



Legislative Testimony on May 9, 2025 supporting Capital Funding Request
by Franklin Sherkow, Director SWLCWPUD
To the Capital Construction Subcommittee of Ways and Means (by video)



Water Pipeline Replacement

Co-Chairs and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. For the record, my name is **Franklin Sherkow** and I am speaking on behalf of the **Southwest Lincoln County Water PUD** celebrating our 80th year.

Water Pipeline Replacement \$1,820,000

Based on the SWLCWPUD's recent Master Plan Addendum and an updated Capital Improvement Plan, funding is sought for the **replacement of old AC (asbestos cement) pipelines** which are decades old and have come to the end of their useful life.

Because of this, SWLCWPUD has **completed preliminary engineering**. Since this is a replacement project, the pipelines have already been **environmentally cleared by the Oregon Health Authority**.

All pipeline replacements will involve **reconnection of existing services and additional new fire hydrants**. Pipeline projects are specifically: NE Forest Hill St to NE Starr Creek Dr (1,500' of 8-in pipeline), and the West side of Hwy 101 from Fernwood Dr. south to Wakeetum St (various improvements needed).

The existing pipelines are **beginning to leak and difficult to maintain**. These key infrastructure improvements are critical to address the need for:

- continued water service,
- provide seismic resiliency,
- maintain adequate fire protection, and
- improve water conservation.

We are **working with Rep. Gomberg** on this project.

Our district currently has **1,350 customers**, with an estimated **peak of 6,000 users** during the summer months. **Thank you.**