# UTILITY PROGRAM

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# BACKGROUND

- Approx. 4 FTE
- General Fund approx. \$1 M
- Gatekeepers to public right-of-way for utility and communications companies
- Negotiates franchises 50+
- Administers utility license code, privilege taxes
  approximately 250 accounts
- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest source of general fund; generally stable
- Between \$80-90 M annually
- Historically passive management

#### WHO ARE OUR EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS?

Portland General Electric PacifiCorp/Pacific Power and Light NW Natural Gas Comcast and Comcast affiliates CenturyLink/Lumen Zenith Energy Terminal Holdings **Chevron Pipeline** 

OHSU, PSU, Lewis and Clark College AT&T Wireless, Verizon Wireless, T-Mobile

Other telecommunications companies

Portland Water Bureau, Bureau of Environmental Services, Bureau of Technology Services/IRNE

#### MAJOR PROJECTS

• Pass and Implement the Right-of-Way Code

- Rewrite the code for clarity and consistency
- Complete back-end work with Technology services for a smooth transition (\$750 one-time funding)

# BENEFITS TO A ROW CODE

Move from tax to a right-of-way fee

Standardize franchise provisions; clarify gross revenues

Easier and more efficient administration

Further the City's commitment to active management of right-of-way

Provide better service to City, residents and utilities

Treat companies similarly; consistent standards

Streamline process to access the right-of-way

Able to adapt to changing law and technology

### MT. HOOD CABLE REGULATORY COMMISSION

The MHCRC was formed through an agreement by the 6 MHCRC Member Jurisdictions (Multnomah County and the cities of Fairview, Gresham, Portland, Troutdale, and Wood Village) to:

- Administer cable franchise agreements across jurisdictional boundaries which do not necessarily coincide with the service areas of the cable providers,
- Provide enhanced public benefits in franchising and regulation, and economies of scale in operations,
- Advise Member Jurisdictions on subjects relating to cable communications, and
- Function as the Jurisdictions' representative for regional, state, and national cable communications policy matters.

Approx. 4 staff

Intergovernmental funds – Approx \$300k from CoP

#### Goals for 23-24

- Complete Ziply franchise future
- Complete Strategic Planning
- Complete revised IGA and staff services agreement