

Wastewater Consent Decree

January 25, 2017

SPU Customer Review Panel

Ben Marré,

DWW Planning & Program Mgmt. Division Director

Seattle
 Public
Utilities

Key Points

- Why did we say that we saved \$375M when we signed the Consent Decree?
- How did the Consent Decree and associated planning align with the 2015-2020 Strategic Business Plan?
- Why did the 2018-2020 planned spending change?

What did we know and when did we know it?

Activities Leading up to Consent Decree

March 2008 EPA conducted an audit/inspection

- Inadequate sewer overflow prevention and response
- 20 Dry Weather Overflows between 2004-2007, including 3 due to power outages at pump stations
- Tidal inflow at 5 CSO outfalls
- A direct sanitary sewer connection to a CSO Outfall
- Majority of combined sewer basins were uncontrolled
- CSO Long-Term Control Plan was in early stages of development

August 2009 EPA issued an Administrative Order requiring SPU to complete early actions

Throughout, SPU focused on how best to meet its objectives

- Reduce risk of third party lawsuits
- Gain increased cooperation from King county

Consent Decree

Went into effect July 3, 2013

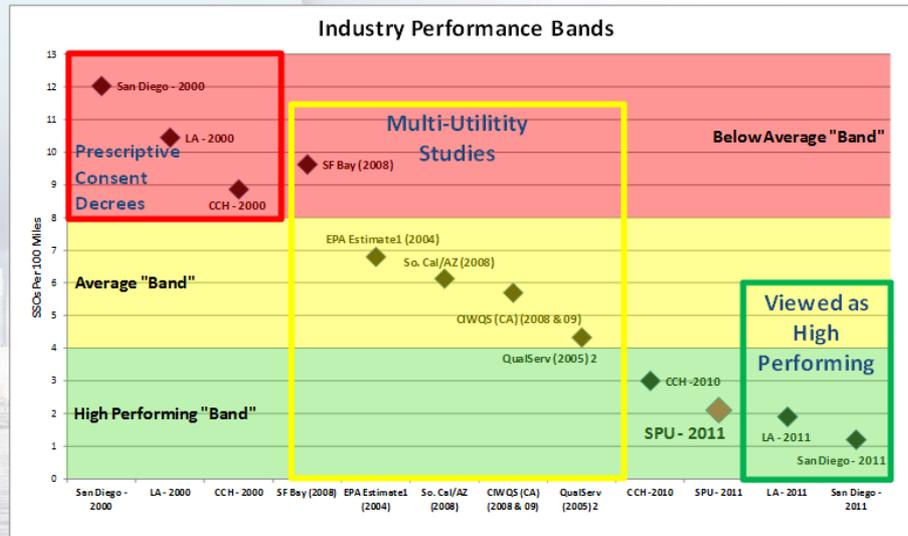
Sets expectations for combined sewer overflows (CSOs), dry weather overflows (DWOs), and sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs):

- CSOs – Must control to ≤ 1 /outfall/year on a 20-year moving average, per the State performance standard (WAC 173-245-020(22))
- DWOs – These are prohibited
- SSOs - Must set and meet an SSO performance standard with the goal of eliminating all SSOs. (≤ 4 SSOs/100 miles/year over a two-year average)

Adaptive Management

Opportunity for a Performance Based Approach

Seattle
Public
Utilities



5

Saved approximately \$375M by continuing use of asset management principles to achieve high performance

5

Two Approaches: Financial Impact Projected using LA unit costs 2012-2021

Seattle
Public
Utilities

	SPU Approach	LA Approach
Dollars per mile per year	\$ 13,000	\$ 24,000
Miles of system	1500	1500
Dollars per year	\$ 19,500,000	\$ 36,000,000
Savings per year		\$ 16,500,000
Savings over 10 year CD		\$ 165,000,000

14



City of Seattle
Office of the Mayor

News

For Immediate Release
May 21, 2012

Contact: Andy Ryan, Seattle Public Utilities
Tel: (206) 684-7688

City, state, fed plan would protect local waters from pollutants

Proposed agreement expected to save ratepayers more than \$375 million

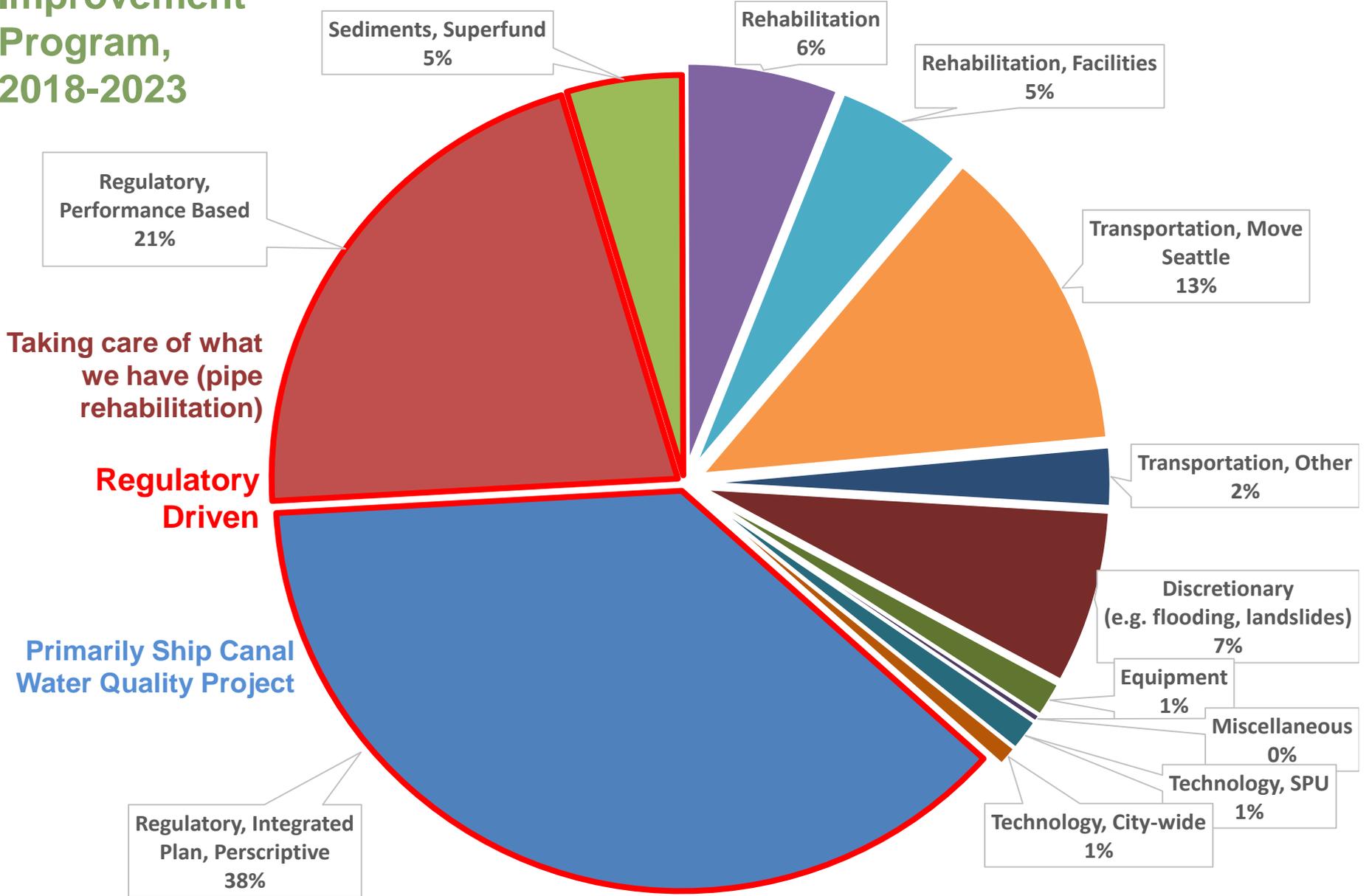
SEATTLE — Blame it on the rain.

Every year, Seattle's iconic rain washes millions of gallons of untreated sewage and stormwater into the city's waterways, threatening human and aquatic health and the region's quality of life.

Consent Decree - Required Plans

- Required the City to develop and implement plans:
 - Long Term Control Plan (LTCP)
 - Post Construction Monitoring Plan
 - Capacity, Management, Operations and Maintenance (CMOM) Performance Program Plan
 - Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Control Program Plan
 - Joint Operations and System Optimization Plan
 - Floatable Solids Observation Plan
- Allowed the City to develop and implement an Integrated Plan in lieu of the LTCP

DWW Capital Improvement Program, 2018-2023



Taking care of what we have (pipe rehabilitation)

Regulatory Driven

Primarily Ship Canal Water Quality Project

Regulatory, Integrated Plan, Prescriptive
38%

Regulatory, Performance Based
21%

Sediments, Superfund
5%

Rehabilitation
6%

Rehabilitation, Facilities
5%

Transportation, Move Seattle
13%

Transportation, Other
2%

Discretionary (e.g. flooding, landslides)
7%

Equipment
1%

Miscellaneous
0%

Technology, SPU
1%

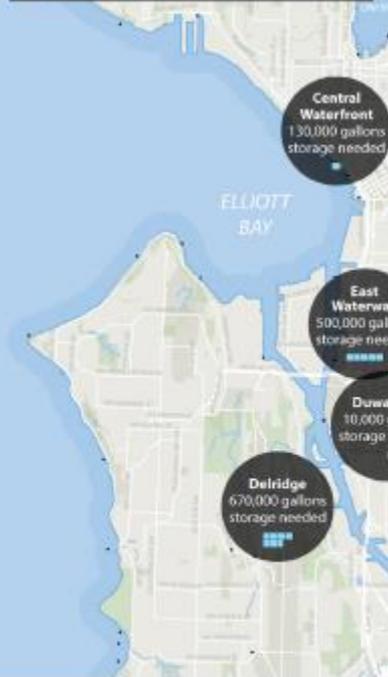
Technology, City-wide
1%

Plan Development Milestones

Year	Wastewater Consent Decree	2015 Strategic Business Plan	Plan to Protect Seattle's Waterways
2013	July - Consent Decree entered into federal register	April – Began working with Customer Review Panel	
2014	well aligned	June – Completed working with Customer Review Panel, SBP sent to Council August – Council adopted SBP	May – Issued draft plan
2015		changed cash flow assumptions made in SBP	February – Agreement with King County to jointly construct tunnel rather than 7 independent storage projects May – Council adopts plan September – EPA & Ecology approve plan



- City Storage Project
- City Tunnel & Conveyance
- Green Infrastructure Project
- City Sewer System Improvement Project
- 100,000 Gallons Storage Capacity
- City-Managed CSO Outfalls



SOURCE: Wayworks, 2014; SPU, 2014.

Figure 1-2. Neighborhood Storage Option

Changes as the plan was finalized had a significant impact on cash flow, but not overall program cost

PUGET SOUND



- 100,000 Gallons Storage Capacity
 - SPU-Managed Outfalls
- Stormwater Management Projects**
- South Park Water Quality Facility
 - Street Sweeping Expansion – Arterials
 - Natural Drainage Systems Partnering

- Sewage Overflow Control Projects**
- Shared projects to be built by 2025
 - City storage projects to be built by 2025
 - City storage projects to be built by 2030
 - City sewer improvement project to be built by 2020

Figure ES-5. Integrated Plan Alternative

Discussion