



INTRODUCING THE WATER PARTNERSHIP!

In August 2008, the cities of Lake Oswego and Tigard formally endorsed a partnership agreement for sharing drinking water resources and costs. Lake Oswego's water supply system is near capacity. Key facilities are at the end of their useful life and need upgrades. Tigard needs a secure, dependable water source. Both cities want to keep water affordable for their customers and sharing the cost of new infrastructure to serve both communities does that.

Conserving water is the first and most important supply option for the Lake Oswego-Tigard Partnership. Effective conservation measures alone, however, won't be enough to meet the two cities' needs.

The partnership is the culmination of Tigard's 15-year search for a stable source of water. Tigard customers benefit by finally obtaining an ownership share in an affordable drinking water source. Lake Oswego water customers benefit by sharing the costs for needed upgrades to the community's water system.

Under the partnership agreement, the City of Lake Oswego will manage and build the water system improvements. Completion of the improvements is scheduled for June 2016. An Oversight Committee provides leadership,



with representatives from Lake Oswego and Tigard City Councils. A technical team includes staff from both cities. Joel Komarek serves as Project Director, David Prock as Deputy Director, and Jane Heisler as the Communication Director for the project.

Costs will be allocated to Lake Oswego (43%) and Tigard (57%), which recognizes the prior investment that Lake Oswego has made in its water supply system. Funding sources for improvements will likely include revenue bonds repaid by customers' monthly water charges, and systems development charges (SDCs) assessed against new development.

Public agencies typically sell bonds to fund large capital projects. Both cities will need to increase water rates to pay back the principal and interest on bonds.

To learn more, visit the new project website at www.lotigardwater.org or contact project staff at: 503-697-6502 or info@lotigardwater.org.