



A Note from WSSC Water's Intergovernmental Relations Office (IRO): Senate Delegations Approve WSSC Water Legislation: The Montgomery County and Prince George's County Senate Delegation gave unanimous FAVORABLE recommendations for the two local bills pertaining to WSSC Water: [HB 501 \(MC/PG 102-21\)](#) – *Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Board of Ethics – Financial Disclosure Statements – Late Fees* and [HB 789 \(MC/PG 100-21\)](#) – *Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Video Streaming and Archiving Meetings and Late Payment Charges*. Both pieces of legislation are scheduled to be heard by the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee on April 6, 2021.

WSSC Water's **Intergovernmental Relations Office (IRO)** will continue to advocate for legislation that supports WSSC Water's mission to provide safe and reliable water, life's most precious resource, and return clean water to our environment, all in an ethical, sustainable, and financially responsible manner. IRO looks at all legislation that impacts WSSC Water's administrative, operational and financial capability.

The Annapolis Observer is **IRO's** weekly update on happenings in Annapolis and highlights the progress of key bills of interest to WSSC Water, as well as other information.

Legislative Updates

Find the status of and position on WSSC Water-related bills in our [Legislative Update](#).

[HB 501 \(MC/PG 102-21\)](#) – *Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Board of Ethics – Financial Disclosure Statements – Late Fees: SUPPORT*. The Montgomery County House Delegation and Prince George's County House Delegation unanimously passed this bill. This WSSC Water-sponsored bill will authorize the WSSC Water Board of Ethics to impose a fee to individuals who file late or fail to file a financial disclosure statement. The House unanimously passed HB 501 on March 18, 2021. The bill is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee on April 6, 2021.

[HB 561](#) – *Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Wastewater, Thermal, and Other Renewable Sources: SUPPORT*. As amended, HB 561 expands Tier 1 renewable energy sources in the State's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard to include raw or treated wastewater used as a heat source or heat sink for a heating or cooling system, subject to specified requirements. Energy from such a system is eligible only if the system is connected with the electric distribution grid serving Maryland or processes wastewater from Maryland residents. The bill also allows producers of energy generated from wastewater heating or cooling systems to receive renewable energy credits. The bill passed the House by a vote of 112 to 20 and now moves to the Senate for final consideration. The Senate Finance Committee will hold the hearing for HB 561 on March 30th.

[HB 789 \(MC/PG 100-21\)](#) – *Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Video Streaming and Archiving Meetings and Late Payment Charges: SUPPORT w/ Amendment*. This bill requires the Commission to livestream its open meetings and to maintain a complete and unedited archived recording of each open meeting. Additionally, the bill specifies that financial assistance provided as part of the Customer Assistance

Program can include the reduction or waiver of fees, including late fees. Staff thanks the bill sponsor for the opportunity to work with them to address our concerns. The House unanimously passed HB 789, as amended, on March 18, 2021. HB 789 is scheduled to be heard by the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee on April 6, 2021.

Around WSSC Water

WSSC Water Seeks Development Proposals for Prime Parcel in Silver Spring Outdoors!

Coveted 12-Acre Site Sits Steps from Planned Lyttonsville Purple Line Rail Station

WSSC Water is seeking technically and financially viable proposals from qualified developers for the transfer of its approximately 12-acre parcel at 2501 Lyttonsville Road in Silver Spring, Maryland, in exchange for a suitable replacement site and maintenance facility.

The WSSC Water property, located on the southwest side of Lyttonsville Place and the west side of Lyttonsville Road, is 500 feet from the planned Lyttonsville Purple Line light rail station and existing Capital Crescent Trail. The attractive site is a short drive to downtown Silver Spring and its vast array of office buildings, restaurants, entertainment amenities and a variety of housing options, and 1.5 miles south of I-495 (Capital Beltway). Given its advantageous location and capacity to house new mixed-use development, the property is ideal for redevelopment. In exchange for this parcel, WSSC Water is requesting a comparable site that is owned or controlled by an offeror that will enable the water utility to build a new office/maintenance/garage building.

A pre-bid conference will be held virtually on Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. Responses to the Request for Proposal for the [Replacement Site and Service Center](#) are due by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, June 16, 2021.

Calendar

- April 12 – Sine Die
-

Related Links

[Maryland General Assembly](#)

- [Session Calendar \(PDF\)](#)
- [Track Legislation](#)

[Montgomery County Delegation](#)

[Prince George's County Delegation](#)

[Maryland Association of Counties](#)

[Maryland Municipal League](#)

Customer Assistance

WSSC Water has enhanced our financial assistance programs to help even more customers. Learn more at [WSSC Water's Customer Assistance Programs](#).

CUSTOMER ADVOCATES:

Our Customer Advocates are in your communities every day, carrying out their mission to serve as liaisons between you and WSSC Water, and ensuring that we are providing a high level of customer service.

Northern Prince George's County (areas north of Central Avenue, MD 214)

David Wilkins
David.Wilkins@wsscwater.com
301-648-6953

Southern Prince George's County (areas south of Central Avenue, MD 214)

Stephen Billingsley
Stephen.Billingsley@wsscwater.com
240-444-5803

Montgomery County
Brandon Stewart
Brandon.Stewart@wsscwater.com
301-642-1712

Find your Customer Advocate [here](#).

About IRO

WSSC Water's **Intergovernmental Relations Office (IRO)** team works to promote the *value of water* and the *value of WSSC Water*, engage *federal, state, county and local government* and elected stakeholders and advocate for WSSC Water's strategic interests and priorities; and foster *relationships* with organizations and promote collaborative interests.

In Annapolis, the **IRO** team works with members to support administratively and fiscally responsible legislation, in addition to championing policy that benefits all water utilities throughout Maryland. WSSC Water is committed to increased statewide investment in water and wastewater infrastructure and sound regulatory initiatives.

Meet the IRO Team

Karyn Riley, Esq. – *IRO Director*
Karyn.Riley@wsscwater.com

Guy Andes – *Government Affairs Manager*
State Affairs and Prince George's County Affairs
Guy.Andes@wsscwater.com

Monica Marquina – *Government Affairs Manager*
Municipal Affairs and Montgomery County Affairs
Monica.Marquina@wsscwater.com

Terry Walker-Morris – *Administrative Professional*
Terry.Walker-Morris@wsscwater.com

Contact Us

(301) 206-8228
iro@wsscwater.com

Please click [here](#) for a printable sheet of our key contacts.



Subscribe to the Annapolis Observer here!

For over 100 years, WSSC Water has proudly served the citizens of Prince George's and Montgomery counties – providing drinking water that has always met strict Safe Drinking Water Act standards and protecting the environment through vital water resource recovery services. Our vision is to be THE world-class water utility, where excellent products and services are always on tap. www.wsscwater.com