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VIA EMAIL: Kelsey.lindquist@slcgov.com

Historic Landmark Commission
SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION
451 South State Street, Room 326
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

cc: Holly Mullen, Communications and Engagement Manager (holly.mullen@slcgov.com)
Cindy Gubler, Facility Process Manager, Wilkinson, Ferrari & Co. (cindy@wfandco.com)

Re: 4th Avenue Well – HLC PLNHLC2018-00557 and PLNHLC2018-00558
WFC 4th Avenue Well Facilitation Process
Salt Lake GRAMA Case No. C071272-110719
Comment: Well Criticality Supplemental Note and December 2, 2019 Wilkinson, Ferrari & Co. Informational Meeting¹

Ms. Lindquist:

Please add this comment-letter to the Historic Landmark Commission hearing record on this matter. At page 8 of the December 1, 2019 Wilkinson, Ferrari & Co. Informational Meeting Action Memo, the Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities provides additional information regarding whether the 4th Avenue Well is a critical water infrastructure facility (copy attached). In a prior comment, I have documented several false narratives published by the DPU, Mayor Biskupski's office and other public officials claim the Well so "critical" that the downtown hotels will be without water or homes in the high Avenues or Ensign Peak will burn in wildfires.² In Salt Lake City GRAMA Case No. C071272-110719, the DPU instead of producing documents as required by the City's mini-GRAMA ordinance concerning how the City's primary water distribution system related to the Well, the DPU stated that it would instead provide a description of that system and how it

¹ Wilkinson, Ferrari and Co. Dec. 1, 2019. Action Memorandum for Dec. 2, 2019 Informational Meeting. (Copy in possession of author, DPU and WFC).

² Letter, Fisher to HLC, dated August 27, 2019 (url: <http://fisherka.csolutionshosting.net/misc/FourthAveWell/20190827WellHistoricLandMarkCom.m.pdf>), supplemented by Letter, Fisher to HLC, dated September 6, 2019 (url: <http://fisherka.csolutionshosting.net/misc/FourthAveWell/20190906WellHistoricLandMarkCom.m.pdf>).

relates to the Well in the WFC December information meeting.³ The provided description is at page 8 of the WFC memorandum, copy attached.

The additional information provided by DPU indicates that the Well is not critical in the sense that it has been used in various City communications to the public. Webster's defines "critical" as:

b: indispensable, vital a critical waterfowl habitat a component critical to the operation of a machine

c : being in or approaching a state of crisis a critical shortage a critical situation. [Merriam-Webster Online Dict.: "Critical".⁴]

The Dec. 2nd DPU meeting information indicates that the Well is:

There are times during the summer when the 4th Avenue well provides 100 percent of the water to areas of downtown Salt Lake City. If the 4th Avenue well fails, SLCDPU would need to use another water source to meet demand. This may be difficult due to the different pressure zones and characteristics of the distribution system and water demand patterns. This could result in water supply or water pressure disruptions in downtown Salt Lake City.

SLCDPU also manages its water sources and system to ensure there is redundancy in case of emergencies. For instance, if there is a situation where one or more of the streams cannot be used in the water supply due to infrastructure or water quality issues, groundwater resources, including the 4th Avenue well can help meet demand and avoid water supply disruptions. If the 4th Avenue well fails, the area it serves would lose that redundancy. [DPU in WFC Dec. 1 Memo. at 8].

In short, the Well is an *important* component of a redundant system, but it is not the only means by which the City can deliver water to the downtown district or fight fires around Ensign Peak or the High Avenues. It is not an *indispensable* component, in the sense that water will not flow to the downtown, if water does not flow from the Well. As stated in my August 27 letter-comment, the 4th Avenue Well is "of concern" and important to the City's water supply, but to suggest that if the well goes out of service that downtown hotels or Avenues homes will burn down in fires from a lack of water are hyperbole that the HLC should ignore in its deliberations.

³ Letter, DPU Director Briefer, to Fisher, dated Nov. 18, 2019 in Case No. C071272-110719.

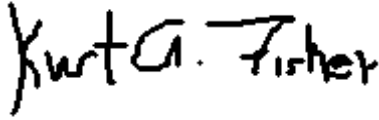
⁴ url: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/critical> .

Proposed Fourth Avenue Well Drinking Water Chlorination Facility

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Please feel free to contact me with any questions that you may have by the means listed above.

Very Truly Yours

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kurt A. Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kurt A. Fisher

Attachments:

Wilkinson, Ferrari and Co. Dec. 1, 2019. Page 8 re: Well Criticality. Action Memorandum for Dec. 2, 2019 Informational Meeting. (Copy in possession of author, DPU and WFC).

water sources include surface water from the Wasatch Mountains and groundwater. The surface water sources emanate from Little Cottonwood, Big Cottonwood, Parleys, and City Creeks, as well as stored water in Deer Creek as part of the Provo River Project and Central Utah Project. The surface water sources are conveyed by gravity to water treatment plants, where they are treated and enter into the distribution system. The City's groundwater resources are collected from wells and springs along the east bench of Salt Lake County. Groundwater resources are pumped directly into the City's distribution system.

The City's water system is very efficient in that the collection, treatment, and distribution system primarily uses gravity rather than large pumping systems to move the water to where it is needed.

The 4th Avenue well is a critical water resource for the City. As with all of the City's other wells, the 4th Avenue well is currently used during the summer when water demand is higher, primarily due to outdoor irrigation. There are times during the summer when the 4th Avenue well provides 100 percent of the water to areas of downtown Salt Lake City. If the 4th Avenue well fails, SLCDPU would need to use another water source to meet demand. This may be difficult due to the different pressure zones and characteristics of the distribution system and water demand patterns. This could result in water supply or water pressure disruptions in downtown Salt Lake City.

SLCDPU also manages its water sources and system to ensure there is redundancy in case of emergencies. For instance, if there is a situation where one or more of the streams cannot be used in the water supply due to infrastructure or water quality issues, groundwater resources, including the 4th Avenue well can help meet demand and avoid water supply disruptions. If the 4th Avenue well fails, the area it serves would lose that redundancy.

18. **Provide a Meeting Summary:** This meeting summary was completed and distributed to area residents on November 5, 2019.
19. **Schedule Next Meeting:** A facilitated working group meeting will be held on December 2, 2019, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at Memorial House. Area residents were sent information about the meeting on November 19, 2019.