

FONT & AUDIO



SHARE THIS

- Facebook
- Twitter (#twitter)
- Google+ (!#google_plus)
- Email (!#email)
- LinkedIn (!#linkedin)

MORE STORIES

Lake Oswego continues planning for new wastewater treatment plant

Holly Bartholomew February 07 2022

LO city officials say rate payers wouldn't pay more because of the new facility

(<https://pamplinmedia.com/images/artimg/00003727071869-0928.jpg>)As parts of the 58-year-old Tyron Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant near the end of their useful life, the city of Lake Oswego is working on plans for a new facility to replace the existing one near Foothills Park.

Three years ago the city began to weigh the costs of building and operating a new facility against the costs of completing required upgrades and continuing to use the current facility. According to Deputy City Manager Anthony Hooper, the costs appear comparable.

As part of the planning process for the potential new plant, city officials along with staff from EPCOR, the company that would run the new plant, presented plans for the new facility at a Foothills neighborhood meeting (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5O7xuH3HKM>) Feb. 4.

The city of Portland owns and operates the current plant, which was built in 1964 and treats wastewater from Lake Oswego, a portion of Southwest Portland and small parcels of unincorporated Clackamas and Washington counties.



COURTESY IMAGE: CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO - The plans for a new wastewater treatment facility include an administrative building and a completely enclosed plant.

ADVERTISING | Continue reading below

(<https://reach.adspmg.com/cl.php?>

bannerid=13347&zoneid=739&sig=cd74fb961475afaf3142c69c75890514174c30575a4bfff6c9fb5ebfe27e43cc&oadest=https%3A%2F%2Fcli.re%2FMQbYXJ)

The new facility would sit on six acres next to the existing 13-acre facility and, according to plans presented by Hooper, it would look more like a commercial facility than a wastewater treatment plant.

With upgrades needed for the current facility to meet Department of Environmental Quality standards and to withstand a natural disaster, the city began considering the costs of a newer, cleaner and more resilient facility in 2018. The feasibility study completed at the time revealed that over 30 years, building the new facility would be more cost effective for the city.

Hooper explained that building the new facility wouldn't affect Lake Oswego rate payers.

"We would need to increase rates by 3.9%, whether we built a new plant or whether we upgraded the existing one," Hooper said.

The 3.9% annual increases would last for 15 to 17 years, according to the city.

While Portland owns and operates the current treatment facility, the plans in the works stipulate Portland would sell it to Lake Oswego for \$1 and Lake Oswego would own both the existing facility and new plant. EPCOR would run the new facility for Lake Oswego, serving the same population as the current Tyron Creek plant.

ADVERTISING | Continue reading below



(<https://reach.adspmg.com/cl.php?>

bannerid=13350&zoneid=739&sig=5c53682ff6fd455eb5b8438c730f4a06cf5f74135b4b73311cc2ebc1b476b64e&oadest=https%3A%2F%2Fcli.re%2FXnnWW8)

After Lake Oswego purchases the existing plant from Portland, it would be responsible for its demolition and remediation.

Right now, plans for the new facility are about 30% complete, according to Hooper, but the city plans to submit its completed development application for the plant in the next two months.

According to Lee Ward, an EPCOR project engineer, the new facility would be able to treat just as much waste as the current facility at only half the size because of a technology called AquaNereda. While the current Tyron Creek plant treats about 7 million gallons of wastewater per day, the new facility would have the capacity to treat 53 million gallons daily.

AquaNereda uses advanced biological treatment and aerobic granular biomass to efficiently handle sewage, Ward said.

Though the technology is about 30 years old, Ward said it's not widely used in the United States. It is much more popular in Europe, he said, though new facilities using AquaNereda are currently in the works in Montana and Idaho.

According to Hooper, the new facility would include an administrative building built to match the neighborhood and a parking lot with 22 parking spaces. The treatment facility would be completely enclosed, he added.

ADVERTISING | Continue reading below



(<https://reach.adspmg.com/cl.php?>

bannerid=13186&zoneid=739&sig=5b9ba1504b608a803d33ba086820cd158ec2b628863a0982f0fd94b2c7d6fc73&oadest=https%3A%2F%2Fcli.re%2FZ44X9v)

The new facility would also be designed to continue working despite a once-in-100-years flood or a major earthquake.

According to Ward, the new plant would be expected to last at least until 2055.

"At the end of 30 years, we expect it will have a lot of life left," Ward added.

"That's very unique (for a wastewater treatment plant)," Hooper said. "But we're able to do that because of how compact the technology is."

The Lake Oswego City Council will officially decide whether to move forward with the project over the summer and preliminary construction could begin early next year.



(<http://SavingLocalNews.com>)

You count on us to stay informed and we depend on you to fund our efforts. Quality local journalism takes time and money. Please support us to protect the future of community journalism.

Sponsored



LIVE MERCATO GROVE

Up to
8 Weeks Free Rent
+ 1 Year Free Parking on
2 Bd and 1 Bd + Den Homes!

ALSO ON PAMPLIN MEDIA

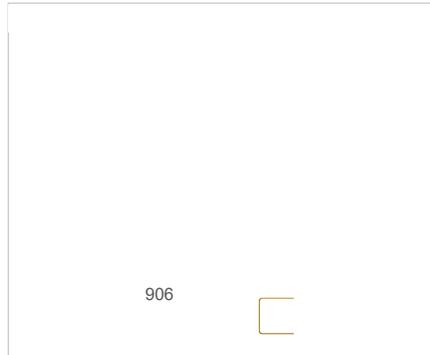
2 days ago · 16 comments

Oregon to try ...

2 days ago · 1 comment

Gresham ...

Sponsored



**COUNT ON US FOR
AWARD-WINNING SERVICE
AND GREAT FARES**

906

What do you think?

0 Responses



Upvote



Funny



Love



Surprised



Angry



Sad

Pamplin Media Comment Policy

Comments are welcomed and encouraged on this site. Please read our [Comment Policy](#) before commenting.



0 Comments

Pamplin Media

Disqus' Privacy Policy

Oswego Comms

Favorite

Tweet

Share

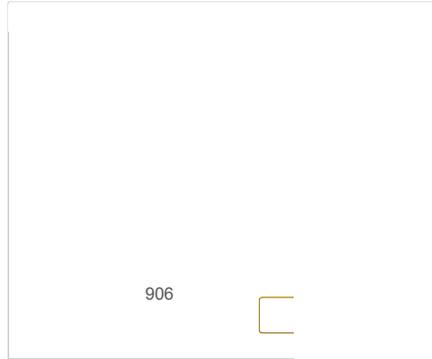
Sort by Best

Pamplin Media requires you to verify your email address before posting. Send verification email to kfulton@ci.oswego.or.us



Start the discussion...

Sponsored



COUNT ON US FOR
AWARD-WINNING SERVICE
AND GREAT FARES



[back to top](#)