenson.wa.us> wrote:

Thanks for meeting with me, Tabatha.

As promised, here are the key pieces of information on the [Economic Development Administration grant](#). At this point, I don't think you need to worry about reviewing anything there in very much detail. As we move forward though, it should help you understand when and where I might need your assistance with the grant proposal. I will make sure that any of my requests are as targeted as possible.

In the meantime, it is good to hear about the process improvements you're implementing to be mindful of our situation. I'm sure it will help us bridge the time between now and the plant upgrade and keep all of us out of trouble with the Department of Ecology. At some point soon, Eric and I hope to schedule an informational meeting with some private pretreatment companies so that you can get a better idea about the costs/footprint/logistics of the systems that are available to help you make even more improvements.

Of more immediate interest to you, though, might be the draft 6-year financial plan that is included as 10.7 of the overall General Sewer Plan and the explanation and example of how the tiered structure for high strength users is being proposed. With those, you should be able to determine the overall impact this would have on your business. That knowledge may be able to help you solidify your thoughts on what you proposed at the meeting about 1) having 2 separate rates for each of your 2 separate uses (restaurant+brewery) and 2) devoting some portion of the City's sales tax receipts to the sewer system upgrades.

I know there is a lot of information in the attachments and, trust me, I know how it can be easy to get overwhelmed looking at it. Please don't be daunted, and know that if there's anything you need, any question you have, or any other ideas you want to run by me, I am available to help you give the most meaningful feedback you can to the City Council.

Though I didn't discuss this at the meeting, I would also encourage you to talk to [Kari at the EDC](#) to see whether their loan program could help you cover the grant's required match.

If I don't hear from you before then, I hope to see you at the public hearing: **Thursday, August 24th at 6:15pm at City Hall.**

We'll get through this.

Cheers,

BEN SHUMAKER
PLANNING DIRECTOR

CITY OF STEVENSON, WASHINGTON
(509) 427-5970

<EDA_GrantInfo.pdf><Draft Stevenson GSP and WWFP Update_2017-07-18.pdf><High Strength Rates DRAFT3 revised 8-3-17.pdf><High Strength examples Draft 8-3-17.pdf>