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.
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.

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.

The new treatment plant features neighbor-and environment-friendly architecture and landscaping, green roofs, and on-site stormwater treatment. A pathway through the site provides a safe route for students walking to Cedaroak Park Primary School.