



**Lake Oswego Tigard Water Partnership  
Summary of Partnership Committee Meeting  
April 15, 2024**

**City of Lake Oswego:**                   **Oversight Committee:** Councilor Corrigan, Councilor Wendland  
Staff: Erica Rooney, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Bret Bienerth,  
Water Treatment Plant Manager; Susie Anderson, Administrative  
Assistant

**City of Tigard:**                         **Oversight Committee:** Councilor Hu  
Staff: Brian Rager

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**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

**Chair Corrigan** called the meeting of the Lake Oswego Tigard Water Partnership Committee to order at 4:29 pm. The meeting was held at Tigard Public Works, 8777 SW Burnham St., Tigard OR 97223.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Councilor Hu** moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held January 22, 2024. **Councilor Wendland** seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**4. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

4.1 Operations Activities Report

**Mr. Bienerth** reported there had been just one customer inquiry in Tigard in the past quarter. **Councilor Wendland** asked if that was a normal amount. **Mr. Bienerth** replied there were usually a few more than that and generally taste and odor related. He stated work orders for the quarter were primarily preventive with a small percentage being corrective and water use was tracking normally. He noted photos in the meeting packet of staff using Tigard's drone to inspect the clearwell. The drone wasn't working properly so once it has been repaired, they will send it in to the clearwell again to look for any cracks or issues that may need attention.

4.2 Budget Report

**Mr. Bienerth** referred to the cost to produce graph and noted it was up compared to the past couple of years, primarily due to inflation and increased cost of chemicals and electricity. Cumulatively, expenditures were tracking below budget. **Councilor Wendland** asked if expenditures fluctuate throughout the year. **Mr. Bienerth** replied expenditures were generally higher during the summer when

more water was being produced but during that time the cost to produce per ccf was lower. He said there was a large fluctuation in use between winter and summer.

**Mr. Bienenrth** referred to the true-up graph in the meeting packet and explained that at the end of each fiscal year an analysis of expenditures vs. the amount Tigard paid for the year was conducted to determine the true-up amount to make sure Tigard didn't over or under pay. Some years Tigard paid the difference and other years Lake Oswego paid. The true-up amount had ranged from .14% to 1.3% of the total fiscal year budget. **Ms. Rooney** added based on the budget at the beginning of the fiscal year, a monthly payment amount for Tigard was set and then at the end of the fiscal year, the true-up was determined. She stated this year there would be a credit of \$37k back to Tigard.

#### 4.3 Backup Power Update

**Mr. Bienenrth** reported \$362,448.93 of the \$2,025,000 budget had been spent. He explained the spending to date wasn't as much as anticipated because they had moved away from the concept of permanent generators in buildings to plug-ins. Land use review in Gladstone was complete with the only condition to contact Gladstone Public Works when generators were used at the River Intake. He added they would not be required to go through land use in West Linn but would provide a courtesy copy of the plans to them. The goal was to have all the electrical work/plug-ins installed by next Winter but some of the electrical components have 50 - 60 weeks lead time. The current outlook was for the River Intake to be complete in November while the plant, which requires larger and more specialized equipment, may not be done until Spring of 2025. **Councilor Wendland** asked if it was projected to come in at the \$2M. **Mr. Bienenrth** responded there were two parts to the project. The design portion was budgeted at \$2M and the build portion of the project would require a separate Council approval. They were trying to repurpose some of the design \$2M toward ordering equipment. \$4.8M was the overall project budget and he anticipated the project would be completed for less than that. Initial estimates for permanent generators at the WTP were \$7 - \$8M and about \$5M at the River Intake, excluding land use. The chosen option would allow to plug in to portable generator either already on site or rented and brought in. **Ms. Rooney** stated because the project approach had changed, there would be a trip to Council once the numbers had been better organized for the next phase of the project. **Mr. Bienenrth** pointed to the picture in the meeting packet and noted the small space the plugins would take up at the River Intake. He thought the change wouldn't be very noticeable. He then referenced the rendering for the WTP and pointed out the plug-in equipment that would be placed amongst other electrical equipment already onsite. **Councilor Wendland** inquired about the size of the breaker. **Mr. Bienenrth** explained to access the breaker it would be racked out with equipment similar to an engine hoist. The breaker at the River Intake would be 3000 amps, and at the plant would be 4000 amps, very large, specialized electrical equipment. **Ms. Rooney** pointed out because the additional equipment would be so well integrated in to the existing landscape, it was a huge benefit of not needing to go through the land use process in West Linn.

#### 4.4 Service Line Inventory Update

**Mr. Bienenrth** reported both Lake Oswego and Tigard, as well as every other water provider in the country, was required to conduct a service line inventory of pipe material on the private side of each water service meter. Both Lake Oswego and Tigard had done a statistical review of anything built before 1986 if the material was unknown, did a statistical sample and then went out in the field and checked the line material. Neither City found any lead lines and no systems in the State have found any lead lines. Both cities found some galvanized lines and the EPA is saying galvanized lines need to be replaced but Oregon Health Authority is questioning/taking exception to that. Both cities have some uncertainty

when they submit the inventory, which is due in October. Lake Oswego is undergoing a meter replacement project so as the meters are being installed, line material is being verified and of the 12,500 accounts only 3006 haven't been verified yet. **Ms. Rooney** added the EPA had huge concerns because of conditions back east where lead issues exist and they apply national rules and regulations that may not apply to certain regions. California, Oregon, and Washington, where lead lines are uncommon, are pushing back on the federal regulations that are designed for places like Detroit and Flint, Michigan.

#### 5. Future Agenda Items

**Mr. Bienenrth** suggested having the two shared employees come to discuss their respective programs, water conservation and water quality. **Councilor Wendland** asked if there was any data on PFAs. **Mr. Bienenrth** responded testing was ongoing and had started about a year ago. There had been no detects in raw or finished water, as well as other providers on the Clackamas. **Councilor Wendland** emphasized the importance of communicating that to the public since PFAs are frequently in the headlines lately. **Mr. Bienenrth** stated the annual Water Quality Report would be coming out soon and would include a PFAs section discussing testing and that no PFAs had been detected. **Ms. Rooney** suggested bringing the final Water Quality Report to the July meeting and stated providing the information to Council members was important so when they are asked they can share the information with their constituents. She added, while it's a big issue nationally, some areas in the region are testing positive for PFAs, but the majority of the problem was back east.

#### 5. ADJOURN

There being no further business, **Chair Corrigan** adjourned the meeting at 4:52 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Susie Anderson  
Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Partnership Committee:

\_\_\_\_\_ October 21, 2024