



MEMORANDUM

April 9, 2015

To: Mayor Hales
Commissioner Fish
Commissioner Fritz
Commissioner Novick
Commissioner Saltzman

From: Teresa Elliott, PE 
Principal Engineer

Subject: LU 14-249689 Council Hearing 4/23/15
Washington Park Reservoir Improvements Project

On March 30, 2015 the Historic Landmarks Commission considered public testimony prior to making its recommendation to support PWB's demolition request (LU 14-249689). This request is based on implementation of the Design Concept (the proposed historic preservation and redevelopment plan) as explained in the application. We would like to clarify the Portland Water Bureau's (PWB) position on a few of the issues raised at the hearing.

First, a new below-ground reservoir is needed to replace Reservoirs 3 and 4. This reservoir will continue to meet the needs of our west side customers for the foreseeable future. Both reservoirs will be taken out of service for the new construction; the reservoirs are currently empty because we are determining how the water system will respond when the reservoirs are taken off-line for construction. The new below-ground reservoir is essential to ensure that our users have reliable water supply during periods of high demand, such as hot weather, for emergency fire suppression purposes, or in emergency situations when other reservoirs may not be fully operational (e.g.,

landslides, wildfires or earthquakes). During normal operations we think we can supply our customer needs through the pipelines. However, we don't know when an emergency will occur so west side storage is essential for the City's livability.

Second, we are committed to carrying out landslide mitigation measures that will substantially reduce the risks to the water system, historic resources, and recreational amenities in the Washington Park Reservoirs Historic District. As documented extensively in our written application, the reservoirs have been subjected to ongoing damage from landslide activity since they were constructed in 1894. Although PWB has taken steps to reduce the pace of earth movement, water system infrastructure will continue to be damaged as the slide continues to move downhill. As explained in Section 1-3 of the application, this project includes extensive geotechnical engineering to substantially reduce the risks to critical water infrastructure and to the new reflecting pools that will replace the historic open water function of the demolished reservoirs.

Of equal importance, these measures will substantially reduce risks from a major earthquake. Although the 1894 reservoir design was highly advanced for its period, the reservoirs were not designed to withstand a major earthquake and certainly do not meet today's seismic codes. The reservoirs are likely to experience severe damage during a large seismic event and are not expected to be available for the City's recovery. If the reservoirs were to remain open and filled with water, an earthquake could trigger a major slide that would cause severe damage to the reservoirs and potentially to downstream homes and businesses.

Third, as documented in Section 1-4 of the application, we have supported an extensive public involvement process since the project began in 2013. We have held three public open houses, convened and met with the Community Sounding Board nine times, met with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Portland Historic Resources Committee four times, held public meetings before the Historic Landmarks Commission five times, and met with nearby neighborhood associations on multiple occasions. We have also made extensive use of social media. The attached communications report provides additional documentation of PWB's public involvement and outreach efforts.

Fourth, we are committed to maintaining the new water infrastructure, historic structures and new surface water features within the Historic District. The new infrastructure will be less expensive to maintain, because it will be less susceptible to earthquake and landslide damage, and it will be newer. However, as with any public entity, we cannot

guarantee that future City Councils will fully fund maintenance activities in the face of other budgetary demands.

Fifth, we are committed to minimizing construction impacts to our neighbors. We have been and will continue to work with the contractor, design team, Portland Parks and Recreation, Washington Park Transportation Management Association, Community Sounding Board and Neighborhood Associations to minimize the effects of construction on the public during construction. There will be no permanent traffic impacts on the neighbors. The Type 3 Land Use addresses construction management practices, traffic control, etc. However, construction impacts are not part of the Type 4 demolition review.

Sixth, opponents to the proposed demolition cited two comprehensive plan goals that they felt were not met and which were not specifically addressed in the application because we had determined they were not directly applicable – Goal 1 Metropolitan Coordination and Goal 2 Urban Development. To the extent that these goals and related policies may be applicable, we offer the following findings:

- **Goal 1 Metropolitan Coordination** requires that the Comprehensive Plan be coordinated with federal and state law and support regional goals, objectives and plans adopted by Metro. Goal 1 is not intended to provide policy direction when making quasi-judicial land use decisions. In any case, PWB has coordinated extensively with the Oregon Health Authority and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in making the decision to cover open reservoirs to address state and federal regulatory requirements. PWB has also coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office in developing a “memorandum of agreement” to implement additional mitigation measures to restore the historic character of the Washington Park Reservoirs Historic District. To the extent that Goal 1 is applicable, demolition of the reservoir basins and replacement with a new, below-ground reservoir and surface water features has been coordinated with relevant state and federal agencies and supports the goal of intergovernmental coordination.
- **Goal 2 Urban Development** is to “Maintain Portland’s role as a major regional employment, population and cultural center through public policies that encourage expanded opportunity for housing and jobs, while retaining the character of established residential neighborhoods and business centers.” To the extent that Goal 2 is applicable, the new below-ground reservoir will support planned employment and population growth by providing critical infrastructure. **Goal 2, Policy 2.6 Open Space** directs the city to provide opportunities for

recreation and visual relief by preserving Portland's parks and trails; by establishing a loop trail that encircles the city; and by promoting recreational use of the city's lakes. Policy 2.6 overlaps with other comprehensive plan goals and policies that are addressed in Section 2-3 of the application (e.g., Goal 11 Parks and Recreation, Policy 11.39 Maintenance, Goal 12 Urban Design, and Policies 12.1 Portland's Character, 12.5 Pathways and 12.4 Provide for Pedestrians). The Design Proposal supports Policy 2.6 by (1) replacing the existing reservoirs with new reflecting pools and rehabilitating historic structures that offer visual relief from nearby developed areas; and (2) restoring pathways that provide access to the entire Historic District during regular park hours and connect with the Washington Park trails and the 40-Mile Loop Trail.

Finally, PWB has made substantial investments in the Washington Park reservoir system since construction in 1894. As noted in Appendix C, PWB has repaired and modified the reservoirs a number of times responding to landslide movement and aging infrastructure. More recently, in 2008-2010, PWB addressed a number of deferred maintenance activities above and beyond our annual reservoir maintenance program.

As documented in Section 1-4.5 and 2-3.3 (which address to historic preservation and redevelopment plan), we are committed to restoring the eight remaining contributing historic resources in the Historic District, constructing new surface water features, and opening up the entire District to the public upon completion of the project. The Design Proposal resulted from an extensive public outreach program and the design advice provided by the Historic Landmarks Commission, the State Historic Preservation Office, the AIA Portland Historic Resources Committee, and Portland Parks and Recreation.

We appreciate the opportunity to present our views and look forward to responding to any further questions you may have at your April 23, 2015 public hearing.

Attachments: Communications Report
Hearing Packet

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY

WASHINGTON PARK RESERVOIR
IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
APRIL 2015

Portland
Water
Bureau



AECOM



Water Bureau Washington Park Reservoir
Improvements Project
Public Involvement Summary – April 2015

The Portland Water Bureau, in partnership with consultants AECOM, JLA Public Involvement, Peter Meijer Architects, MWA Architects, Winterbrook Planning, and Hoffman Construction Company began conducting public outreach in 2013 for the Washington Park Reservoir Improvements Project.

This early public involvement was an integral part of the project’s conceptual design process. The project staff, consisting of Water Bureau employees and the consultant team, collaborated with members of the public to ensure decisions were made in consideration of and benefit to public needs and preferences. Four overarching goals form the core of the Washington Park Reservoir Improvement Project’s public involvement plan:

- Provide members of the public with project information, progress updates, and opportunities to participate effectively in the design and planning process.
- Participate in meaningful public discussions that identify project opportunities and challenges and set priorities.
- Engage in a public decision-making process, accessible to community members.
- Invest in and develop long-term, collaborative working relationships and learning opportunities with community partners and stakeholders.

The project staff understands that successful public participation is an ongoing process. Staff is committed to being open and transparent throughout the project and will continue to provide opportunities for public involvement, engage in meaningful discussions, and distribute project information and updates, relevant documents, and materials in a timely manner.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Below is a snapshot of outreach conducted from July 2013 to April 2015. Additional details are included on subsequent pages of this public involvement summary.

- **Stakeholder Interviews:** 10 interviews were conducted; 29 members of the public participated.
- **Community Sounding Board:** The board, comprised of eight (8) members of the public, participated in nine (9) meetings open to the public. On average, six (6) board members, 12 project staff, and three (3) members of the public attended each of the nine (9) meetings.
- **Open House Events:** Two (2) in-person open house events were conducted; 51 members of the public participated. Three (3) online open houses were conducted; 265 members of the public participated.
- **Reservoir Tours:** Three (3) tours were conducted; 47 members of the public participated.
- **Community Events:** Project staff hosted project information booths at seven (7) community events.
- **Neighborhood Association Meetings:** Project staff presented project information at 17 neighborhood association meetings.

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- **Businesses:** Project staff provided project information to 200 local area businesses in proximity to Washington Park.
- **Informational Meetings:** Project staff attended and presented project information at two (2) Washington Parking Transportation Management Association Board meetings, three (3) American Institute of Architects Historic Resources Committee meetings, and one (1) Japanese Garden Expansion Design Team meeting.
- **Site Signage:** Project staff has posted pertinent project information and updates, public involvement opportunities, and dates of public meetings/hearings in and around Washington Park on a park kiosk and posters.
- **Webpage:** The dedicated webpage for the project has received more than 25,000 *unique views.
- **Water Blog:** 13 articles related to the project have been posted on the Water Blog, receiving overall more than 35,000 unique views.
- **Social Media:** 38 project related messages have been posted on Twitter and Facebook, receiving overall more than 115,000 views.
- **Media:** 24 news articles have been published that briefly describe or reference the project.
- **Records Requests:** Six (6) public records requests have received and filled regarding the project.
- **Land Use Review Application process:** Local residents and businesses, Community Sounding Board members, City of Portland and project staff, neighborhood associations and district coalitions, and interested parties who provided contact information have been notified in numerous ways about the application process:
 - 9,175 postcards mailed to residents
 - 1,512 e-mails sent
 - Kiosk postings
 - Posted notification of the Historic Landmarks Commission meeting date to 52 locations in and around Washington Park twice as meeting was rescheduled
 - Posted notification of the City Council meeting date to 52 locations in and around Washington Park
 - The Bureau of Development Services mailed and posted information on their website about meetings open to the public (including a Type IV Land Use View pre-application meeting and five (5) meetings with the Historic Landmarks Commission)
 - Project website and Water Blog article postings

**Unique views: Visitors to the site are measured according to their unique IP addresses; unique visitors are counted only once no matter how many times they visit the site.*

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FEEDBACK

During the outreach process, several consistent themes were voiced by members of the public regarding the project:

COST

- Many people voiced concern over project financing and their desire for the Water Bureau to use water rates wisely.

MAINTENANCE

- Many people wanted to make sure there would be long-term maintenance of the reservoirs and landscaping.

HISTORIC FEATURES

- The project staff heard that it is important to preserve the historic structures and character of the site.

PUBLIC ACCESS

- One area of opportunity that many stakeholders were excited about was the potential to increase public access to the reservoir sites.

NEIGHBORS

- It was important to project area neighbors that construction and site use concepts minimize the impact on surrounding neighborhoods.

WATER FEATURES

- Many participants commented that the project design should incorporate a reflecting pond or water feature on top of the new reservoirs.

WILDLIFE

- Many community members requested that the project maintain or create a wildlife habitat, with an emphasis on wetland or water-based habitats.

PROJECT NOT NEEDED

- At each outreach event, there were some people who commented that the project was not needed and that the current reservoirs should be maintained.

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STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

Summary

Interviews were conducted in June and July 2013 to gain a better understanding of stakeholder challenges and concerns, as well as how the Washington Park Reservoirs area is currently used.

Notification

Neighborhood associations, community groups, and other local stakeholders who worked or lived in the area or represented community interests in Washington Park were directly contacted by e-mail, phone, or in-person by project staff to determine interest in interview participation.



Participation

In total, 10 interviews were conducted with 29 individuals:

- Jason Allen, OR SHPO
- Joe Angel, Arlington Heights Neighborhood
- Don Baack, SW Trails
- Amy Baker, Hamilton Eddy Architects
- Gary Berger, Hillside Neighborhood Association
- Jeff Boly, Arlington Heights Neighborhood
- Carin Carlson, Hamilton Eddy Architects
- Jen Callaghan, Northwest Heights Neighborhood Association
- Charlie Clark, Northwest Heights Neighborhood Association
- Nicholas Clark, Neighbors West Northwest - Goose Hollow
- Allan Classen, Northwest Examiner
- Laura Craig Benet, Hamilton Eddy Architects
- Kevin Drisoll, Hamilton Eddy Architects
- Patty Gardner, Pearl District Neighborhood Association
- Ingeborg Holliday, Arlington Heights Neighborhood
- Leslie Johnson, Goose Hollow Neighborhood Association
- Ann Mahoney, GRD MA HRC
- Denise McGriff, AIA HD; PDC; Bosco-Milligan Foundation Board
- Eric Nagle, Arlington Heights Neighborhood
- Don Nelson, Historical writer
- Natalie Pesin, HRA; HPLO
- Dustin Ponsor, DDP Architecture

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- Wendy Rahm, Downtown NA
- Jamie Sanderook, Citizen
- Phil Selinger, Northwest District Neighborhood Association
- Susan Alpert Siegel, Arlington Heights Neighborhood
- Shannon Thomas, Arlington Heights Neighborhood
- Brooke Webster, Northwest Heights Neighborhood Association
- Bill Welch, Northwest District Neighborhood Association

Interview questions included:

- What do you know about this project?
- What thoughts/concerns do you have about the history of this project?
- For those who you represent, are there other issues?
- Are there any specific design options you would like to have considered?
- What issues do you think community members (or constituents) care about in this area?
- What effect might a reservoir project such as this have on these issues?
- What initial thoughts do you have about options for Reservoir 3? For Reservoir 4?
- As we evaluate options for the two reservoirs, what do you believe should be the most important considerations?
- Are you interested in staying engaged in this process?
- Are there other people or groups that we should engage and/or inform?
- What is the best way to get information to you or those groups? Are there websites, e-mail distribution lists, or other communication methods that are working well that we should also use?
- What are your thoughts about a Sounding Board for this process? If we form one, who might be a good candidate to represent the perspectives you've shared and/or those you represent?
- Is there anything else you'd like the project staff to know as it develops the process for finding a suitable concept that meets federal regulations?

Information gathered during the interviews was integrated into the public involvement and outreach plan for the project's design process and helped identify key stakeholders to potentially serve on the Community Sounding Board that helped inform the public process.

Feedback

Most interviewees expressed an awareness of the project and generally showed their support. Some of the themes voiced by interviewees included budget and cost, the need for low-maintenance facilities and preserving historic character, improving public access and recreation opportunities, and protecting wildlife, tree canopy, and habitat preservation.

Interviewees who had additional feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to attend public meetings, offer comments during open house events, visit the dedicated project webpage for additional information, or contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

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COMMUNITY SOUNDING BOARD

Summary

The Community Sounding Board (CSB) is composed of park users, neighborhood association representatives, and Portland Parks & Recreation staff. Collectively, CSB members have knowledge of their community, Washington Park, and the variety of park use activities.



In 2013 and 2014, the CSB met and provided advice to the Water Bureau on options for potential use, amenities and landscaping of the area of Reservoirs 3 and 4. The CSB provided advice to project staff as conceptual design options were developed.

While members represented particular neighborhoods and interests, CSB members participated as individuals. CSB members were encouraged to communicate with their respective neighborhood associations regarding the CSB's work, and to report concerns and questions back to the CSB.

Notification

CSB meetings were open to the public. The meetings were publicly advertised in the following ways:

- Water Bureau's Washington Park Reservoir Improvements Project webpage
- Water Bureau's Water Blog
- Water Bureau's online Event Calendar
- Information packets and handouts presented at open house events

Participation

While many park users and neighborhood association representatives were invited to participate on the CSB, including representatives from the Pearl and Downtown Neighborhood Associations, the following eight (8) stakeholders comprised the board:

- Charlie Clark, Northwest Heights Neighborhood Association
- Nicolas Clark, Neighbors West Northwest
- Terri Davis, Portland Parks & Recreation
- Chris Kent, Goose Hollow Neighborhood Association
- Eric Nagle, Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association
- Annie Mahoney, American Institute of Architects Historic Resources Committee
- Dave Malcolm, Sylvan-Highlands Neighborhood Association
- Bill Welch, Northwest District Association

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To date, nine (9) CSB meetings have been held:

- Meeting #1: July 12, 2013
 - Meeting details: Welcome and introductions, CSB purpose and protocols, project overview and context, stakeholder issues and values, wrap up and next steps
 - CSB members present: 5
 - Project staff present: 12
 - Public present: 1 (Brooke Webster)
- Meeting #2: August 6, 2013
 - Meeting details: Welcome and introductions, open house and outreach review, draft goals and objectives, project constraints and opportunities, public comment, wrap up and next steps
 - CSB members present: 6
 - Project staff present: 11
 - Public present: 3 (Kathryn Notson, Dee White, Wayne Wirta)
- Meeting #3: August 20, 2013
 - Meeting details: Welcome and introductions, review draft concepts, dot exercise and discussion, public comment, wrap up and next steps
 - CSB members present: 5
 - Staff present: 13
 - Public present: 9 (Kathryn Notson, Catherine Howells, Allan Classen, Simon Jaworsky, Scott Fernandez, Eloise Eacles, Susan Peek, Matt Lewis, Bette Steflia)
- Meeting #4: September 18, 2013
 - Meeting details: Welcome and introductions, review and evaluate reservoir concepts, committee feedback, public comment, wrap up and next steps
 - CSB members present: 7
 - Project staff present: 10
 - Public present: 1 (Kathryn Notson)
- Meeting #5: October 2, 2013
 - Meeting details: Welcome and introductions, review and evaluate reservoir concepts, public comment, wrap up and next steps
 - CSB members present: 8
 - Project staff present: 10
 - Public present: 2 (Marshall Gannett, Kathryn Notson)
- Meeting #6: October 30, 2013
 - Meeting details: Welcome and introductions, design update, wrap up and next steps,
 - CSB members present: 7
 - Project staff present: 10
 - Public present: 3 (Meredith Meacham, Kathryn Notson, Carol Lane)

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- Meeting #7: January 15, 2014
 - Meeting details: Welcome and introductions, public input and reservoir concepts review, wrap up and next steps
 - CSB members present: 6
 - Project staff present: 12
 - Public present: 1 (Kathryn Notson)

- Meeting #8: April 30, 2014
 - Meeting details: Welcome and introductions, project update, project design update, discussion with construction contractor, public comment, thank you to CSB, wrap up and next steps
 - CSB members present: 6
 - Project staff present: 15
 - Public present: 1 (Tashi Nina)

- Meeting #9: October 29, 2014
 - Meeting details: Welcome and introductions, visible features and interpretive elements update, construction and site logistics overview, public comment, wrap up and next steps
 - CSB members present: 2
 - Project staff present: 13
 - Public present: 5 (Allison Duncan, Scott Fernandez, Kathryn Notson, Mary Ann Schwab, Hershel Soles)

Feedback

During the CSB meetings, board members and the public offered feedback and participated in discussions. Some of the themes voiced by board members and the public included cost, maintenance, project not needed, historic structure/character preservation, public access to reservoirs, minimizing project impacts on surrounding neighborhoods, and wildlife protection.

Comments and dialogue from the CSB and the public was captured each meeting in summary documents. The meeting summary documents, agendas, and presentations are posted on the Water Bureau’s Washington Park Reservoir Improvements Project webpage.

CSB members and members of the public who had additional feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to attend public meetings, offer comments during open house events, visit the dedicated project webpage for additional information, or contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

OPEN HOUSES

Summary

Open house events were conducted in 2013 and 2014 with the goals of:

- Introducing the project to neighbors, community members, and stakeholders.
- Confirming an understanding of local community issues and opportunities.

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- Targeting feedback on design concepts for the visible features of the reservoir sites.
- Gathering comments on the community-selected design concept for the visible features of the reservoir site.

Notification

Announcements for the five (5) open houses (2 in-person, 3 online) went out two (2) weeks prior to the events, and included:

- Mailing approximately 5,000 postcards to addresses in the immediate project area.
- Sending e-mail reminders to the interested party's e-mail distribution list (149 e-mails), neighborhood associations, and district coalitions (77 e-mails).
- Posting articles and reminders on the Portland Water Bureau Water Blog, project webpage, Facebook, and Twitter.
- Canvassing residences near Washington Park and distributing approximately 150 door hangers.
- Notifying CSB members of the open houses and requesting them to inform and remind their neighborhood associations and other constituents.
- Developing and distributing an event poster in high foot traffic locations around the project area.
- Delivering approximately 200 flyers to businesses around NW Burnside Street, NW 21st Avenue, NW 23rd Avenue, and the Goose Hollow neighborhood.



Additional outreach for the third online open house in February 2014 included the actions above and the participation in four (4) tabling events at nearby neighborhood businesses in northwest and southwest Portland. Stickers, cards, and flyers (200 to 300) were distributed during these events.

Participation

In-Person Open House Events

Two (2) in-person open houses were held on the following dates:

- In-Person Open House #1: July 25, 2013 (6 – 8 p.m., First United Methodist Church – Collins Hall, 1838 SW Jefferson)
 - Details: Input from stakeholder interviews and the first CSB meeting was shared with the public. Information from the open house was shared with the CSB to consider with potential concepts.
 - Public participation: 38

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- In-Person Open House #2: October 16, 2013 (6 – 8 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1015 SW 18th Ave)
 - Details: The second public meeting targeted stakeholder feedback on design concepts for the visible features of the reservoir sites. Information from this event was also shared with the Community Sounding Board as they selected a preferred concept.
 - Public participation: 13



Online Open House Events

Three (3) online open houses were held on the following dates:

- Online Open House #1: July 25 – August 5, 2013
 - Details: Project staff hosted an online open house on the project webpage from July 25 to August 5, 2013, encouraging members of the public to learn about the project and provide feedback at their convenience. The online open house replicated the in-person open house on July 25, 2013. Input from stakeholder interviews and the first CSB meeting was shared with the public. Information from the open house was shared with the CSB to consider with potential concepts.
 - Public participation: 29
- Online Open House #2: October 11 - 30, 2013
 - Details: Project staff hosted an online open house on the project webpage from October 11 through October 30, 2013, targeting stakeholder feedback on design concepts for the visible features of the reservoir sites. The online open house replicated the in-person open house on October 16, 2013 by providing the same information that was displayed at the public event and offered similar feedback options and survey questions as the event comment form. Information from this event was also shared with the Community Sounding Board as they selected a preferred concept.
 - Public participation: 80
- Online Open House #3: February 12 - February 28, 2014
 - Details: The third open house, hosted online on the project webpage from February 12 - 28, 2014, was intended to gather feedback on the community-selected design concept for the visible features of the reservoir site. Information from the event was shared with project staff as designs were finalized.
 - Public participation: 156

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Feedback

At the five (5) open house events, members of the public had the opportunity to provide feedback in-person and online.

Some of the themes voiced during open house events included water quality, safety and security, cost, maintenance, effective wildlife habitat, mosquito habitat, project not needed, overlap with Japanese Garden construction, and minimizing project impacts to surrounding neighborhoods and wildlife.

Participants' comments from discussions, comment cards, or online response were documented in open house event summary notes posted on the Water Bureau's Washington Park Reservoir Improvements Project webpage.

Members of the public who had additional feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to attend public meetings, offer comments during open house events, visit the dedicated project webpage for additional information, or contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

RESERVOIR TOURS

Summary

As a way to help the public understand the geographic constraints of the project and to better visualize the proposed concepts, three guided reservoir tours were held in 2013. Tours included discussions on the history of the existing reservoirs and engineering constraints for the proposed concepts.



Notification

The tours were open to the public and initially advertised along with the materials for the second in-person and online open house events. Tour opportunities were communicated through:

- Postcard mailing to approximately 5,000 addresses in the immediate project area.
- E-mail reminder to interested parties e-mail distribution list (149 e-mails), including area neighborhood associations.
- Approximately 150 door hanger notifications.
- Portland Water Bureau Water Blog post with links posted on Facebook and Twitter.
- Posts to the Water Bureau's project webpage.
- Area canvassing to businesses and residences near Washington Park.

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The eight (8) Community Sounding Board members were informed of the tours and requested to further distribute notification to their respective neighborhood associations and other constituents.

Participation

To date, three (3) reservoir tours have been held:

- August 10, 2013
- October 19, 2013
- October 22, 2013

47 members of the public participated in the tours. Most participants were residents of adjacent neighborhoods.

Feedback

Tour participants were provided with draft concepts for the two reservoirs and were encouraged to fill out a comment form. 23 comment forms were filled out and incorporated into the second online open house data in October 2013.

At the reservoir tours, members of the public had the opportunity to provide feedback on draft concepts for the two reservoirs.

Attendees on the tours were encouraged to fill out comment forms. 23 comment forms were completed and incorporated into the second online open house data. Some of the themes voiced during the reservoir tours and on comment forms included seismic stability and the ancient landslide, park access, project impacts, potential changes to water quality with closed reservoirs, maintenance, and aging infrastructure.

Members of the public who had additional feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to attend public meetings, offer comments during open house events, visit the dedicated project webpage for additional information, or contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Summary

The project staff coordinated and hosted project information booths in 2013 and 2014 at a wide variety of community events and locations in the project area.

Project information was provided, including the latest project schedule, fact sheet, and relevant illustrations.

Notification

The project staff did not notify the public of community events. The CSB was aware of event participation.

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Participation

To date, project staff attended and hosted project information booths at seven (7) community events:

- Hillside Neighborhood Association Movie Night (July 30, 2013)
- Concert in the Park - Portland Summerfest Opera (August 2, 2013)
- Concert in the Park - PDX Jazz Presents The Carlton Jackson (August 3, 2013)
- Starbucks (NW 21st) (February 12, 2014)
- Zupans (Burnside) (February 15, 2014)
- Trader Joes (NW 23rd) (February 22, 2014)
- Portland Timbers Pre-season Tournament (February 23, 2014)

Feedback

At the events, members of the community interested in the project were provided project business cards, stickers, and door hangers as reminders to provide feedback during the February 2014 online open house.

Feedback from members of the public provided during community events was presented during subsequent CSB meetings and incorporated into meeting summary documents.

Members of the public who had additional feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to attend CSB meetings, offer comments during open house events, visit the project webpage for additional information, and contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BRIEFINGS

Summary

In 2013, 2014, and 2015, members of project staff reached out to neighborhood associations and coalitions that were anticipated to have interest in the project and offered to present project information, address concerns, and answer questions.

Notification

CSB members helped coordinate the presentations to their respective neighborhood associations. The project staff did not notify the public of neighborhood association meeting presentations.

Participation

To date, a total of 17 project presentations were provided to seven (7) neighborhood associations:

September 2013

- Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association
- Goose Hollow Foothills League Neighborhood Association
- Neighbors West – Northwest
- Northwest District Association

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- Pearl District Neighborhood Association
- Portland Downtown Neighborhood Association
- Sylvan-Highlands Neighborhood Association

February 2014

- Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association
- Goose Hollow Foothills League Neighborhood Association
- Neighbors West – Northwest
- Northwest District Association
- Pearl District Neighborhood Association
- Portland Downtown Neighborhood Association
- Sylvan-Highlands Neighborhood Association

February 2015

- Arlington Heights Neighborhood Association
- Goose Hollow Foothills League Neighborhood Association
- Sylvan-Highlands Neighborhood Association

Feedback

At the 17 neighborhood association meetings, members of the public were presented project information, updates, and opportunities for involvement.

Some of the themes voiced during the meetings included long-term maintenance of the reservoirs and landscaping, preservation of the historic structures, and public access. In most meetings, neighbors discussed their concern about project impacts, including street and trail closures, materials being brought in and out of the worksite, noise, and parking challenges.

Members of the public who had additional feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to attend public meetings, offer comments during open house events, visit the dedicated project webpage for additional information, or contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

BUSINESSES

Summary

Providing project information at businesses in the project area was an important outreach approach for this project.

Notification

Throughout the life of the project, information has been provided to local area businesses with high foot traffic in the project area, concentrated along NW 21st Ave., NW 23rd Ave., and the Goose Hollow neighborhood.

Participation

To date, approximately 200 businesses have been provided face-to-face project information.

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Feedback

Contact with businesses in the project area provided the opportunity for staff to build project awareness, offer updates, and encourage local businesses to participate in the public outreach process.

Overall, most businesses appreciated receiving project information in-person and supported the project. In a few instances, business employees expressed concern about altering the historic reservoir site.

Businesses who had additional feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to attend public meetings, offer comments during open house events, visit the dedicated project webpage for additional information, or contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

Washington Park Transportation Management Association

Summary

The Washington Parking Transportation Management Association (TMA) provides comprehensive access management programs and services to Washington Park. The TMA includes a Board of nine directors, with representatives of Portland Parks & Recreation, Metro/Oregon Zoo, World Forestry Center, Portland Children's Museum, Portland Japanese Garden, TriMet, Hoyt Arboretum Friends, and one resident each from Sylvan Highlands and Arlington Heights Neighborhood Associations.

Participation

To date, project staffed have presented project information and addressed questions and comments at the following TMA meetings:

- December 11, 2014
- January 14, 2015

Feedback

Contact with the TMA Board provided the project team the opportunity to build project awareness, offer updates, discuss project impacts, and encourage the boards' participation in the public outreach process.

Some of the themes voiced during the two presentations focused around project impacts, specifically traffic closures and haul routes during construction.

Overall, the TMA is generally supportive and have voiced their appreciation of receiving project information. The TMA has requested to receive updates as the project moves forward through the design and construction phases.

TMA Board members who had additional feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to visit the dedicated project webpage for additional information or contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

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American Institute of Architects Historic Resources Committee

Summary

American Institute of Architects (AIA) Historic Resources Committee members, charged with identifying, understanding, and preserving architectural heritage, provided project feedback and offered advice to project staff as conceptual design options were developed.

Participation

One (1) AIA member participated as a member of the CSB. Other AIA members attended tours of the reservoirs.

To date, project staff has presented at the following AIA meetings:

- September 20, 2013
- December 18, 2013
- January 21, 2015

Feedback

As with the TMA Board, contact with AIA members has provided the project team the opportunity to build project awareness, offer updates, discuss project impacts, and encourage participation in the public outreach process.

Some of the themes voiced during the three presentations included preservation of the historic structures and the character of the site, long-term maintenance of the reservoirs and structures, and visible water features at both reservoir sites.

AIA has also voiced appreciation of receiving project information in-person and the project staff will continue to provide updates and ask for feedback as the project moves forward through the design and construction phases.

AIA members who had additional feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to visit the dedicated project webpage for additional information or contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

Japanese Garden Expansion

Summary

In the near future, the Portland Japanese Garden, located in Washington Park, will be adding further gardens and constructing a cultural education center, an information kiosk, and a 26-seat café.

Participation

In January 2014, project staff met with the Japanese Garden construction project design team to discuss construction scheduling and coordination between the two projects.

Feedback

Japanese Garden design team members who had feedback, questions, or concerns were encouraged to communicate directly with project staff by phone or e-mail.

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SITE SIGNAGE

Summary

Information has been posted in and around Washington Park to keep park users apprised of the project's progress, upcoming public meetings, and current work occurring inside the park that supports the project design (i.e. exploratory work to identify the exact locations and depths of pipes connected to reservoirs and vaults, geotechnical testing to evaluate soil properties and behaviors, etc.).

Notification

Project information is posted for park users on a kiosk located directly above upper Reservoir 3 in Washington Park. Posters in and around Washington Park also have been used to distribute information.

- Kiosk: Information posted on the kiosk has included the following:
 - Project overview and schedule
 - Current work occurring inside the park
 - Public involvement opportunities
 - Key public meeting dates
 - Contact information

- Posters:
 - Notification of Type IV Land Use Review application briefings, design advice meetings, the initial Historic Landmarks Commission meeting (more information listed below), and the City Council hearing were posted in advance to 52 locations in and around Washington Park on the following dates:
 - July 22, 2013
 - October 14, 2013
 - January 27, 2014
 - April 28, 2014
 - March 30, 2015

 - Notification of Type IV Land Use Review pre-application meeting on May 13, 2014 was posted online and notices were distributed by e-mail and mail.

Feedback

Messaging on the kiosk and posters in and around the park encouraged members of the public who had feedback, questions, or concerns to attend public meetings, visit the project webpage for additional information, and contact project staff by phone or e-mail.

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ONLINE OUTREACH (Webpage, Blog, Social Media)

Webpage

Summary

Since June 2013, the Water Bureau has supported and maintained a comprehensive project webpage:

www.portlandoregon.gov/water/wpreservoirs.

The webpage includes the following:

- Project overview and background
- Project updates
- Community involvement opportunities
- Public events
- Land Use Review Application process
- Frequently asked questions
- Key documents
- Contact information



Participation

Since being established, the project webpage’s contents have been viewed by the public more than 25,000 times.

PROJECT WEBPAGE	
YEAR	EXTERNAL VIEWS
2013 (Jun-Dec)	7,172
2014 (Jan-Dec)	13,366
2015 (Jan-Mar)	4,746
TOTAL	25,284

Notification

In correspondence and outreach material distributed to the public, the project webpage address and contact information is included.

Feedback

To provide feedback, ask questions or voice concerns, the webpage encourages members of the public to contact project staff by e-mail or phone.

Water Blog

Summary

The Water Bureau also publishes project information on the Water Bureau’s Water Blog: www.portlandoregon.gov/water/blog. The Water Blog is the most accessed tab on the Water Bureau’s website.

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Participation

To date, 13 articles describing project progress and updates have been posted on the Water Blog, totaling more than 35,000 *unique views. Each article, on average, has received 2,735 unique views.

WATER BLOG ARTICLES & VIEWS		
YEAR	# OF ARTICLES	# OF ARTICLE VIEWS
2013	5	6,760
2014	4	25,721
2015	4	3,068
TOTAL	13	35,549

**Unique views: Visitors to the site are measured according to their unique IP addresses; unique visitors are counted only once no matter how many times they visit the site.*

Facebook & Twitter

Summary

For the majority of articles published on the Water Blog on the topic of the Washington Park Reservoir project, messaging was also posted on the Water Bureau’s Twitter and Facebook accounts.

Participation

From 2013 to date, 38 project related messages have been posted on Twitter and Facebook.

FACEBOOK MESSAGES & VIEWS		
YEAR	# OF MESSAGES	# OF PEOPLE WHO VIEWED MESSAGES
2013	13	1,173
2014	6	215
2015	1	32
TOTAL	20	1,420

TWITTER MESSAGES & VIEWS		
YEAR	# OF MESSAGES	MESSAGES SERVED TO FOLLOWERS
2013	12	72,924
2014	6	41,887
2015	0	0
TOTAL	18	114,811

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Feedback

To provide feedback, ask questions or voice concerns, members of the public can post comments to Water Blog articles, Twitter, or Facebook. Each message posted on Twitter and Facebook links back to the Water Blog for additional information and resources.

MEDIA

Summary

There have been a few news articles discussing the Washington Park Reservoir project specifically. Occasional articles mentioned Washington Park in the context of all of the work the Portland Water Bureau is undertaking to cover the reservoirs.

Earned Media

The online articles below briefly discussed the Washington Park Reservoir project:

2012 articles:

- Portland Monthly Magazine: [Reservoir Bulldogs -- Travel & Outdoors](#) (July 19, 2012)
- The Oregonian: [Portland open-reservoir advocates visit Oregonian editorial board](#) (August 31, 2012)
- Oregonian: [Water rates take center stage as Portland City Council debates](#) (September 4, 2012)
- Oregon Live: [Water Bureau wants to begin design work for Washington Park reservoirs ahead ...](#) (December 13, 2012)

2013 articles:

- Oregonian: [Steve Novick delays spending on Washington Park reservoir project: Portland City Hall roundup](#) (January 7, 2013)
- Willamette Week: [City Will Cover Its Reservoirs, and Drain the Ones on Mount Tabor](#) (May 31, 2013)
- Oregon Live: [Portland to 'move on' with reservoir projects, stop seeking alternatives](#) (May 31, 2013)
- OPB: [Portland To Drop Reservoir Appeals](#) (June 1, 2013)
- KATU: [City plans to cover open reservoirs, drain others](#) (June 2, 2013)
- KGW: [Portland OKs plan to cover open-air reservoirs](#) (June 2, 2013)
- Portland Business Journal: [Here's the capper: Tabor, Washington reservoirs getting covered](#) (June 3, 2013)
- OPB: [Charlie Hales on Covering Reservoirs And Assigning Bureaus \(article and radio clip\)](#) (June 4, 2013)
- Willamette Week: [Occupy Mount Tabor Will March on City Hall This Wednesday](#) (June 7, 2013)
- KOIN: [Reservoir protesters arrive at Mt. Tabor](#) (July 11, 2013)
- KGW: [Man arrested during Occupy protest at Mt. Tabor](#) (July 12, 2013)
- NW Examiner: [Reservoir Tours](#) (page 19) (October 2013 issue)
- Portland Tribune: [Neighbors ask for clean diesel at Washington Park reservoir project](#) (December 18, 2013)

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2014 articles:

- Daily Journal of Commerce: Public input sought on reservoir designs (February 21, 2014) – in paper, not online
- NW Examiner: [Snapshot of Proposed Project Designs](#) (page 27) (March 2014 issue)
- Daily Journal of Commerce: [\\$67 million reservoir project on track](#) (December 17, 2014)

2015 articles:

- NW Examiner: [Snapshot of Proposed Project Designs](#) (page 31) (January 2015)
- NW Examiner: [Notification of Sylvan-Highlands Neighborhood Association's February Meeting and update on reservoir project](#) (page 25) (February 2015)
- Oregonian: [Mount Tabor reservoirs: Portland Historic Landmarks Commission approves plan to disconnect reservoirs](#) (February 9, 2015)
- Portland Tribune: [More heat expected at reservoir hearing in May](#) (March 10, 2015)

RECORDS REQUESTS

Summary

The Water Bureau has received and fulfilled six (6) public records requests related to the Washington Park Reservoir project.

The records requests include:

- April 4, 2015: Floy Jones requested Washington Park Reservoir-related Land Use documents, including:
 - Application for Historic Demolition 97 page report. Revised version dated 1/26/15 (original December 2014) Winterbrook Planning, Aecom.
 - Washington Park Exterior Building Assessment report by Aecom, December 13, 2013.
 - Technical Memorandum for Washington Park Demolition LU case.
 - Murray Smith/ BES Washington Park communication related to stormwater discharge, etc.
- October 22, 2014: Mark Bartlett requested all pre-application correspondence between Water Bureau applicant Tom Carter or Water Bureau representatives, and any other person, bureau or agency reviewing the two Land Use Review applications in emails, internal conversation regarding these two Land Use Review applications specifically pertaining to the use determination dated September 3, 2003.
- September 18, 2012: Floy Jones requested the Historic Structure Report.
- August 20, 2012: Jeffrey Boly requested contract documents related to information on the Washington Park Reservoirs Basis for Design Report from Murray Smith & Associates.
- August 1, 2012: Scott Fernandez requested the basis of Design Report for Washington Park Reservoir Improvement Project *W01402.

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- November 12, 2002: Scott Fernandez requested photos of Washington Park.

COUNCIL NOTICE, HEARINGS

Summary

The City Council has been briefed on the Washington Park Reservoirs Improvements Project.

Public Hearing – Exemption from Competitive Bidding Requirements

At a public hearing on December 12, 2012, the City Council approved three separate council actions for the Water Bureau’s Washington Park Reservoirs Improvements Project:

- Exemption from the requirements of competitive bidding under ORS Chapter 279C and City Code Chapter 5.34, enabling the bureau to utilize an alternative competitive selection process.
- Approve design contract with AECOM.
- Approve design contract with Cornforth.

The public had the opportunity to testify at the hearing on these actions. Notification of the public hearing was advertised on November 28, 2012 in the Daily Journal of Commerce.

Public Hearing – Type IV Land Use Review Application

On April 23, 2015, the Washington Park Reservoirs Improvements Project initial Type IV Land Use application will be presented to the City Council.

At that time, public comment will be taken.

Notification of the Council Hearing was distributed through a variety of methods (see below), including mailings, e-mails, project webpage articles, social media messaging, kiosk posting, and by multiple rounds of posters displayed in and around Washington Park.

LAND USE REVIEW APPLICATION PROCESS

Summary

In December 2014, the Water Bureau submitted the first of two Land Use Review (LUR) applications for the proposed Washington Park Reservoir Improvements Project.

In February 2015, the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) deemed the initial Type IV LUR application as complete, officially opening the public comment period and setting the dates for the Historic Landmarks Commission meeting and City Council Hearing.

Notification

The Water Bureau notified the public of the LUR application process and progress as well as public meeting dates in the following ways:

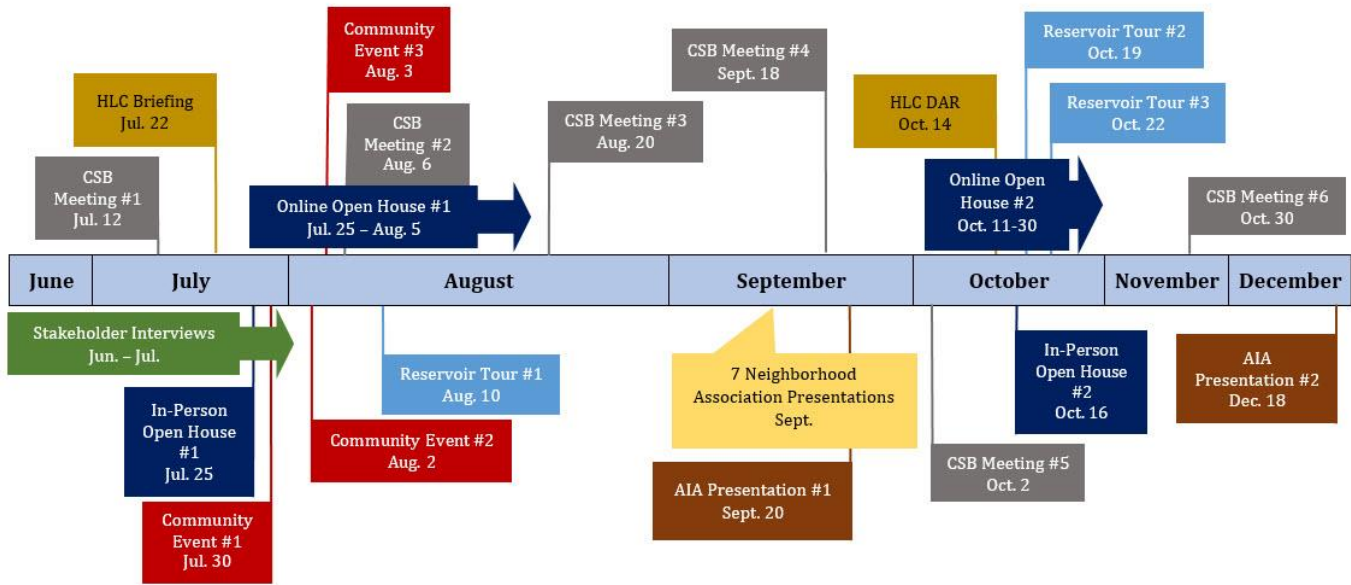
- Postcard

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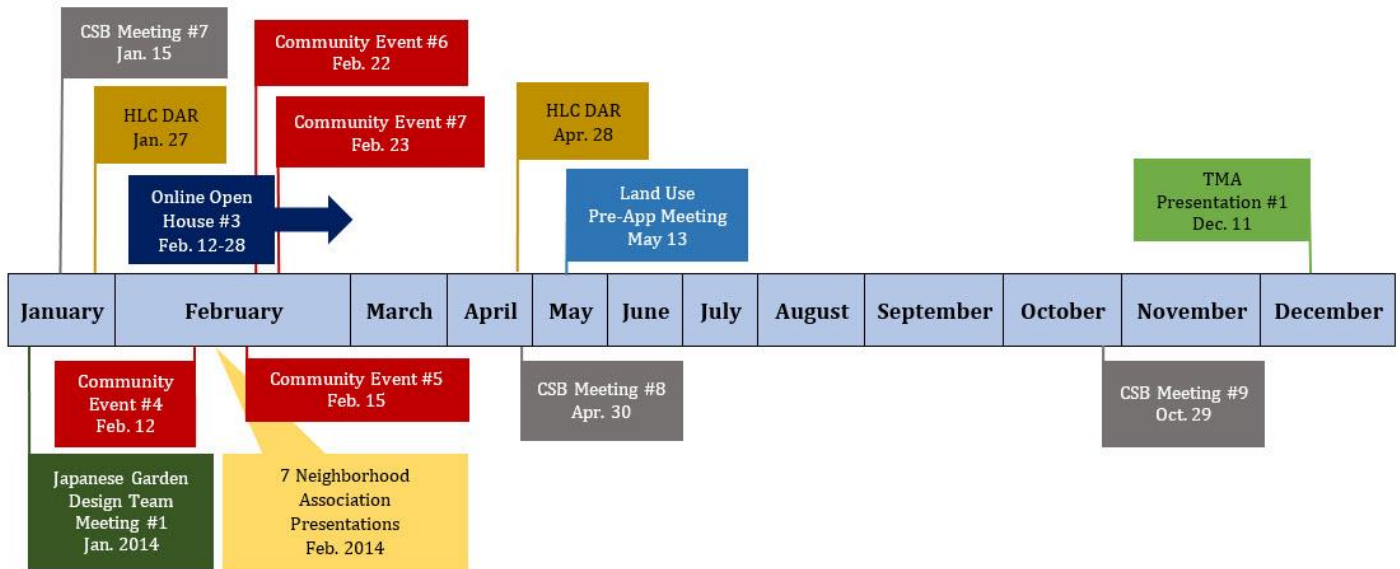
- A postcard was mailed to 9,175 residents in close proximity to Washington Park, notifying residents that the initial Type IV LUR application process was beginning and how to keep apprised of the progress.
- E-mail notification
 - To date, a total of 1,512 e-mails detailing the initial Type IV LUR application process have been sent to Community Sounding Board members, City of Portland and project staff, neighborhood associations and district coalitions, and interested parties (e-mail distribution list). E-mails were sent:
 - December 15, 2014 (252 e-mails)
 - February 12, 2015 (252 e-mails)
 - March 6, 2015 (252 e-mails)
 - March 9, 2015 (252 e-mails)
 - March 26, 2015 (252 e-mails)
 - April 13, 2015 (252 e-mails)
- Project Webpage and Water Blog
 - Announcements regarding the initial Type IV LUR application process were posted on the project webpage.
- Kiosk posting
 - Seven (7) announcements were posted the kiosk in Washington Park above upper Reservoir 3.
- Park signage
 - Notification of the Historic Landmarks Commission meeting date of March 23, 2015 (and then the rescheduled date of March 30, 2015) was posted to 52 locations in and around Washington Park on February 20, 2015 and again on March 13, 2015.
 - Notification of the City Council meeting date of April 23 was posted to 52 locations in and around Washington Park on March 20, 2015.

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Portland Water Bureau Public Involvement - 2013



Portland Water Bureau Public Involvement - 2014



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Portland Water Bureau Public Involvement - 2015

