

MEASURE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

This measure would allow Clackamas Water Environment Services ("WES"), the regional wastewater treatment provider for the residents of the City, to construct and obtain easements for an outfall pipeline underneath Jon Storm Park. Chapter X of the Oregon City Charter requires voter approval for both the granting of the easements and for the construction of permanent structures unrelated to recreation on park property.

WES already has the necessary funding for the outfall project, so this measure is not requesting approval of expenditure of funds and does not increase wastewater treatment rates. The only request of City residents is approval of access to complete that portion of the project underneath Jon Storm Park.

Constructed in 1984, WES' current outfall carries thoroughly cleaned wastewater from the Tri-City Water Resource Recovery Facility ("Tri-City Facility") in Oregon City to the Willamette River. The outfall is nearing its capacity during heavy rain events, which prevents water from flowing freely through the system and results in an increased risk of wastewater backing up into pipes and manholes.

To address this issue, WES is undertaking a project to construct a larger outfall for the Tri-City Facility. Based on a comprehensive routing study, placing the outfall pipeline underneath Jon Storm Park is the most cost-effective and least impactful on the environment and area businesses.

WES' consultants are performing an archeological investigation in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act to prevent any disruption to culturally sensitive resources in the area. The new outfall location will also provide water quality and general environmental benefits at its new location upstream of the existing outfall, further away from a cold-water refuge for migrating fish at the mouth of the Clackamas River.

Pending voter approval to work in Jon Storm Park, construction would take place in 2023 and 2024. WES anticipates the construction impacts to last a few months and the extent of the impacts will depend on the method of construction. No permanent visible impact to the park property would result from the project.

In addition to returning park property to its original condition, the project would also include enhancements to the park and surrounding areas, which may include native landscaping, riverbank restoration, trails and other needs identified by the City.

At the request of WES, the Oregon City Commission approved sending this measure to the voters. A "yes" vote would allow the construction of an outfall underneath Jon Storm Park and the granting of associated permanent and temporary construction easements necessary to complete the project.

A "no" vote would deny the requested authorization to construct the pipeline underneath Jon Storm Park and associated easements necessary to complete the project.