

To: Co-Chair Girod; Co-Chair Nosse; Members of the Joint Ways & Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

From: Tracy Rainey, Government Relations Manager, Clean Water Services
(raineyt@cleanwaterservices.org)

Date: May 10, 2025

Re: Western Washington County Inflow & Infiltration Abatement Project – State Funding Request

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information on Clean Water Services' funding request to advance the Western Washington County Inflow & Infiltration Abatement Project. This project seeks to replace aging sewer lines within the city of Forest Grove. These sewer lines have an average age of 88 years and are experiencing significant deterioration which has led to excess water, primarily from groundwater and stormwater, entering the sanitary sewer system. This excess water, called "inflow and infiltration" or "I&I", can lead to sanitary overflows, creating risk to public health and the environment. In addition, the deteriorating infrastructure represents an infrastructure capacity and sufficiency challenge that can impact the ability to support additional housing.

Clean Water Services is a regional utility that provides regional sanitary and sewer services, including a regional conveyance system and four regional wastewater treatment facilities. For sanitary sewer infrastructure that exists within many of the cities within our service territory, there is a local infrastructure project cost-share of 50 percent local funds and 50 percent from regional sewer rates. The requested state funding for this project would cover the required local cost-share for the city of Forest Grove.

Clean Water Services recognizes the affordability challenges that this project represents for Forest Grove and their citizens. The total project cost for the replacement of these local sewer lines is approximately \$6 million. We are grateful that we received approximately \$960,000 through a federal appropriation that Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici championed. This federal funding covered approximately one-third of the local cost-share for the city of Forest Grove. With that, we are now seeking up to \$2 million in state funding to cover all or a portion of the remaining local cost-share. Clean Water Services will pay for the regional portion of this project which is anticipated to be approximately \$3 million.

In addition to multiple community benefits, it is also important to note that failure to advance this project creates the potential for Clean Water Services to need to prematurely upgrade regional infrastructure and treatment capacity due to the excessive flows coming into our regional wastewater treatment facility.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and are happy to provide any additional information that is helpful or answer any questions. Additional information about this project is attached.

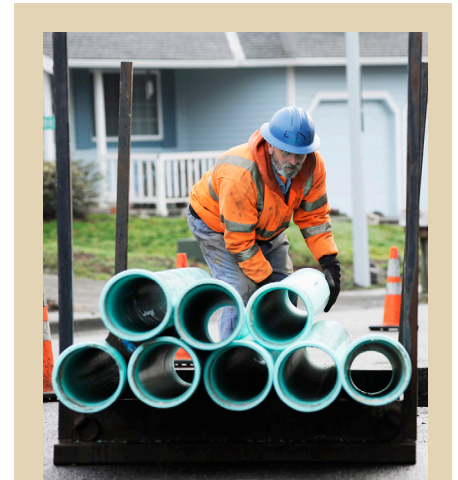
WESTERN WASHINGTON COUNTY INFLOW AND INFILTRATION (I&I) ABATEMENT PROJECT

STATE LEGISLATIVE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING REQUEST

Clean Water Services has identified significant levels of stormwater and groundwater entering the sanitary sewer system within the city of Forest Grove. These extra flows are called inflow and infiltration (I&I). Inflow is stormwater from yards, roofs, and footing drains or cross-connections with storm drains and downspouts, or manhole covers. Infiltration is groundwater that enters sewer pipes and manholes through holes, breaks, pipe joints, and defective or deteriorated lateral connections. Reducing I&I is important as it will eliminate extraneous flows and control peak flows. This reduction in flows is critical to preserve conveyance and treatment capacity which will provide benefits for communities in western Washington County, including the cities of Forest Grove, Gaston and Cornelius.

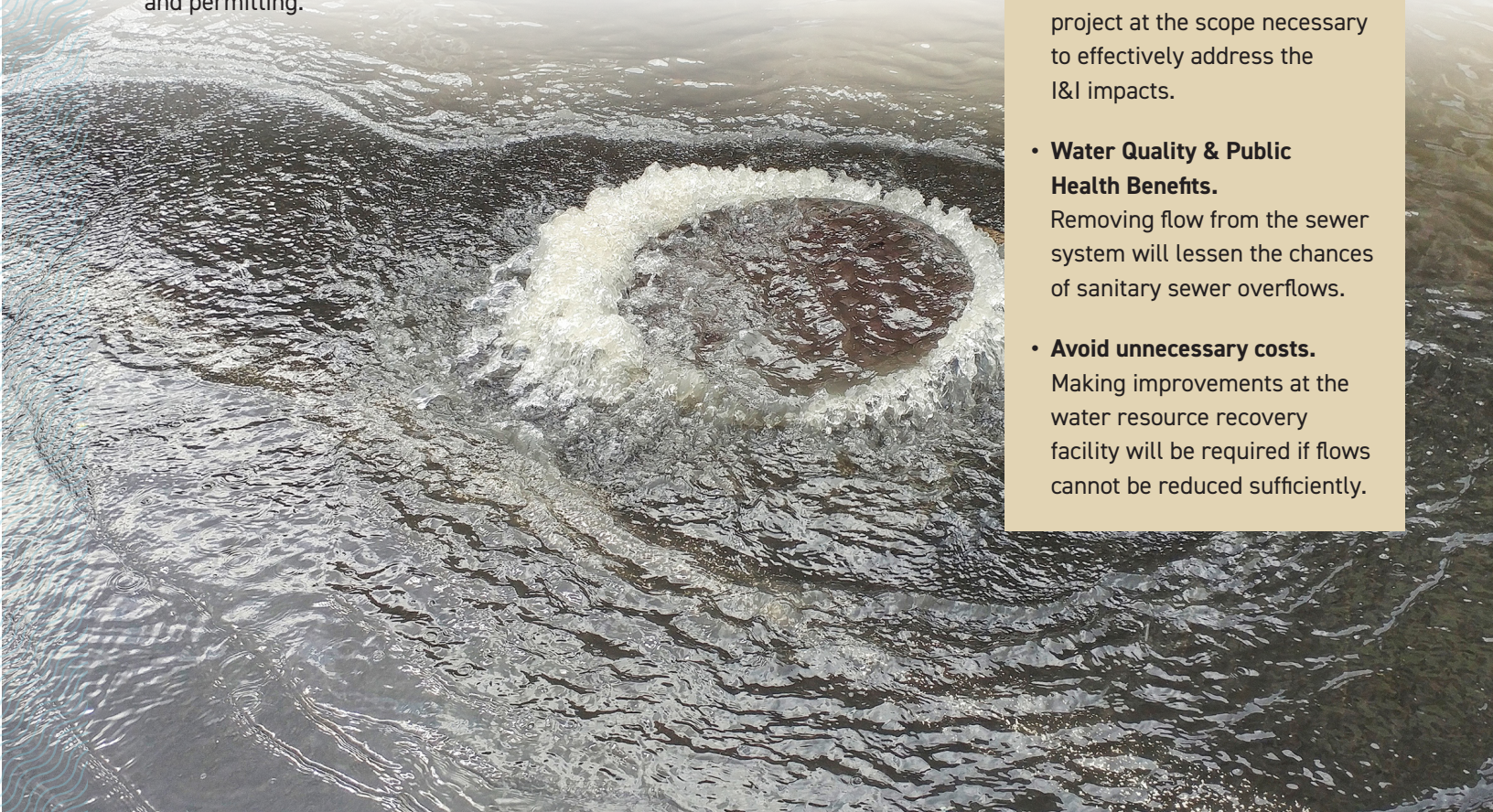
Clean Water Services is seeking federal funding for construction costs associated with replacing approximately 14,000 linear feet of existing 6-inch to 18-inch sanitary sewer mainline. The average age of the existing pipe is 88 years. The project construction will also include replacing approximately 265 service laterals, reconnecting the laterals to new or rehabilitated sewer mains, and replacing or rehabilitating approximately 60 manholes and all necessary surface restoration.

Most of the sanitary sewer mains and laterals will be rehabilitated with trenchless technologies to minimize construction-related impacts associated with the project. Local partners are covering the costs for investigation, design, and permitting.



Project Benefits

- **Address affordability challenges.** Alleviate local financial cost share constraints, providing direct ratepayer benefits. Local affordability challenges have made it difficult to advance the project at the scope necessary to effectively address the I&I impacts.
- **Water Quality & Public Health Benefits.** Removing flow from the sewer system will lessen the chances of sanitary sewer overflows.
- **Avoid unnecessary costs.** Making improvements at the water resource recovery facility will be required if flows cannot be reduced sufficiently.





Additional Project Detail

Investment in the Western Washington County Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) Abatement Project will provide important water quality benefits, offset unnecessary infrastructure costs associated with additional conveyance and treatment plant capacity, and will help to alleviate affordability challenges for multiple local communities.

Supportive Local Partners

- City of Forest Grove
- City of Cornelius
- Washington County Chamber of Commerce
- Washington County

Project Budget & Schedule

Estimated Total Cost:	\$6.2 million
Federal Funding Awarded:	\$959,752
State Funding Requested:	\$3 million
Current Status/Phase:	Investigation/Design/Permitting
Estimated Completion:	2026-2027

For more information:

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