



Willamette Water Supply System Bond Request

The Situation

The Willamette Water Supply System (WWSS) is a \$1.6 billion infrastructure project that will diversify

and increase the resilience of the Portland metropolitan area's water supply. The System will take water from the Willamette River at Wilsonville, treat it at a new state-of-the-art water filtration plant in Sherwood and deliver it to 350,000 residential, commercial and industrial water users in Hillsboro, Beaverton and the Tualatin Valley Water District service areas.



The project is under construction with a completion date in 2026. To save money, the 30+ miles of water pipelines have been installed mostly in existing rights-of-way and often in conjunction with road repairs. To date, more than 90% of construction and supply contracts have gone to local businesses born fully by water rates with no outside funding. As a result of COVID impacts, the project has experienced severe inflationary increases that will require substantial rate hikes impacting residents and regional business competitiveness.

Our Ask

As the largest owner of WWSS, TVWD requests the 2022 Oregon legislature authorize \$75 million in bonds or other funding to soften inflationary

Impacts on consumers, which includes school districts, hospitals, healthcare clinics, a community college, small businesses and struggling low-income and older adult water users. This will help preserve state competitiveness for large industrial investments.

Willamette Water Supply
Our Reliable Water



Inflation

COVID-related cost drivers include supply chain disruptions, labor shortages, higher trucking and shipping costs, more expensive supplies and materials and general market escalation.

The inflation WWSS s faces is not unique for major infrastructure projects.

Owner	Project	Bid Increases
South County Regional Wastewater Authority, CA	Plant Capacity Expansion Project	28%
Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department, FL	Wastewater Plant 2 Digester Cluster 3 Facility Upgrade	39%
Tuolumne Utilities District, CA	Sonora Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrades	>40%
East Bay Municipal Utilities District, CA	San Pablo Reservoir Hypolimnetic Oxygen System	41%
City of Antioch, CA	Antioch Brackish Water Desalination	42%
Santa Clara Valley Water District, CA	Rinconada Water Treatment Plant	42%
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District, CA	Dewatering Project	>54%
Confidential Client (Seattle Area)	Pump Station	>56%
Union Sanitation District, CA	Aeration Basin Upgrades	68%
Average Increase		>42%

Regional Benefits

Water users, including low-income residents, older adults on fixed incomes and small businesses, will pay more affordable rates. The metropolitan area will have a new source of water through a seismically resilient water treatment facility and pipeline system.

Statewide Benefits

The WWSS service area includes some of the state’s largest employers in semiconductor, pharmaceutical and specialized industries that represent major job growth potential, but also face COVID-related cost escalation, supply chain disruptions and labor shortages.