

**Bull Run**  
TREATMENT  
PROJECTS

*Our water: Safe and abundant  
for generations to come*

PORTLAND WATER BUREAU

# Bull Run Treatment Projects

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## City Council

June 28, 2023



# Agenda

1. Intro and background
2. Cost and how to address
3. Moving into construction
4. Six Council Items



# Bull Run TREATMENT PROJECTS

## Filtration Facility



Facility looking southeast from main entry

# Bull Run TREATMENT PROJECTS

## Filtration Pipelines



# Brief History

2006

2009 -  
2016

January  
2017

August  
2017

December  
2017

February  
2023



EPA passes regulation to protect against *crypto*, because it is so resistant to chlorine

Portland develops unique compliance approach to regulations - program is successful for 5 years

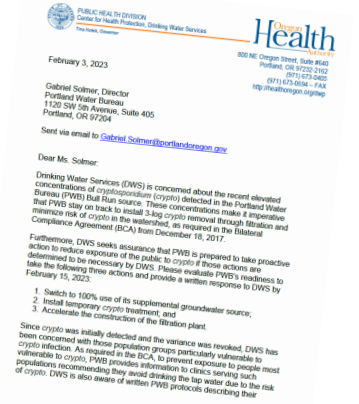
Low level detections show *Cryptosporidium* is present in the watershed at levels sufficient to require treatment

**Portland City Council passes resolution to build filtration**

Bilateral Compliance Agreement signed with Oregon Health Authority

Increased *crypto* detections prompt schedule compliance letter from Oregon Health Authority

Bureau (PWB) Bull Run source. These concentrations make it imperative that PWB stay on track to install 3-log *crypto* removal through filtration and minimize risk of *crypto* in the watershed, as required in the Bilateral Compliance Agreement (BCA) from December 18, 2017.



# Resiliency & Benefit

- Helps adapt to climate change
  - Fires
  - Algal blooms
  - Turbidity
- Seismically resilient
  - Earthquakes
- Emerging contaminants
  - Aging infrastructure
  - Replacing poor condition conduits
- Resiliency for most vulnerable



## Heavy rains cause switch to Portland well water

by: Jim Redden, Portland Tribune  
Posted: Nov 6, 2022 / 02:12 PM PST  
Updated: Nov 6, 2022 / 02:12 PM PST

PORTLAND, Ore. ([Portland Tribune](#)) — The Portland Water Bureau has temporarily switched the city's water supply to the Columbia South Shore Well Field because of turbidity in the **Bull Run Reservoir** caused by recent heavy rains.

Turbidity is organic material suspended in the water. Operations Manager Chris Wanner said the transition from Bull Run water to 100% groundwater went smoothly.

# Funding support

- EPA WIFIA Loan
  - **Saves ratepayers \$247M**
  - Championed by Senator Merkley for projects of this scale
  - Largest WIFIA loan to date
  - WIFIA has invited application for 2nd loan
- Anticipating over \$500,000 in Energy Trust of Oregon incentives
- Going forward
  - **Hiring consultant** to seek non-rate revenues with private, federal, and state funding opportunities
  - **Continuing collaborations** with federal, state, and local governments to secure additional resources in consultation with the Office of Government Relations



The logo for the EPA WIFIA Program. It features the EPA logo at the top, followed by the word "WIFIA" in large blue letters with a water drop icon under the 'I', and the word "PROGRAM" in smaller blue letters below it.

- Very low 1.89% interest rate
- Flexible repayment

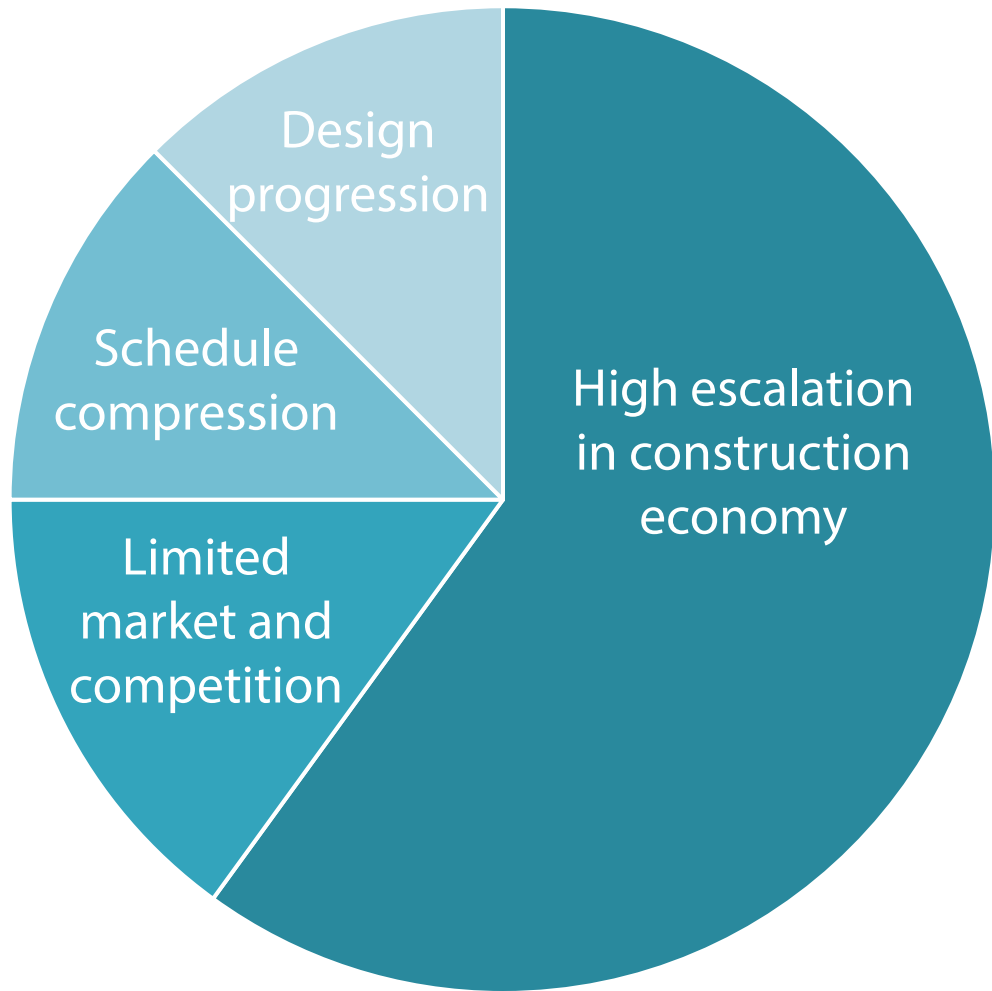


**JEFF MERKLEY**  
UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR OREGON

# Current estimated program costs

	WIFIA Application & Funding Plan	2022 Estimated Costs	Current Estimated Costs
Capital Costs	\$967M	\$1,249M	\$1,578M
Other WIFIA-eligible Costs (financing costs, overhead, and interest)	\$106M	\$106M	\$106M
Available Contingency	\$410M	\$128M	\$150M
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING</b>	<b>\$1,483M</b>	<b>\$1,483M</b>	<b>\$1,834M</b>

# Key drivers for increase in estimated costs

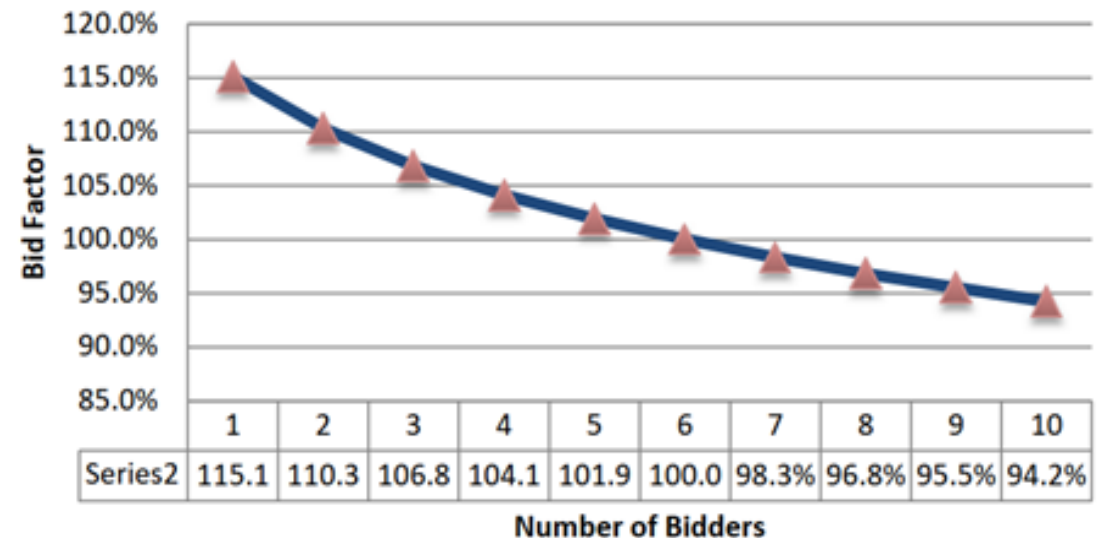


## Regional Case Study

### Willamette Water Supply *Our Reliable Water Future*

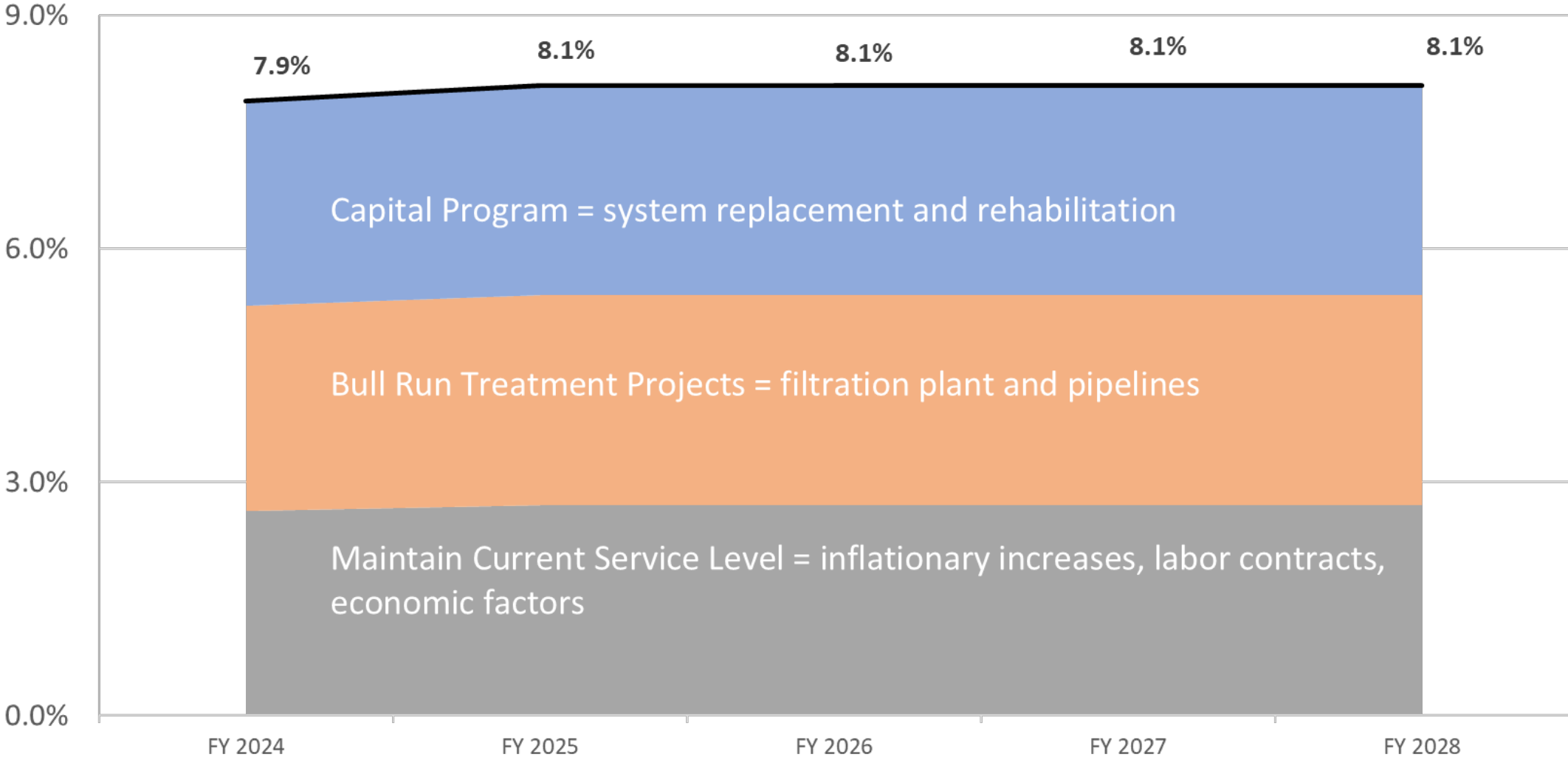
- New 60 MGD water treatment plant
- **46%** cost increase in 2 months

## Impact of Bidder Participation





# Rate Forecast



# Centering water rate affordability

## Maintaining current forecasted rates

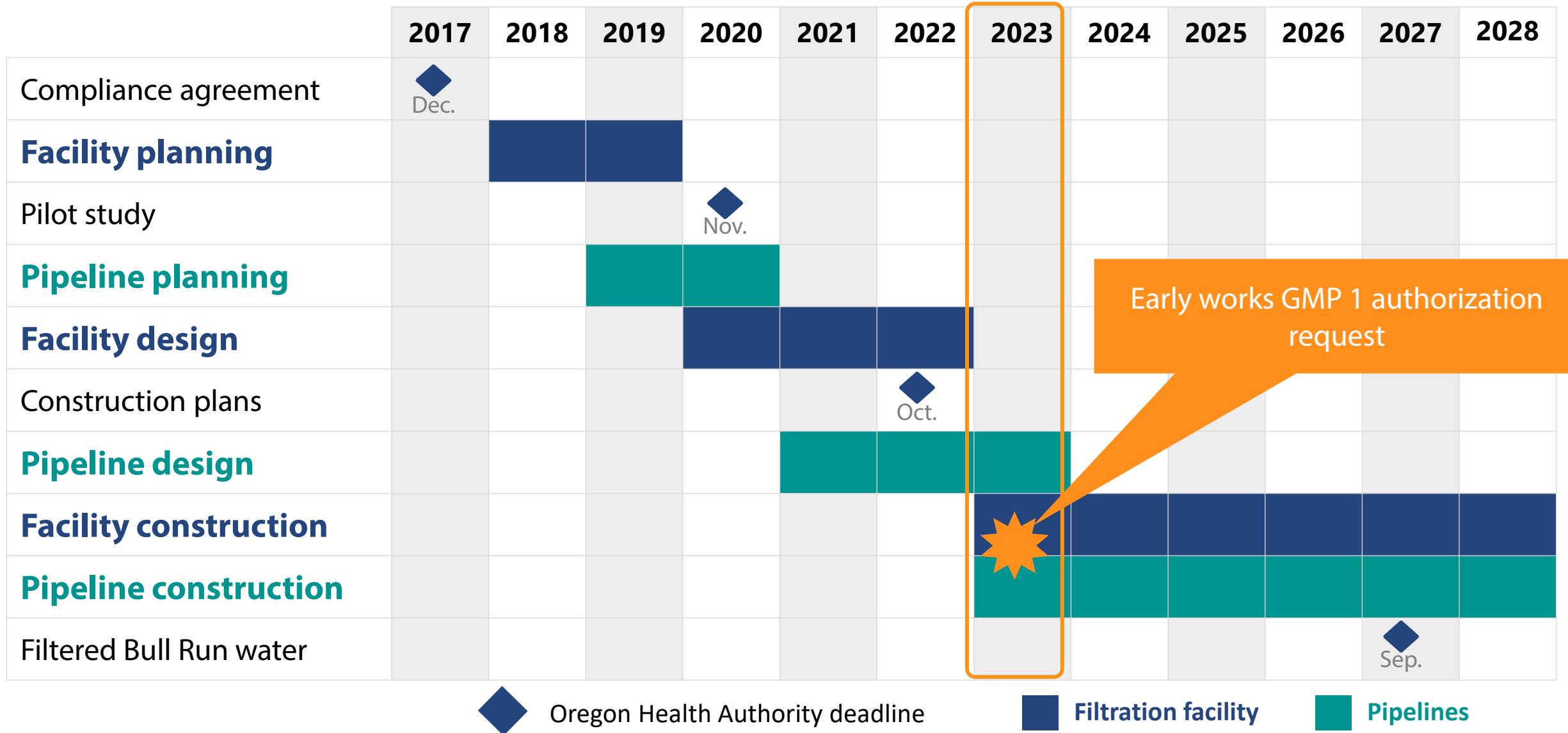
- Applying for second WIFIA Loan
  - 49% WIFIA - \$172 M
  - Defer payment until projected rates are lower
- Reviewing Capital Improvement Plan
  - Deferring projects
  - Slowing Seismic Implementation Plan
  - Maintaining core asset work
  - Less able to fund emergency or new interagency projects, federal mandates (FERC), or react to failure increases of an asset class



## Financial assistance programs

- A dedicated financial assistance service team
- Discounts available for customers in a variety of financial situations

# Bull Run Filtration critical path to compliance



# Multi-step land use permitting process



- Type III conditional use review
- Over 25 individual land use and permit applications
- Over 2,700 pages of applications, narratives and supporting documentation
- Public hearing scheduled for June 30



- Required for secondary access
- Currently in review
- Preliminary process direction expected June 30

# Equity contracting and workforce

- Partnership
  - City Procurement Office, Project Team, and the contracting community working together
  - Commitment to maximizing participation
- Preparing the community
  - Engagement over the last year
  - Presentations at over 16 organizations for both workforce and contracting
- Workforce
  - Largest project yet to implement the new Regional Workforce Equity Agreement
  - Goals for apprenticeship and Safe from Hate workplace



# Building vital infrastructure that will serve local industry and businesses

**4,700** construction jobs +  
**25%** hard construction costs  
to equity contractors

**\$1.59B** economic activity through  
construction +  
**\$14.9M** annually when complete



“[These projects] pay well and give people economic independence. If you have that experience, that gives you an opportunity to start your own company and hire other people and grow.” -- Andre Baugh, principal at Group AGB



“For us water is super important. We use water in everything we do. Put it simple... without water we couldn't have a business.” -- Fernando Rodriguez, Fernando's Alegria



“One of the things that's really beneficial is having assurance from the City that an item such as *Cryptosporidium* is not in the water. This will help us ensure that the care we provide our patients does not inadvertently cause them any harm.” -- Darcey Ayala, Oregon Health & Science University

# Council Actions – Reports to Council

- 561: Accept the Bull Run Treatment Projects 2023 Annual Report (Report)
  - Annual update on the status of the Bull Run Treatment Projects (*no Council action required*)
- 562: Extend the Contract with Brown and Caldwell for Program Management and Support Services for the Bull Run Filtration Projects (Report)
  - No-cost extension to duration due to City 5-yr original contract length requirement (*Council vote to accept the report*)

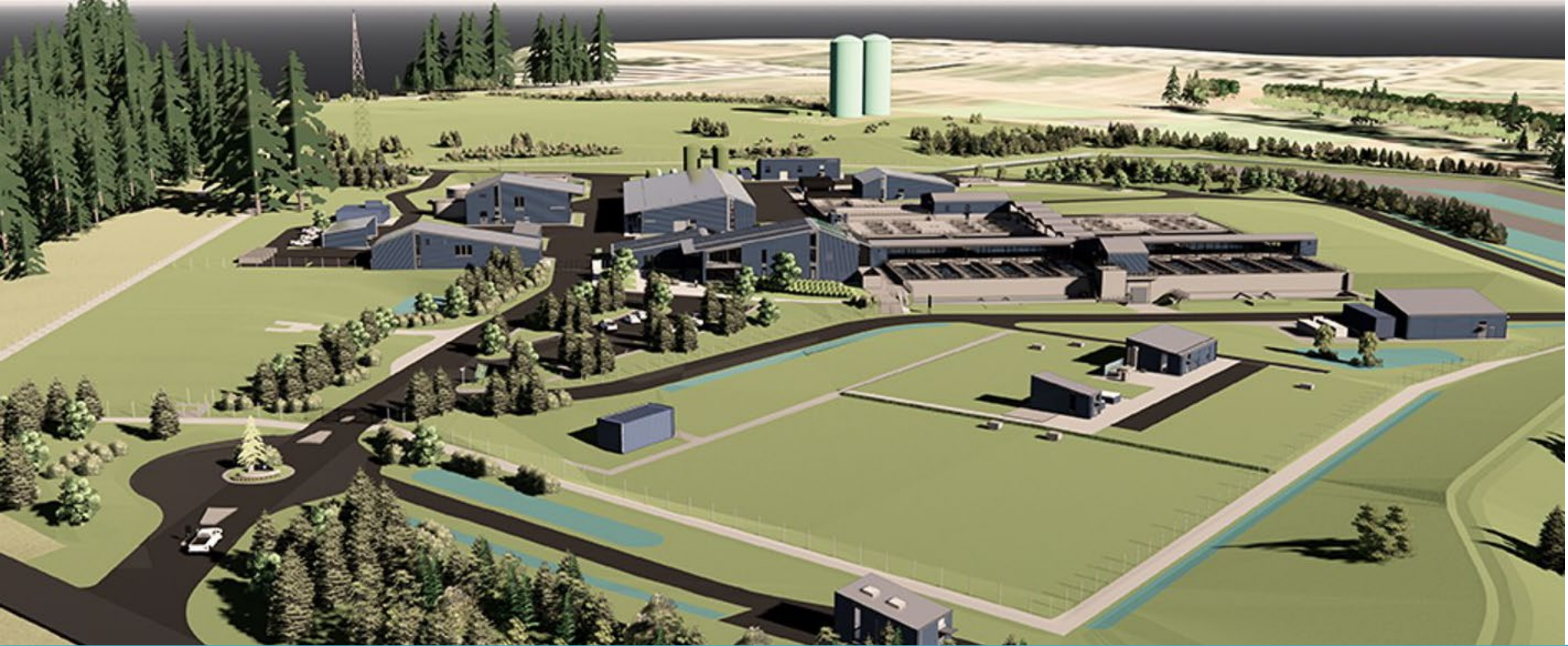
# Council Actions – Guaranteed Maximum Prices

- 563 Authorize the Bull Run Filtration Facility Project construction in two phases with two guaranteed maximum prices and update estimated total cost of construction to \$1,069,000,000 (Ordinance)
- 564 Authorize the Bull Run Filtration Pipelines Project construction in two phases with two guaranteed maximum prices and update estimated total cost of construction to \$404,000,000 (Ordinance)
- **565** Accept Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$286,245,376 from MWH-Kiewit JV for construction of the first phase of the Bull Run Filtration Facility Project (Procurement Report - 00001428) (Report)
- **566** Accept Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$51,792,077 from Bull Run Conveyance Partners for construction of the first phase of the Bull Run Filtration Pipelines Project (Procurement Report - RFP 00001634) (Report)

Key to staying on track  
and managing costs







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**Thank you!**

**Learn More** [portland.gov/bullrunprojects](http://portland.gov/bullrunprojects)