



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO SELECTS EPCOR TO EVALUATE AND ADVANCE NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

### **Innovative Public-Private Partnership (P3) Promises Affordable State-of-the-Art Facility to Replace Aging Infrastructure**

LAKE OSWEGO, OR—March 24, 2021—The City of Lake Oswego (Lake Oswego) today announced that its Selection Committee ranked EPCOR USA Inc. (EPCOR), a wholly owned subsidiary of EPCOR Utilities Inc., as the preferred proposer for negotiation of agreements to design, build, finance, operate, and maintain a new leading-edge wastewater treatment facility to serve Lake Oswego and parts of the greater Portland community, subject to City Council approval.

The first phase of this innovative public-private-partnership (P3) involves planning, designing, costing, and permitting to determine whether a new, environmentally friendly 43.8 million gallons per day (MGD) facility can be delivered at a cost no greater than that of upgrading the existing Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant to meet necessary Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) permitting requirements. If approved by the Cities of Lake Oswego and Portland, Phase 2 ground-breaking on the new facility would be expected to begin next year, with operations commencing in December 2024.

EPCOR's proposal was ranked first following a highly competitive procurement process that drew interest from across the globe. "The solution they are proposing to bring to Lake Oswego is innovative, cost effective, and community-minded," said Anthony Hooper, Deputy City Manager for Lake Oswego. "EPCOR has a proven track record of success that will potentially help open up new opportunities and long-term benefits for the residents and businesses of Lake Oswego, while also protecting rate-payers."

The new Lake Oswego treatment facility will replace the Portland owned and operated Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, which was originally built in 1964 and sits at the joining of Tryon Creek and the Willamette River. The aging plant is in need of a major upgrade or replacement. The proposed new facility, which would be owned by Lake Oswego and operated by EPCOR, would provide a cost-effective solution useable by both cities.

"The existing plant has reached the end of its life span and needs an extensive upgrade or a new solution. If both cities' maximum cost profiles can be met, then building a new plant is a win for the environment and a win for both cities," said Mike Jordan, Director of the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services.

The new state-of-the-art facility would also require a smaller overall footprint and elevate the cities' environmental commitment by increasing the amount of water treated to newly prescribed waste standards and returned to the river to the natural water cycle. It would also be a good neighbor to the community through odor control and a visually appealing design.

"We are extremely proud to have our proposal ranked first by the City of Lake Oswego and we are looking forward to becoming a long-term partner on this project, not just in serving the Lake Oswego community, but also in continuing our commitment to protect and carefully manage water resources," said Joe Gysel, President of EPCOR USA.

Lake Oswego and Portland Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) have been working together to advance this innovative approach. Faced with the choice of upgrading an outdated facility, Lake Oswego has opted to explore the feasibility of investing in more modern solutions of sewage treatment for the future. With EPCOR, the cities are excited to take the next step to advance environmental stewardship while providing the public with affordable and efficient wastewater treatment services.

Advisors to Lake Oswego on this innovative P3 included Illuminati Infrastructure Advisors, LLC, Carollo Engineers, Inc., and Hawkins Delafield & Wood, LLP.

Headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona, EPCOR USA builds, owns and operates water, wastewater and natural gas facilities and infrastructure. EPCOR USA provides water, wastewater, wholesale water and natural gas services to approximately 780,000 people across 42 communities and 18 counties in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. Other key members of the EPCOR team for the Lake Oswego wastewater treatment facility include Aecon Infra Development Inc., Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions and J.R. Filanc Construction Company Inc.

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### **About Lake Oswego**

Located just 8 miles south of downtown Portland, Lake Oswego is a residential community of nearly 40,000 residents that is rich in history, landscape, and culture. In the northwestern corner of Clackamas County along the Willamette River, the city is centrally located to some of Oregon's most renowned attributes – Mount Hood, the Oregon Coast, the Columbia Gorge and noted vineyards. City of Lake Oswego operates and maintains 206 miles of collection system. All of these assets eventually flow into the Tryon Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.

### **For further information, please contact:**

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