

Additional Meeting

Materials

BOARD OF HEALTH

July 17, 2025

# Equitable Wastewater Futures Program

37,000 septic systems in urban King County!

Corrina Marote, Program Manager  
Equitable Wastewater Futures

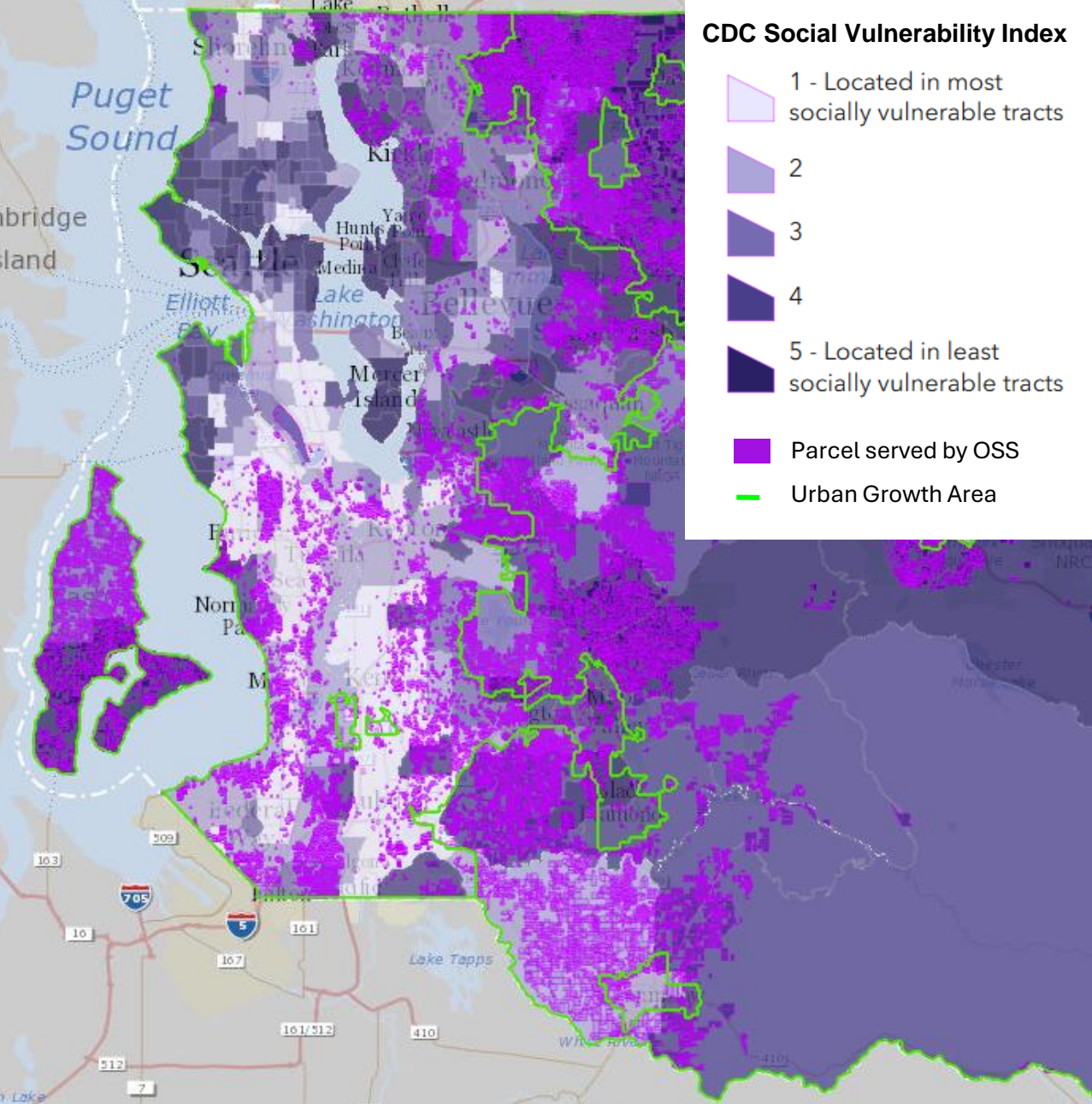
Meagan Jackson, Program Manager  
OSS Operation and Maintenance

Julie Horowitz, Strategic Advisor  
Environmental Health Services

Andrew LaRue, General Manager  
Valley View Sewer District

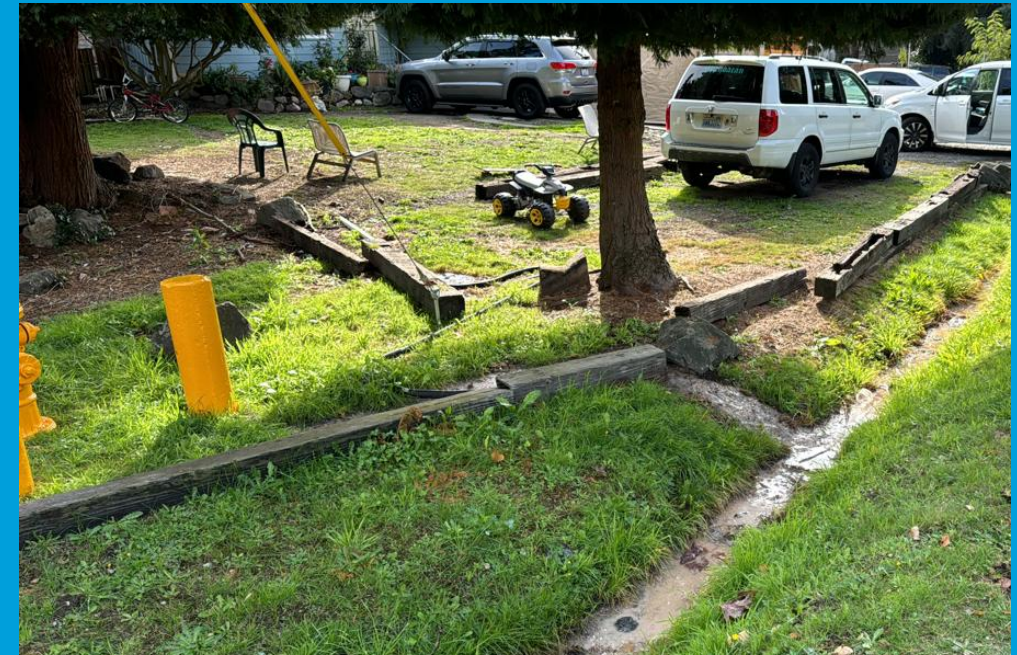






# AGING URBAN OSS

- 37,000 septic systems in urban King County
- Approximately 75% of them are over 30 years old
- Sewer extensions are needed in these areas



Septic Failure in Urban King County



# Costs for Septic to Sewer Conversion Exceed What is Feasible for Individual Property Owners

Project Type	Estimated Cost to Homeowner
Septic replacement	~ \$41,000
Sewer connection, stub fronting property	\$25,000 and up
Sewer connection, mainline extension needed	\$84,000 and up



# King County Climate Equity Capital Pool:

## Funded pilot projects that otherwise would be unaffordable

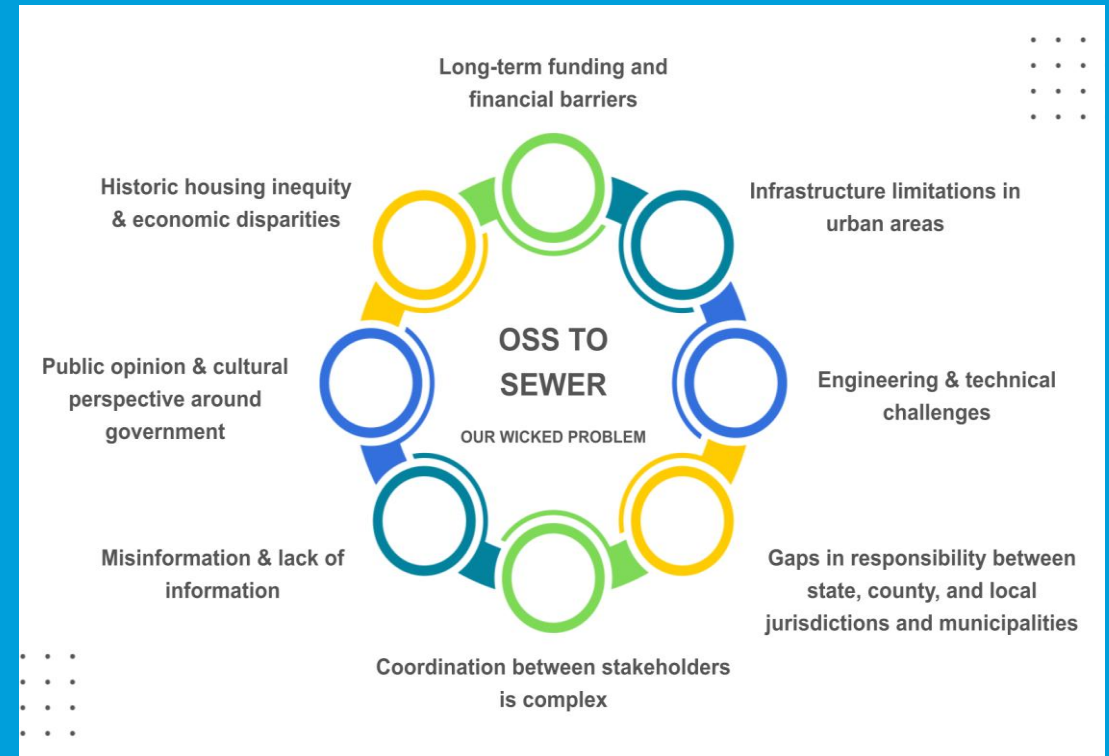




# Public Health Launched the Equitable Wastewater Futures Collaborative



Sewer districts, city planners, community representatives, and King County working together to find solutions to "wicked problem".



# Collaborative Solutions to Wicked Problem

## ISSUE

Lack of awareness of issue  
and responsibility gap



Gaps in available information to  
property owners



Limited funding sources for  
infrastructure expansion



## SOLUTION

Build partnerships to move  
creative solutions forward

Property owner education and  
community engagement

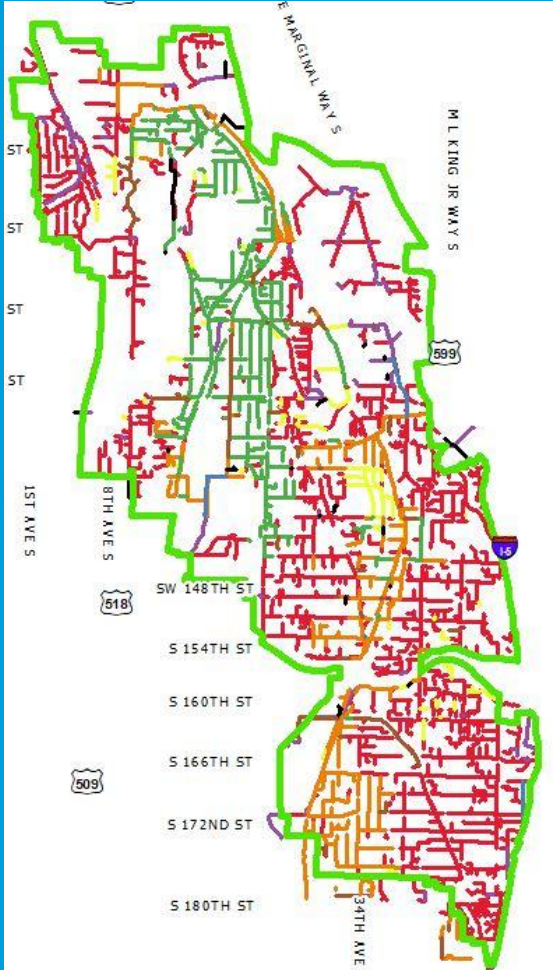
Prioritization and support for  
funding applications

# Panelist Introduction

**Andrew LaRue**  
General Manager  
Valley View Sewer District



# Aging Infrastructure...a Regional Issue



## Valley View Sewer District:

- 21.5 miles clay (1950s construction)
- 19.5 miles concrete (1960s construction)
- 4.25 miles asbestos cement
- ~\$150 million to rehab all sewer mainlines
- \$86 million in rehab projects are listed in Valley View Sewer District's 2023 Capital Improvement Plan



# 8<sup>th</sup> Ave South Estimated Connection Costs

Cost Item	Customer Costs if No Grants Were Available	With King County Grant
1. Mainline Sewer Construction (\$1.2 M / 17 Lots)	\$70,330	\$11,509
2. General Facility Charge for Valley View SD	\$7,510	\$7,510
3. King County Wastewater Capacity Charge	\$11,000	\$11,000
4. Side Sewer Construction & Septic Decommission	<u>\$12,000</u>	<u>\$12,000</u>
5. Total Estimated Cost to connect each lot to sewer	\$100,843	\$38,542
Monthly Payment (15 Years @ 3%   6%)	~\$1,085	\$330
Valley View SD Monthly Sewer Rate	\$76.67	
Total Estimated Average (Valley View SD & KC Wastewater Capacity Charge)	\$1,238	\$483

# Cross-jurisdictional Public Health Issue Requires Collaborative Problem Solving



Healthy Families



Affordable Housing



Clean Water Quality



Climate Change Mitigation





# Thank you!



For follow up questions: [KCBOHAdmin@kingcounty.gov](mailto:KCBOHAdmin@kingcounty.gov)