



# IACC Quarterly

Winter 2009

## Upcoming Events

Washington Chapter APWA  
Spring Conference  
April 7-10  
Tacoma Convention Center  
www.cityoftacoma.org/APWA

Washington Association of  
Sewer & Water Districts  
2009 Spring Conference &  
Tradeshow  
April 23-24  
Yakima Convention Center  
Red Lion (509) 248-5900

Association of Washington  
Cities Annual Conference  
June 23-26  
Spokane  
www.awcnet.org

Washington Association of  
Sewer & Water Districts  
September 16-18  
Lake Chelan Campbell Resort  
www.waswd.org

American Public Works  
Association  
Kennewick Three Rivers  
Convention Center  
October 20-23  
www.apwa-wa.org

## IACC Quarterly

IACC Quarterly is produced by the Infrastructure Assistance Coordinating Council (IACC), which promotes partnerships among federal, state, and local programs; works to enhance efficiency and coordination in the delivery of financial and technical assistance; acts as a forum to discuss issues that get in the way of helping local governments meet their infrastructure needs; and sponsors training workshops and conferences in these arenas throughout the year.

Editor - Christina Gagnon  
Christina.Gagnon@pwb.wa.gov

## Set Up Your Own Tech Team Meeting? Yes, You Can!

By Cathi Read, CTED

Tech teams are not just limited to the IACC Conference. We encourage you to consider setting up a tech team meeting yourself, in your own community.

### Tech teams at the IACC Conference

At the annual Infrastructure Assistance Coordinating Council (IACC) Conference, we have been offering to put together technical teams, or "tech teams," for communities for many years – we have held more than 80 tech team meetings at the conference since 2001!

These meetings have included staff from funding programs, regulatory agencies, the Office of Regulatory Assistance, and other



Tech team members discuss ideas with members of the Plymouth Water District at the 2008 IACC Conference. Photo by Cathi Read

technical assistance providers. During the 90-minute tech team meetings at the conference, a panel of staff from federal and state programs, and other technical assistance providers join community representatives to discuss an infrastructure problem (or opportunity) that the community is facing.

Tech team members help community representatives frame the problem clearly, explore possible solutions, identify key regulatory planning and financing programs that should be involved, answer as many questions as possible, and develop an action plan.

**See Tech Team Page 2**

## Walla Walla WTP Upgrade Provides Needed Irrigation Water

By Terry Dale, PWB

The City of Walla Walla recently completed a \$32 million project to bring the wastewater treatment plant "up to the highest standards" for water reuse plants. Walla Walla was required by court order to bring the wastewater treatment plant into compliance with Department of Ecology's Class A reclaimed water regulations.

The plant will produce water for irrigation in the summer to two irrigation districts for businesses



to feed their livestock and water crops. The plant has been providing local irrigation for 81 years and is one of the oldest continuously used wastewater treatment plants in Washington.

Class A reclaimed water has the most diverse uses of all reclaimed water. It is used to water landscape, certain crops, stock, etc.

"This project involved the collaborative efforts of the City of Walla Walla, the Department of Ecology, and the Department of Health," said Maryanne Guichard, Director, Department of Health's Office of Shellfish and Water Protection. "Its successful completion will provide water that, although not suitable for drinking, can be used for any other municipal or agricultural purpose. This is water conservation at its best."

City of Walla Walla staff have attended many IACC conferences,

and have benefitted from these collaborate efforts between agencies.

According to Don Montfort, Public Works Board member, "The Public Works Board was delighted to join IACC partners in planning and funding this project with the City of Walla Walla. Helping a community achieve these carefully conceived and constructed facilities that benefit the entire region's health, environmentally and economically, is just.....cool."

The project received funding from the Public Works Trust Fund, Department of Ecology, and local funds.

This project helps Walla Walla with its historic struggle with sufficient water during the long, dry summer months.



## More Coming Events

Public Works Board Construction Loan Application Workshops:  
Spokane - March 17  
Pasco - March 18  
Everett - March 25  
Tacoma - March 26  
<http://www.pwb.wa.gov/>

IACC Annual Conference  
October 14-16 2009  
Wenatchee Convention Center  
[janaee@cted.wa.gov](mailto:janaee@cted.wa.gov)  
<http://www.infracfunding.wa.gov/>

## Infrastructure Assistance Coordinating Council (IACC)

Cathi Read, Chair  
(360) 725-3016  
[cathir@cted.wa.gov](mailto:cathir@cted.wa.gov)

Janice Roderick, Vice Chair  
(360) 704-7739  
[janice.roderick@wa.usda.gov](mailto:janice.roderick@wa.usda.gov)

Debbie Harper, Treasurer  
(360) 704-7764  
[debbie.harper@wa.usda.gov](mailto:debbie.harper@wa.usda.gov)

Lynn Kohn, Secretary  
(360) 725-3042  
[lynnk@cted.wa.gov](mailto:lynnk@cted.wa.gov)

Janae Eddy, Conference Chair  
(360) 725-3006  
[janaee.cted.wa.gov](mailto:janaee.cted.wa.gov)



## A Tool for your Tool Box –

### CTED's Capital Facilities Planning Tool

By Lynn Kohn, CTED

CTED recently completed a project to convert a Capital Facilities Planning Tool from a CD with limited instructions to a web-based tool with step-by-step instructions and examples.

The tool can be found on CTED's website at:  
[www.cted.wa.gov/cfp](http://www.cted.wa.gov/cfp).

The Capital Facilities Planning Tool is a set of Word and Excel templates that can be used to:

- Help inventory your capital assets

### Tech Team - from page 1

Although tech teams at the IACC Conference are very popular, they do have limitations: the meetings are limited in terms of participants, duration; and the conference only happens once a year.

#### Hold a tech team meeting in your own community

Fortunately, tech team meetings are not restricted to the annual IACC Conference - they are held throughout the year around the state, organized both by agency staff and by local staff. Sometimes just one meeting is needed; sometimes a group meets over a period of several years during the development of an infrastructure project.

Holding tech team meetings locally has some advantages over the tech teams held at the con-

- Determine their condition and capacity
- Link capital facility needs with your comprehensive plan policies
- Prioritize projects
- Determine project costs
- Identify revenues

Put it all together and you will have a capital facility plan that can be incorporated into your Comprehensive Plan.

For more information, contact Lynn Kohn, Senior Planner with the Local Government Division of CTED: 360-725-3042 or

ference: you can have more local representatives attend; you can take agency staff on a tour of the area you are discussing; you can have the meeting when it makes sense for your project, not just when the conference is held; and your meeting can be longer than 90 minutes.

#### Local teams

When you set up a tech team meeting in your own community, it is important to consider who will be a part of your 'local team.' The local team should be made up of anyone involved in making the project happen - elected officials, public works staff, clerk-treasurer, planner, city administrator, and any other relevant local players. You should also include your engineering consultant.

#### Tips for setting up a tech team meeting

Many agency staff are willing to help you identify whom to



email: [lynnk@cted.wa.gov](mailto:lynnk@cted.wa.gov).

A downloadable brochure about the template can be found at CTED's website at: <http://www.cted.wa.gov/cfp>.

include on your tech team. You can facilitate the meeting yourself, or you can ask a member of your tech team to facilitate.

If you are setting up a tech team meeting yourself, the three most important things you can do to make the meeting a success are:

1. Send a project description to local and tech team members before the meeting
2. Send your meeting agenda to local and tech team members before the meeting
3. Designate someone to take notes, and distribute these notes to the entire group soon after the meeting. Include next steps/follow-up actions.

You don't have to wait for the next IACC Conference (October 2009) to have a tech team meeting to discuss your infrastructure project – consider setting up your own meeting in your community!

## Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants Program

By Phil Eggman, USDA RD

With storms causing havoc throughout Washington State in late 2008 and early 2009, USDA Rural Development offers Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants to assist applicants in obtaining water that meets standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

To qualify for the grant there has to have been a significant decline in quantity or quality within two years of application and there also must be a Presidential emergency designation for the affected area.

Applicants can be public bodies (city, township, county, or special district), an Indian tribe, or a

non-profit corporation. Service area must be under 10,000 in population. Applicant must be unable to borrow money elsewhere at rates and terms to make the project affordable.

For more information, please contact USDA Rural Development Community Programs Office at (360) 704-7733.