Appendix N HYDRAULIC MODEL UPDATE AND CALIBRATION

City of Tumwater

Technical Memorandum 3 HYDRAULIC MODEL UPDATE AND **CALIBRATION**

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Section 1 INTRODUCTION

This technical memorandum (TM) summarizes the process of updating and calibrating the hydraulic model of the City of Tumwater's (City) water distribution system from the latest available GIS data.

1.1 Hydraulic Model Updates

The following general updates to the model were made:

- Added pipes from developments identified by the City.
- Simplified the pipe network:
	- Trimmed pipes less than 100 feet long with diameters less than 11 inches.
	- Combined adjacent pipes that are the same material and diameter.
- Allocated water demands based on the land use of the adjacent parcel.
- Updated demands for large customers.
- Updated the wells:
	- Removed Well 2 and Well 5.
	- Deactivated Well 3.
	- Added Well 16 and Well 17.
	- Added a check valve to the Bush Mountain Pump Station for fire flows.
- Checked and updated junction elevations.
- Updated fire flow requirements for the 549 Pressure Zone.

A table showing the detailed model changes during calibration and initial model scenario set-up is shown at the end of this TM (Table 3).

It should be noted that the hydraulic model does not include all the pipes within the City's water distribution system. To stay within the City's H20NET license (2,000 pipe limit), the City designated which pipes from new developments should be added to the existing model. Any additional pipes added to the hydraulic model (that were necessary to maintain model connectivity) are summarized in Table 3.

1.2 Hydraulic Model Calibration

Calibration is the process of comparing model simulation results to actual field data, and making corrections and adjustments to the model to achieve a loose agreement between model predictions and field measured data. This section describes the different steps of the hydraulic model calibration.

1.2.1 Model Calibration Overview

The purpose of the water system hydraulic model is to estimate, or predict, how the water system will respond under a given set of conditions. One way to test the accuracy of the hydraulic model is to create a set of known conditions in the water system and then compare the results observed in the field against the results of the hydraulic model simulation using the same

conditions. Field flow tests can verify data used in the hydraulic model and yield a greater understanding of how the water system operates.

Field-testing can help identify errors in the data used to develop the hydraulic model, or show that a condition might exist in the field not otherwise known. Valves reported as being open might actually be partially closed or closed (or vice versa). An obstruction could exist in a pipeline, or pressure settings for PRV may be different from noted. Field-testing can also correct erroneous model data such as incorrect pipe diameters or connections. Data obtained from the field tests can be used to determine appropriate roughness coefficients for each pipeline, as roughness coefficients can vary with age, pipe material, and construction quality. Other parameters can also be adjusted to generate a calibrated model.

The calibration process for the City's hydraulic model consisted of two parts: a macro calibration and a hydrant test calibration, or micro calibration. The following sections describe both calibration steps.

1.2.1.1 Macro-Calibration Process

The initial calibration process consists of a macro calibration. The model was run for existing demand conditions, and adjustments were made to produce reasonable system pressures. Such adjustments included modifications of pipeline connectivity, ground elevations, and facility characteristics. The macro calibration process involved several steps to ensure that the model produces reasonable results:

- Transmission Main Connectivity: The connectivity tool in InfoWater was used to verify the transmission mains were connected. Problems found using the connectivity locator were reviewed to determine whether adjustments were needed to the pipe network. Output reports of pipe flow characteristics such as head loss per thousand feet and velocity were also used to locate potential network problems.
- System Pressures: the model results were compared to typical pressures expected within a distribution system. This located issues such as problems with elevation, or connectivity, as well as some operational controls.

Minor issues were identified in the macro calibration process and corrected. The resulting model was then calibrated using the more detailed hydrant tests.

1.2.1.2 Micro-Calibration Process

During average day demand conditions, roughness coefficients have a relatively small effect on operation of the distribution system due to low velocities. As flows increase in the system on higher demand days, velocity within pipelines increase leading to higher system head losses. Hydrant flow tests are used to stress the distribution system and create additional losses to generate a local HGL differential between the static and flowing conditions, highlighting local loss coefficients.

The model is calibrated by simulating the hydrant test and adjusting setting and parameters to match the field measured pressures under similar demand and system boundary conditions. Computer modeling of Water Distribution Systems (AWWA-M32 2012) recommends that the calculated pressures match the field-measured pressures within 10 feet (4.3 psi) for long range planning models, such as the updated City model.

The primary parameters adjusted during calibration were the pipeline roughness coefficients. Other parameters, such as booster pump station controls and well controls, were evaluated and can be adjusted if needed.

The Hazen-Williams roughness coefficient, or C-factor, is a function of pipeline material, diameter, and age. In addition, for simplicity in the model, minor losses were not applied at fittings, and instead losses at fittings were incorporated into (slightly higher) C-factors. Hydrant test calibration refines the initial estimation of the value of roughness coefficients that best represent current conditions within the City's distribution system. The roughness coefficients should be adjusted only within the accepted roughness coefficient range of 80 < C < 130, but values have been reported as low as 60 for very old pipes and up to 150 for some new materials (InfoWater 2011).

If the model is unable to match the calibration results within the acceptable range of roughness coefficient values for a given pipeline material and age, there may be cause for further investigation of a previously unknown field condition. Examples of conditions that can arise during hydraulic model calibration include closed valves, partially closed or malfunctioning valves, extreme corrosion within pipelines or connectivity, and diameter errors in GIS layers, or record drawings.

1.2.2 Hydrant Calibration

The City conducted six hydrant tests in November 2017. The hydrant flow tests consisted of one flowing hydrant (two when necessary to achieve adequate pressure drop), and two pressure hydrants. These field tests were simulated in the model to calibrate the model under stead state conditions.

1.2.2.1 Hydrant Flow Test Locations

The location of the City's six hydrant flow tests are shown on Figure 1. The testing sites were distributed across the City and were selected based on location, accessibility, and representation of the various portions of the City's distribution system.

1.2.2.2 Hydrant Flow Test Data

The key data collected during the hydrant flow test included the following:

- Test Location (Fire Hydrant ID, Static Pressure Reading Address/ID): it is very important to locate the exact nodes in the model where the fire hydrant test is performed and results read.
- Test Date, Time, and Duration: the date and time were used to determine the system demands based on SCADA data.
- Hydrant Flow: The hydrant flow directly affects head losses through the system, and therefore the residual pressure
- Static and Residual Pressures: These are the values that the model needs to match within the criteria.
- SCADA data for pumps and tanks: Tank levels and pump operations at the time of the hydrant test are set in the model for each test case.

An example Hydrant Flow Test data sheet is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2 Hydrant Flow Test 1 Detail

1.2.2.3 Model Hydrant Test Calibration Process

Scenarios were created in the hydraulic model for each fire hydrant test. Each scenario comprises different dataset (demands, controls, reservoir levels, etc.) in order to reproduce the model conditions similar to the field conditions during each fire hydrant test. Both pipe and valve datasets are the same for all the scenarios. This set-up makes it easy to check all the calibration points at the end of the calibration process in order to make sure that any adjustments made to one zone did not affect the calibration points in the adjacent pressure zones.

1.2.2.4 Hydrant Test Calibration Results

Calibration to hydrant tests is conducted individually in order to specifically represent the conditions of the system at the time of the test. Therefore, numerous simulations are performed during the calibration phase. Adjustments are made to the model between runs to minimize the differences between the model and the field measured results.

The results of the calibration are summarized in Table 1. The goal of model calibration was to calibrate the hydraulic model pressures to within 4.3 psi of the field-measured pressures for each hydrant test site. Test 5 and 6 required hydrant elevation confirmation from the City to get closer to the model calibration goal.

Figure 3 summarizes all calibration point results on a 1 to 1 plot. The x-axis is the field measured pressure, and the y-axis is the modeled pressure. Each point on Figure 3 represents a calibration point, which is the field measured pressure and modeled pressure for each hydrant. The calibration points include all static and residual pressure data for a total of 31 calibration points (19 static pressure calibration points and 12 residual pressure calibration points).

A linear regression analysis was performed on the data comparison. The linear regression curve obtained from this comparison intercepts at zero with a slope near 1 and a percentage of determination (R^2) of 97.88%. The red lines of Figure 3 show the $+/-$ 4.3 psi recommended by AWWA-M32 2012.

Table 1 Hydraulic Model Calibration Results

Figure 3 Hydraulic Model Calibration Point Results

1.2.2.5 Challenging Calibration Tests

Test 6 was particularly difficult to calibrate the field measured data to the model results. After further investigation and communication with the City, it was determined that the elevations of the nodes in the model needed to be changed to match the field measured elevations. Table 2 summarizes the changes in elevations for the Test 6 model junctions.

Table 2 Hydrant Test 6 Elevations

Junction ID	$J12-042$	J286	J828
Hydrant ID	FH1041	FH1043	FH1047
Original Model Elevation	171	173	185
City GIS Elevation	170	170	184
Field Measured Elevation ⁽¹⁾	159.5	159.3	172.7
Notes:			

(1) The field measured elevations were used in the model after discussion with the City.

Table 3 Hydraulic Model Updates

above the 180 ft topo line.

Table 3 Hydraulic Model Updates (Continued)

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Table 3 Hydraulic Model Updates (Continued)

