

Jan. 2022 Filtration Neighbor Information Meeting

Location:	Zoom Meeting	Date:	January 13, 2022
		Time:	6–7 p.m.
Speakers:	Bonita Oswald, Communications Lead	Ken Ackerman, Pipeline Design Lead	
	David Peters, Program Director	Joe Sesil, Pipeline Contractor	
	Michelle Cheek, Deputy Program Director		

Meeting Summary

Meeting Purpose: Provided an update on Bull Run Filtration design progress and upcoming milestones and introduced the pipeline contractor.

1. Welcome

- a. Project Communications Lead Bonita Oswald welcomed meeting attendees and introduced the meeting agenda and speakers. She also noted ongoing ways the Water Bureau is working to keep the community informed, including quarterly information sessions and regular e-news updates.

2. Program Update

- a. Deputy Program Director Michelle Cheek introduced the key components of the Bull Run Treatment Program: new water filtration facility and related pipelines, and corrosion control treatment. She shared images from recent construction and noted the Improved Corrosion Control Treatment project is on track to be complete by the April 2022 compliance deadline. The project will adjust the chemistry of Bull Run water to help improve health outcomes and further reduce the risk of lead at customers' taps.

3. Pipeline Update

- a. Pipeline Design Lead Ken Ackerman provided an overview of the pipeline work and introduced Joe Sesil from the pipeline construction team. Ken noted there is another year of design ahead and the team will be using field data gathered about conditions along the planned routes to inform ongoing design efforts. He shared a map of the routes and noted the finished water pipe route has been fine-tuned. He also pointed out there will be a small-diameter distribution main that will serve local water customers.
- b. Joe Sesil briefly described ways the pipeline construction team will be involved during design and previewed key steps during future construction. Over the coming year, the pipeline construction team will be providing early input on construction sequencing, traffic control, and other measures to improve safety and reduce disruption.



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4. Upcoming Milestones

- a. Program Director David Peters summarized key milestones for 2022. He described the land use permitting process with Multnomah County, noting the upcoming pre-application submittal is the start of a longer process with opportunities for public comment. David also shared views of the proposed facility and site design and pointed out ways community feedback is being incorporated. He also described the planned primary site access from SE Carpenter Lane to the main entry and the planned secondary access from SE Bluff Road.

5. Questions and Comments

- a. Bonita facilitated discussion with meeting attendees. Questions are summarized below and additional comments are captured in the transcript of the meeting chat.
 - i. *When will the land use pre-application be submitted?* We expect to submit the pre-application packet in February. We plan to submit the land use application this spring.
 - ii. *Why was SE Carpenter Lane selected as the site access?* Based on current knowledge and discussions with Multnomah County, it was determined SE Carpenter Lane is the viable north access to the facility site due to the County's Road Rules. This is because SE Carpenter Lane is a lower classification roadway that already serves the site.
 - iii. *Where will the secondary access be located?* We're proposing a secondary access that would come from SE Bluff Road following the path of an existing farm access road on private property to the southeast corner of the facility site. We're still working with property owners to finalize the location.
 - iv. *What road improvements are planned for SE Carpenter Lane?* We're continuing to work with the counties on road, intersection, and driveway standards to understand what improvements may be needed. We anticipate these improvements will be within the existing right-of-way.
 - v. *How wide is the SE Carpenter Lane right-of-way? Will it be widened?* There is a 60-foot right-of-way on SE Carpenter Lane between SE Cottrell Road and the City's western property line. It is likely the pavement will need to be widened within the existing right-of-way.
 - vi. *Will the SE Carpenter Lane access be used during construction? Will the south access also be used?* Yes, we will likely use both access routes to help manage construction traffic and reduce disruption. Once the facility is operating, the north access would be the main entry and the south access would be less frequently used. We're continuing coordination with the counties, our contractors, and property owners on ways to improve safety and keep traffic moving.
 - vii. *What is the project budget?* The total Bull Run Treatment Program funding is for \$1.48 billion and includes the water filtration facility, related pipelines, and improved corrosion control projects. This amount is the basis for the current projections of water bill impacts from the projects. Additional detail is available at: [Project Financing and Rate Affordability](#).
 - viii. *How will the project be funded?* These investments in the future of Bull Run water are being funded through customer rates. To help maintain water rate affordability, we secured a low-interest federal loan that allows us to smooth water bill impacts from the Bull Run Treatment Projects over time.
 - ix. *Does the project have buy American requirements?* Yes, we have American Iron and Steel requirements that are part of our federal financing.
 - x. *What is the current zoning for the property?* The City-owned property where the planned facility will be located is in Multnomah County and is zoned Multiple Use Agriculture–20 (MUA-20). In the MUA-20 zone, community services, like the Bull Run Filtration Project, are allowed as a conditional use.



- xi. *Why was this site chosen over other options?* We purchased the site in 1975 for future water system facilities. We selected the site for the filtration facility in 2018 based on a number of considerations related to maximizing gravity flow, connecting to existing and future pipelines, having sufficient space and suitable geologic conditions for construction, and meeting the compliance schedule.
- xii. *Are Gresham and Rockwood renewing their contracts?* The Water Bureau's current financial planning accounts for the departure of City of Gresham, Rockwood Water People's Utility District, and Tualatin Valley Water District.
- xiii. *How will stormwater be managed?* We're continuing to gather data about local conditions to inform development of our stormwater and construction management plans. The site design includes stormwater swales and basins to help manage runoff during both normal and large storm events. We plan to continue coordinating with adjacent neighbors and Johnson Creek Watershed Council as design progresses.
- xiv. *Why are there high lead levels?* In an effort to stay focused on the purpose of the meeting (the Bull Run Filtration project), questions about lead will be addressed at a forum hosted by Commissioner Mapps in the near future. Information about the recent lead exceedance, water quality testing, and steps we take to help protect public health is available at: portland.gov/water/news/2022/1/8/facts-about-lead-drinking-water-portland.

6. Adjourn

- a. Bonita noted the next neighbor information meeting April 14, 2022 6-7 pm will include a design update and chance to hear from the contractors. Bonita thanked everyone for their time and questions and adjourned the meeting.



Meeting Chat

From Dean and Pat Walter : Sorry can't hear anything

From Aubrie Koenig : Dean and Pat: Maybe try leaving and re-joining the meeting if you're still having trouble?

From Aubrie Koenig to Dean and Pat Walter(Direct Message) : Are you able to hear Michelle now?

From Dean and Pat Walter : Still nothing.

From Dean and Pat Walter : We will watch the video and respond with our thots during the Questions and Comments.

From Aubrie Koenig : Dean and Pat: Thanks for being flexible -- we'll post the recording to the meeting page and send out a link in the e-news. I'm sorry the sound isn't working for you.

From Dean and Pat Walter : Dean and I are extremely disappointed regarding a recent discussion we had with a PWB rep. We were informed by the rep that the secondary access road to and from the water treatment plant would be just to the west of our property line, on the eastern border of the proposed plant. During construction the Walter's, Courter's and the residents of Carpenter Lane will have to deal with a large number of vehicles on the access roads. According to the Bull Run Filtration Update regarding facility site access, the secondary access from the south, is very vague. We would like to meet with those involved with this decision to show us exactly where and why the secondary access road was chosen. Dean and I are 71 yrs old and will be 76 or 77 by the time the plant is completed. We feel that we are part of the collateral damage.

From Dean and Pat Walter : We cannot get our audio to hear what is going on but wanted to comment. Thank you.

From Brent Leathers : David, based on your descriptions of the secondary access, it sounds like the construction vehicles will use Carpenter lane. Is that correct?

From Scott Mettler : Are buy America or buy AmericaN procurement terms included in the CMGC contract?

From Patricia Fiedler : will you be widening Carpentr Lane

From Pat M : Question please

From Patricia Fiedler : How has inflation effected your propoed budget

From Jennifer Hart : This is an Urban/Industrial Land Use is being proposed for a Rural Area when it is intended to benefit the Urban Area controlled by the City of Portland!

From Patricia Fiedler : What is the right a way

From Jeffrey Kleinman : May I be heard (with audio)?

From Kristy McKenzie : Why not use the secondary access road for construction access? This would be WAY less of a disruption for the residents of Carpenter Lane.

From Pat M : The road is falling apart already from the trucks. What are your plans to bring it back to a usable road prior to this build?

From Jennifer Hart : What is your budget?

From Brent Leathers : Immense quantities of soil will be removed, and similarly, aggregate materials hauled into the site. These are typically moved using dump trucks with long-tongue trailers. These vehicles will be making the tight 90 degree turn from Dodge Park Blvd. onto Cottrell, then again from Cottrell to Carpenter. Can you speak to the means of making those movements safe and efficient?

From Jennifer Hart : What are the water rates going to be now the with the new \$1.4 Billion?

From Chris Hawes : Jennifer Hart makes an excellent point. Oregon Land Use law is intended to keep Urban Uses in Urban Areas. Why is this Public Industrial Use being pushed into an obviously Rural area? Why is this Public Industrial Use not being placed at the Powell Butte site as earlier considered? Spending hundreds of millions of dollars to build transmission pipes to reach this Rural site is not fiscally responsible. Building this



facility in this rural area seems obviously intended to avoid public opposition in Portland by placing the facility in an area where there is less opposition. Is that the reason for this location?

From Dean and Pat Walter : Excellent questions. Dean and Pat

From Pat M : We need holes filled asap

From Bonita Oswald : <https://www.portland.gov/water/bullruntreatment/bullrunaffordability>

From L Mcfralane : PIO Jaymee Cuti declines to answer this question so Michelle Cheek, 1)Why is lead in customer tapwater so alarmingly high? And 2) Will so-called "IMPROVED" Corrosion Control Treatment facility (vs "OPTIMAL" CCT required by EPA)fix your problem?

From L Mcfralane : sorry my mic not working

From L Mcfralane : Pls come back to me, Bonita. Thank you

From L Mcfralane : Bonita?

From Patricia Fiedler : Is Gresham and Rockwood renewing their contract with PWB?

From Bonita Oswald : <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/water/article/706674>

From L Mcfralane : Michelle cheek is here! We are barred from engineers

From L Mcfralane : Please answer this now

From Jennifer Hart : Bonita, the website link has old project numbers on the cost of the plant, it does not talk anything about the \$1.4 billion number. Have the rate payers been informed Transparently?

From L Mcfralane : WE ARE BARRED FROM SPEAKING WITH IMPROVED CORROSION CONTROL ENGINEERS. Please be responsive tonight, since Michelle C is her tonight.

From Chris Hawes : Water Treatment plants are by ORS definition a Public Industrial Use. Water source from Bull Run is far different from a new treatment plants far as "Being in the area for 125 years. The previous answer was gaslighting at best. What is the cost of building new transmission pipelines vs pumping capacity to reach the Powell Butte site?

From PAUL willis to Aubrie Koenig : when do you anticipate to submit the preapp

From PAUL willis to Aubrie Koenig : paul willis

From L Mcfralane : Hello Bonita?

From Jennifer Hart : Why are people being barred from speaking to the engineers at the corrosion plant?

From Dee White : Please answer water bureau.

From L Mcfralane : Ask Bonita and Michee