



Lake Oswego · Tigard Water Partnership

sharing water · connecting communities

Open House Meeting Summary June 24, 2010

Introduction

The public open house was held at the West End Building on June 24, 2010. The goals of the event were to:

1. Share information with policy makers and water customers in both communities.
2. Seek general feedback on current project definition report and water treatment recommendation.
3. Publicize ways for the public to continue to receive project information.

Approximately 28 people attended the meeting. Attendees were a mix of residents from Lake Oswego (many from the Waluga reservoir area), Tigard and West Linn (Water Treatment Plant neighbors) and consultants from around the region.

Notice

An open house announcement was published in the June Hello LO (City of Lake Oswego newsletter) the June Cityscape (City of Tigard newsletter), and the Tigard Water Quality Report (sent to all water customers). A paid advertisement ran in the June 10 and June 17, 2010 issues of the Lake Oswego Review and the Tigard Times.



Signs in front of the building direct participants to the Open House.

Announcements were sent two weeks in advance of the open house. Council members in Lake Oswego, Tigard, West Linn and Gladstone, IWB members, neighborhood association chairs in Lake Oswego and staff members in Lake Oswego and Tigard received emails with open house information. Members of the Partnership and LOIS project email lists were invited as well.

A press release went to the media on June 14, 2010.

Meeting Format and Organization

Doors were open from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

Informational boards lined the room and attendees were encouraged to read project materials and engage with staff to learn more about the project. A floor map guided participants along the water system alignment as they learned about the anticipated facility upgrades and expansions across the water supply system.

A presentation at 6:00 PM was lead by Joel Komarek from the City of Lake Oswego and Dennis Koellermeier from the City of Tigard. Questions from the audience were answered following the presentation. A second presentation was planned at 7:00 PM, but no new attendees arrived and the presentation was cancelled. The event ended early, around 7:30 PM, after all participants had left.

Comments and Discussion

The following is a general summary of the feedback, comments and questions received during the event.

General

- What is the project schedule?
The project started in December 2009 and will continue through 2016. Work occurs in four overlapping phases.
Project Definition: *December 2009 – December 2010*
Water Treatment Recommendation – *July 2010*
Capital Improvement Plan– *November/December 2010*
Pre-design and Permitting: *July 2010 – February 2012*
Facilities Design: *March 2011 – October 2013*
Construction: *March 2012 – June 2016*
- How is all of this going to be paid for? Taxes?
Funding sources for the Partnership project will likely include bonds issued by Lake Oswego and Tigard to be repaid over the years by customers' monthly water charges. Cities typically sell bonds to fund large capital projects. Both Lake Oswego and Tigard are increasing water rates to repay the principal and interest on bonds, and to operate and maintain the joint water supply system.
- Does Lake Oswego supply any water to Tigard now? Or is the Tigard supply idea a new thing? If not for Tigard, would we need to make any of these improvements? It seems like this is all for Tigard and not for Lake Oswego.
Tigard has been a water customer of Lake Oswego's since the 1970s. Tigard typically purchases water, when it is available, during the summer. They purchase the majority of their water from the City of Portland.
Lake Oswego needs this project too. Lake Oswego's key water supply facilities – the water intake on the Clackamas River and the water treatment plant in West Linn – are more than 40 years old. Over the years the City of Lake Oswego has continued to invest in its water supply system through upgrades, replacements, and maintenance to defer major capital investment in new facilities.
Now, despite past investments and ongoing maintenance, most facilities are nearing the end of their expected life. Lake Oswego's water facilities are too old and undersized to continue to reliably and economically serve the community's needs.
- Positive feedback about great graphics and wealth of information on display for public consumption.

Water: Conservation/Treatment/Water Treatment Plant

- Why does Lake Oswego use more water than Tigard does?
- Neighbors of the Treatment Plant want to create a Good Neighbor Agreement with the City.
- Desire from neighbors for a formalized committee (similar to the Citizen Sounding Board). The Partnership is dedicated to working with the Robinwood neighborhood to create a Good Neighbor Agreement. Staff will collaborate with neighbors to create a working group and schedule.
- Questions about water quality, sustainability and waste/residuals handling.
- Interest in sustainability.
- Support for ozone as an effective treatment for a lot of the Endocrine Disruptors, pharmaceuticals and other emerging contaminants.

Untreated Water Pipeline

- Consider removing an existing culvert on Mary's Creek to improve fish passage

Waluga Reservoir

- Do we need the new tank now? Or is it more for the future? If not needed until sometime in the future, why not wait to build a new tank? Wait to see how the economy recovers and wait to see if we really need the new tank or can get by with what we already have?
- Access was another concern expressed by residents close to the site. The issue was related to minimizing tree removal during construction.
- They were confused about the tree survey which identified “hundreds” of trees and thought that was a figure describing the trees that would be lost in the project. Matt did a good job of clarifying this for them.
- Concern about safety of the existing Waluga reservoir tank.
- Why does a new tank have to go here, can't it go somewhere else?



Citizens and project staff discuss the Partnership

- Residents along Parkhill and other adjacent areas are concerned about the potential visual impact of a new tank and about proximity to their homes.
- Why can't the new tank just be buried?
- Why does the new tank have to be so big?
- How many trees are going to be lost to the new tank?
- Why can't the new tank be

located further north and away from homes? Why can't it be moved further down the hill rather than at the top? What about moving it further north and putting it on fill if it has to be so high?

- How will construction access to the tank site work? Off Carmen or off Parkhill? What about traffic impacts?
- What about building elevated storage in the quarry instead? How much more would that cost?
- Is the tank just to serve Tigard? Why can't it go in Tigard?
- Is the Waluga neighborhood providing storage for other neighborhoods? Is the tank needed for our neighborhood? Why can't it go in some other neighborhood? Why should we have to have other people's storage (i.e. storage for Tigard or other areas of Lake Oswego) in our neighborhood?
- There is a lot of rock in the area. Will construction of the new tank involve blasting to remove rock? There was rock blasting for the construction of the existing tank/pipes in the area and it cracked some foundations and was very disruptive.
- What if the tank breaks? Where would the water go? There was a failure of the existing reservoir and it was difficult to fix.
- How does the existing tank serve the surrounding neighborhood? How will the new tank change neighborhood service?

