

## Open House Summary – Fall 2014

### Highlights

- ✓ Tualatin Valley Water District (TVWD), Hillsboro Water and consultant staff led seven public open houses September through November 2014. The open houses were located throughout the project area to raise awareness about the Program and to seek feedback on possible pipeline routes. A virtual open house was also held during this timeframe.
- ✓ Attendance at the open houses was moderate, and included activists, community leaders, project neighbors, students, and elected and appointed officials. The online open house was viewed by more than 580 people.
- ✓ The main Program benefit identified by participants was coordinating pipeline construction with other improvement projects.
- ✓ The main Program concerns expressed by participants included construction impacts on traffic and neighborhoods, and Willamette River water quality.
- ✓ Feedback also included comments on specific potential routes and suggestions for alternate pipeline routes.

### Attendance

Seven open houses were held, including the joint open house with the 124<sup>th</sup> roadway project. Open houses were held in the communities of Sherwood (124<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Wilsonville, Beaverton, Aloha, Sherwood, and Hillsboro and at the TVWD offices. A total of 228 attendees, excluding project team members or local staff, participated in the open houses.

Additionally, an online virtual open house was available from October 14 to December 14, 2014, which was viewed by 584 people.

Notable open house attendees included City Councilors and Planning Commissioners, TVWD Commissioners, Hillsboro Utility Commissioners, Hillsboro Youth Advisory Council, a PSU engineering class, CPO 6 representatives, local media representatives, Save175th.org, and Willamette River activists.

### Take-Aways

- Generally, attendees were supportive of the Project and understand the need for an additional seismically-resilient water supply. They had questions, but offered limited comments on the possible pipeline routes. Most concerns related to transportation impacts of Section 3 (Farmington Road to Hillsboro) of the potential routes. Concerns related to impacts on nearby schools and residences were also mentioned.
- Attendance and interest was comparable to when TVWD and Hillsboro initially studied the Willamette River as an additional water supply source.
- Attendees expressed concerns about water quality, traffic disruption and impacts on residential areas and businesses.

- Attendees identified benefits including the opportunity to coordinate construction with other improvement projects, especially transportation, upgrading water, sewer and stormwater lines and building bicycle and pedestrian paths.
- Many comments were made regarding the role and impact of the project on the communities of Beaverton and Tualatin.
- There was a general understanding that the Program will be costly. Several people asked about the rate impacts, how the project is being funded and whether or not TVWD/Hillsboro are paying additional costs that will benefit Tualatin and Beaverton.

## Public Comments

Program team members sought feedback regarding the possible benefits and concerns on a new water pipeline. The benefits and concerns identified by commenters included:

### Which of these possible benefits of a new water pipeline are important to you?

<u>Number of responses</u>	<u>Possible Benefits</u>
36	Coordinate construction with other improvement projects
23	Upgrade water, sewer and stormwater lines
21	Build bicycle and pedestrian paths
19	Restore wildlife habitat / plant trees
16	Move utility lines underground (power, cable, etc.)
12	Build new or improve existing parks
8	Repave or widen existing streets
2	Construct new streets

### Do you have any concerns about a new water pipeline?

<u>Number of Responses</u>	<u>Concerns</u>
32	Impacts to residential areas
27	Traffic disruption
27	Costs
21	Water quality
15	Impacts to businesses
14	Construction noise / dust
11	Ongoing maintenance
3	Construction safety

## Publicity

The open houses were advertised through direct mailings to homes and businesses within 500 feet of a potential pipeline (approximately 22,000 individual postcards), paid advertising in local newspapers, various websites (OurReliableWater, TVWD, City of Hillsboro, Al's Garden Center, Washington County, Wilsonville Chamber, Tualatin River Watershed, Charbonneau neighborhood, all Washington County CPOs, Tualatin Riverkeepers), facebook pages (Wilsonville, Sherwood Community Action Committee), CPO newsletters, city newsletters (Beaverton, Hillsboro, and Wilsonville), Hillsboro School District newsletter, Cedar Mill News, Willamette Water Monthly, North Cooper Mountain Planning Area mailing list, WEA distribution list, and others.