Clean water for Lake Oswego’s future

Safe, clean water is something everyone wants. For nearly 50 years, Lake Oswego’s water system has provided our community with the water we all need. Lake Oswego has changed a lot over the 50 years—but the pipes and treatment plant that deliver our water have not. The time has come to replace and improve them.

To maintain the high quality drinking water we need, the City has formed a partnership to replace, upgrade, and expand key water system facilities. The Lake Oswego Tigard Water Partnership provides benefits to both cities. By partnering with Tigard to share Lake Oswego’s high quality Clackamas River Water Supply, Lake Oswego customers will get the water improvements they need for a lower overall cost than they could achieve alone. Tigard gains ownership in a lower cost supply.

Where are we now?

Engineering design is on schedule to meet the Partnership’s June 2016 completion goal. Environmental permitting is underway and land use permits have been approved or are in review for the various water supply facilities. Public outreach and communications continues across five communities so that residents and businesses know about the project and know what to expect during construction.

The biggest change to the original plan is the decision to build out the water treatment plant to its full planned capacity now, rather than in the future. Making this investment now eliminates future permitting uncertainties and gives West Linn a reliable supply of water for emergency use.

Six Facts You Should Know About Lake Oswego’s Water System

1. The Partnership with Tigard is a good business decision. It offers significant savings—one-time and ongoing—for Lake Oswego customers.
2. Lake Oswego’s water system is worn out, undersized, and in need of reinvestment. The system is at capacity and the City must move immediately to ensure that replacement, upgrading, and upsizing of key facilities occurs now, regardless of whether or not Lake Oswego partners with Tigard.
3. Conservation is the first, most important water source, but Lake Oswego can’t conserve enough water to delay or resize the project. An enhanced conservation program will help the water system keep up with demand until new facilities come on-line in 2016.
4. Experts recommend converting Lake Oswego’s current water treatment method to conventional filtration plus ozone. This proven treatment combination will ensure high quality drinking water year-round, and meet current and anticipated regulations.
5. Project costs for the water system upgrade are in line with Lake Oswego’s financial plans.
6. Now is the one-time window of opportunity to meet Lake Oswego’s current and future water needs, by sharing costs with Tigard.

Lake Oswego · Tigard Water Partnership
sharing water · connecting communities

Learn more

The Lake Oswego Tigard Water Partnership is committed to providing neighbors with clear information and working with them to address concerns. If you would like a presentation to your neighborhood association or organization, contact us at (503) 697-6502 or lotwater@ci.oswego.or.us.

You can learn more, or share your feedback by visiting our website at lotigardwater.org. Join our email list to receive timely project updates, or provide a comment. You can also contact us directly at (503) 697-6502 or lotwater@ci.oswego.or.us.

Protect the environment

The Partnership is working closely with federal, state and local agencies to ensure the project meets or exceeds all applicable regulations and that the environment is protected. To protect fish and wildlife in the Willamette River, for instance, new pipeline construction in this location will be done using a tunneling method called horizontal directional drilling, or HDD. This method avoids any in-water work in the Willamette and will also be used to avoid impacts to Oswego Lake. On the Clackamas River, careful construction techniques and timing will protect fish.

Respect host communities

The Partnership’s facilities are not just in Lake Oswego and Tigard, but in Gladstone and West Linn as well. In all four communities, the project team is working to ensure that neighbors are involved in the design and ongoing operation of the facilities.

Ensuring safety during construction, honoring local values, and making sure facilities are assets to the neighborhoods where they are located is our commitment throughout the project and beyond.

Improve drinking water quality

The Water Partnership project will improve how water is treated before it arrives at your tap. Lake Oswego’s current water treatment process already produces high-quality water. Advanced treatment methods will make it even better.

A panel of national experts in drinking water treatment and public health recommended combining conventional filtration with ozone treatment. The new process will meet future drinking water standards and provide safer and better-tasting drinking water. A steering committee of local leaders and citizens agreed that ozone treatment is a good choice for Lake Oswego.
Clean drinking water from the Clackamas River arrives in Tigard's system here. The facility has connected Tigard and Lake Oswego for over forty years. The upgrade provides the opportunity to assure back-up water supplies for Tigard, Lake Oswego, and West Linn, and the ability to transfer water among the region’s four major supply sources.

**THE PARTNERSHIP RELIES ON SIX KEY FACILITIES IN FIVE COMMUNITIES**

**Bonita Pump Station**
Clean drinking water from the Clackamas River arrives in Tigard’s system here. The facility has connected Tigard and Lake Oswego for over forty years. The upgrade provides the opportunity to assure back-up water supplies for Tigard, Lake Oswego, and West Linn, and the ability to transfer water among the region’s four major supply sources.

**Waluga Reservoir 2**
The existing Waluga Reservoir, built in 1981, stores 4 million gallons of water. Needed water for Lake Oswego and Tigard requires the construction of a new tank. The new reservoir is being designed for construction near the existing reservoir on City property acquired decades ago for future water supply facilities.

**Finished Water Pipeline**
The Finished Water Pipeline transports treated water from the Lake Oswego Water Treatment Plant to customers in Lake Oswego and Tigard.

**Raw Water Pipeline**
The Raw Water Pipeline transports untreated water from the Clackamas River Water Intake in Gladstone to the Lake Oswego Water Treatment Plant.

**Water Treatment Plant**
Lake Oswego has operated a Water Treatment Plant in West Linn since 1968. The Partnership is upgrading and expanding the plant to meet current and future drinking water needs of Lake Oswego and Tigard customers, and emergency water needs for West Linn. The current plant does not have enough water storage, has obsolete electrical equipment, no backup electrical supply, and not enough treatment capacity even for Lake Oswego’s own needs.

**Lake Oswego’s Water Intake**
Lake Oswego’s Water Intake, located on the Clackamas River in Gladstone, pumps to the Water Treatment Plant in West Linn. From there, treated drinking water is delivered to Lake Oswego residents. Constructed in 1968, the intake facility has structural and mechanical problems and needs to be replaced.

Design for the new facility is underway. The new intake is sized to pump Lake Oswego’s full water rights of 38 million gallons of water per day to serve Lake Oswego and Tigard customers.

**Clackamas River Water Intake Facility**
Lake Oswego’s Water Intake, located on the Clackamas River in Gladstone, pumps to the Water Treatment Plant in West Linn. From there, treated drinking water is delivered to Lake Oswego residents. Constructed in 1968, the intake facility has structural and mechanical problems and needs to be replaced.

**Project Timeline**

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