



REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AGENDA
CASCADe WATER ALLIANCE
Held at Cascade's Office and Via Zoom
November 20, 2024
3:30 PM

	<u>Page</u>
1. CALL TO ORDER	
2. ROLL CALL	
3. PUBLIC COMMENT	
4. EXECUTIVE SESSION	
5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	
6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT	<u>3</u>
7. CONSENT ITEMS	
a. Board Meeting Minutes for October 23, 2024.	<u>15</u>
b. Motion to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract with Confluence Engineering Group to conduct a water quality blending study in an amount not to exceed \$230,000.	<u>18</u>
c. Motion to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to renew contracts for vendor and consulting services totaling \$2,191,450 in accordance with the adopted 2025 - 2026 Cascade budget.	<u>20</u>
8. OTHER ACTION ITEMS	
a. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-16 adopting Cascade's 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda.	<u>25</u>
b. Wholesale Contracts Update – <i>no materials in packet.</i>	
9. STAFF PRESENTATIONS	
a. Turf Removal Program	<u>33</u>
10. COMMITTEE REPORTS	
a. Executive Committee – <i>no meeting held.</i>	
b. Finance and Management Committee – <i>November 12, 2024.</i>	<u>69</u>
c. Public Affairs Committee – <i>November 6, 2024.</i>	<u>71</u>

d. Resource Management Committee – *November 7, 2024.*

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11. NEW BUSINESS

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING – *December 18, 2024 – Cascade’s Office or Via Zoom – 3:30 p.m.*

13. ADJOURN

NOTE: AS ALLOWED BY STATE LAW, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY ADD AND TAKE ACTION ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA.



MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 20, 2024

TO: Penny Sweet, Chair
Board of Directors

FROM: Ray Hoffman, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Chief Executive Officer's Report

Administration, Finance, and Economics

- At the October Board meeting, it was announced that Mike Brent, Cascade's Water Efficiency Manager, plans to retire in 2025. Mike started with Cascade in 2004, and over the past 20 years has developed one of the most wholistic, innovative, and effective water efficiency programs. Mike will be deeply missed, and thankfully he has offered to slowly transition out of Cascade to ensure the continued success of the water efficiency program. Mike's successor will be James Amspacher, Cascade's Executive Assistant. Prior to joining Cascade, James served for several years as SPU's Watershed Education Manager, making him a great fit for the Water Efficiency Manager role. Finally, James' successor will be Jami Shimada. Jami currently works in the private sector and was very competitive in the Executive Assistant hiring process last year when Cascade hired James.
- The Office of the Washington State Auditor (SAO) has scheduled an exit conference for Cascade's 2023 Accountability audit for Monday, November 25 at 1:30PM and will be sending out an invitation to the Board soon. If you would like to attend and have not received an invitation, please contact Chris Paulucci and he will forward the invitation.
- Clark Nuber, Cascade's outside auditing firm, conducted a review of Cascade's third quarter 2024 financial transactions in November 2024. The results of the review will be reported to the Finance and Management Committee. Clark Nuber has scheduled the 2024 financial audit for March 2025 and will be meeting with staff in December to discuss 2024.
- In October, Cascade staff and Cascade's IT consultant, TeamLogic IT, met with the Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) for a cybersecurity assessment. The assessment was helpful and resulted in some recommendations that Cascade will begin to implement right away. CISA offers several other resources that Cascade hopes to utilize.
- Regional Capital Facilities Charges (RCFCs) growth through October (954.5) with four outstanding reports are on pace to underperform 2024 budget expectations (1,300).
- Cascade's IT consultant, TeamLogicIT, and their subconsultant, Redbot, are planning on conducting penetration tests on the Lake Tapps and Bellevue offices in November. These tests were recommended by Cascade's auditors. The penetration tests help Cascade to

assess cybersecurity readiness and inform Cascade where IT infrastructure improvements are needed. Additionally, TeamLogicIT is scheduled to move the file server to the cloud in November.

Capital Projects and Operations

- Drawdown of the Lake Tapps Reservoir was initiated on November 1. As of November 7, the reservoir level is 540.51'. To mitigate the risk of a later refill of the reservoir potentially caused by the Phase 3 project, staff anticipate maintaining a higher reservoir elevation of 539.85' through the rest of fall and winter.
- Phase 3 construction is progressing slowly and is about 3 to 4 weeks behind its baseline schedule that was submitted in early August. The contractor (Kiewit) is working on dewatering the area between headgates and its cofferdam and fixing the leakage of its cofferdam installation while working with Ecology, Cascade and USACE to properly discharge pumped water. Kiewit is expected to allow Cascade to divert up to a minimum of 250cfs to Cascade's flowline by January 31, 2025, to allow Cascade the ability to perform spring refill of the lake.
- Most of the outage projects for 2024 are complete. Cascade anticipates closing the flowline diversion gates and initiating refill of the upper conveyance system the week of November 11, 2024. Outage projects completed or nearly completed since the October Board meeting include:
 - Pipeline intake trash rack and floor repairs: During cleaning and inspection of the pipeline intake, it was determined that a previous repair to the pipeline intake floor was failing.
 - Valve house: Position indicators and hydraulic hoses were installed for both 66-inch cone valves.
 - Headworks: The headgate floor was repaired (photo below).



- Headworks concrete flume: Vegetation management was completed for the entire 2-mile length of the concrete flume.
- Fish return road: The emergency repair work is scheduled to begin the week of November 11 with an anticipated five-day project duration.
- Valve house: Exterior stairs construction was completed and will provide safe access to our lower valve chamber for inspection and maintenance of our 66-inch cone valves (photo below).



- Cascade staff is working with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to draft an agreement regarding the I-90 Lewis Creek Fish Passage Project / Bellevue Issaquah Pipeline – (BIP) Relocation. Cascade anticipates the agreement will be presented to the Board at the January 2025 Board meeting.
- Cascade’s 5-year on-call electrical engineering contract with RH2 expires December 31, 2024. Cascade is in the process of developing a request for qualifications for another on-call contract with one or more engineering firms to present to the Board for approval during the January 2025 Board meeting.

Water Efficiency

- Cascade is completing its fall series of the Cascade Gardener classes with strong attendance. Staff are currently surveying attendees on their ideas for future class content as well as the potential for a certificated Cascade Gardener program that would include online learning and exams on sustainable landscaping topics and community engagement.
- Cascade participated in the Issaquah Salmon Days event on October 5 and 6 and engaged with approximately 3,000 people.

- In September Cascade provided 426 clothes washer rebates and 345 dishwasher rebates to residents through its partnership with Puget Sound Energy.
- Cascade has recorded three podcasts and many reels and other content for the We Need Water social media program. Total engagements through all social media platforms are approaching 600,000 for the year.
- Cascade and the King County Housing Authority are in discussions about a variety of topics for 2025 including irrigation assessments, retrofits of old, high-flow fixtures, and training of property managers.
- Cascade continues to develop materials for its upcoming “Turf Out” turf removal program.

Intergovernmental and Communications

- In late October, Cascade received the first draft agreements from Tacoma for the temporary and permanent supplies of wholesale water. Cascade provided its comments to Tacoma and expects a second draft by the November Board meeting.
- Cascade staff coordinated with Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) to provide a Cedar River Water Treatment Facilities Tour for Cascade member staff on October 31. About 25 staff attended and learned about water supply operations around Lake Youngs. Cascade and SPU have discussed offering 1-2 tours a year of different SPU facilities, giving additional member staff opportunities to tour and learn about SPU’s facilities and operations.
- The Cascade/King County Agreement to Coordinate Reclaimed Water (Agreement) expires at the end of 2025, and discussions have been stalled since mid-2023. Once the Agreement expires, King County can actively pursue Cascade member customers to offer them reclaimed water in place of potable water. It would also mean that Cascade would be free to explore legislation to achieve its policy goals. An alternative to letting the Agreement expire would be to reconvene discussions and pursue an extension of the Agreement until the Regional Wastewater Services Plan (RWSP) policy work on reclaimed water is completed, possibly in 2029 or 2030 at the current pace. The Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC) is currently working on how to approach policy changes in the RWSP, with many Cascade members actively engaged in that forum. RWQC utility members are advocating for a top-down approach to policy making rather than the bottom-up approach proposed by King County. Cascade staff will be reaching out to King County and will continue to update the Resource Management Committee and the Board.

Attachments

1. Budget to Actual Expenditure Report through October 31, 2024.
2. Statement of Revenues and Expenditures through October 31, 2024.
3. Statement of Net Position as of October 31, 2024.
4. Contract Status Summary.
5. Monthly Warrants Listing.
6. Monthly Treasurer’s Report as of October 31, 2024.

Cascade Water Alliance
 Budget to Actual Expenditure Report
 January 1- October 31, 2024
 83% of the year completed

Administration		Budget		Actual		Balance	% Expended
Salaries	\$	1,424,112	\$	1,392,750		31,361	97.8%
Benefits		351,677		343,568		8,109	97.7%
Wellness program		1,000		80		920	8.0%
Prof. Fee (Technical)		167,000		40,708		126,293	24.4%
Prof. Fee (Legal)		597,450		451,874		145,576	75.6%
Prof. Fee (Audit)		86,555		77,597		8,958	89.7%
Prof. Fee (Other)		50,000		3,906		46,095	7.8%
Seismic Resillency		100,000		0		100,000	0.0%
Meetings Expense		11,000		5,899		5,101	53.6%
Telephone/Internet		45,000		33,272		11,728	73.9%
Office Rent		315,393		80,253		235,140	25.4%
Office Supplies Admin.		15,000		6,076		8,924	40.5%
Equip. and Furniture		10,000		2,422		7,578	24.2%
Bank Fees		600		204		396	34.0%
Dues & Subscriptions		25,000		18,585		6,415	74.3%
Taxes/Licenses		16,000		15,875		125	99.2%
Travel		10,000		5,051		4,949	50.5%
Professional Dev.		10,000		5,835		4,165	58.4%
Computer Equipment		36,000		33,362		2,638	92.7%
Software Licenses		58,500		58,065		435	99.3%
Postage & Delivery		3,000		1,457		1,543	48.6%
Printing & Repro.		5,000		3,729		1,271	74.6%
Insurance		180,427		165,875		14,552	91.9%
Contingency		219,500		0		219,500	0.0%
Total	\$	3,738,214	\$	2,746,443	\$	991,771	73.5%

Debt Service		Budget		Actual		Balance	% Expended
Bond Debt Service		10,795,666		10,794,166		1,500	100.0%
Total	\$	10,795,666	\$	10,794,166	\$	1,500	100.0%

Conservation		Budget		Actual		Balance	% Expended
Salaries	\$	143,077	\$	87,979	\$	55,098	61.5%
Benefits		38,176		18,529		19,647	48.5%
Prof. Fee (Technical)		25,000		21,240		3,760	85.0%
Prof. Fee (Legal)		1,000		0		1,000	0.0%
Dues & Subscriptions		5,500		709		4,791	12.9%
Rebate Reimb. Com.		115,000		103,574		11,426	90.1%
Irrigation Audit		15,000		1,339		13,661	8.9%
Turf Removal Rebates		50,000		15,550		34,450	31.1%
Comm. and Public I		375,000		346,820		28,180	92.5%
Misc. Serv. and Sup.		38,000		25,614		12,386	67.4%
Total	\$	805,754	\$	621,354	\$	184,400	77.1%

Com. and Intergovern		Budget		Actual		Balance	% Expended
Salaries	\$	144,968	\$	135,416	\$	9,552	93.4%
Benefits	\$	33,138		28,115		5,023	84.8%
Special Events		35,000		28,561		6,439	81.6%
Prof. Fee (Other)		165,000		159,190		5,811	96.5%
Sponsorships		30,000		15,650		14,350	52.2%
Comm. and Public I		260,000		123,009		136,991	47.3%
Total	\$	668,106	\$	489,941	\$	178,165	73.3%

Cascade Water Alliance
 Budget to Actual Expenditure Report
 January 1- October 31, 2024
 83% of the year completed

Operations-General		Budget	Actual	Balance	% Expended
Wholesale Water	\$	24,402,498	\$ 21,551,504	\$ 2,850,994	88.3%
Salaries		52,059	19,388	32,670	37.2%
Benefits		8,967	4,279	4,687	47.7%
BIP O&M		65,000	52,943	12,057	81.5%
Pipeline Prop. O&M		70,000	2,238	67,762	3.2%
PWTF Loan Debt		39,868	39,868	(0)	100.0%
Total	\$	24,638,392	\$ 21,670,220	\$ 2,968,171	88.0%

Operations-Lake Tapps		Budget	Actual	Balance	% Expended
Salaries	\$	527,510	\$ 433,976	\$ 93,534	82.3%
Benefits	\$	112,766	91,201	21,565	80.9%
Prof. Fee (Technical)		756,150	385,360	370,790	51.0%
Prof. Fee (Other)		26,750	0	26,750	0.0%
Meetings Expense		6,000	1,729	4,271	28.8%
Telephone/Internet		6,925	5,620	1,305	81.2%
Office Supplies		20,000	1,890	18,110	9.5%
Equipment & Furn.		30,000	10,906	19,094	36.4%
Taxes/Licenses		14,000	13,825	175	98.8%
Travel		20,000	3,197	16,803	16.0%
Professional Dev.		2,500	0	2,500	0.0%
Software Licenses		33,000	28,115	4,885	85.2%
Permitting Costs		8,560	808	7,753	9.4%
Misc. Serv. and Sup.		91,000	44,222	46,778	48.6%
LT Operator		2,628,819	1,835,476	793,343	69.8%
Unplanned O&M		100,000	7,023	92,977	7.0%
Misc. Facility Repairs		150,000	14,691	135,309	9.8%
USGS Joint Fund		374,812	262,253	112,560	70.0%
Construction		50,000	0	50,000	0.0%
Outage		80,000	4,838	75,162	6.0%
Milfoil Control		212,000	211,805	195	99.9%
Vendor Services		130,000	127,339	2,661	98.0%
Water Quality		150,000	83,222	66,778	55.5%
Dike and Roads		70,000	2,168	67,832	3.1%
Total	\$	5,600,791	\$ 3,569,661	\$ 2,031,130	63.7%

Total Operating Budget \$ 46,246,923 \$ 39,891,786 \$ 6,355,137 86.3%

Capital Projects (multi-yr bdtg not shown)		Budget	Actual	Balance	% Expended
Upper Conveyance	\$	2,325,000	2,274,217	50,784	97.8%
Lower Conveyance		1,000,000	0	1,000,000	0.0%
Equipment		100,000	99,961	39	100.0%
Facilities		200,000	42,838	157,162	21.4%
Bellevue-issaquah		130,000	0	130,000	0.0%
Tacoma Agreement		6,216,872	6,216,872	0	100.0%
Capital Risk		225,000	0	225,000	0.0%
Seattle contract		5,000,000	0	5,000,000	0.0%
IT Infrastructure		35,000	0	35,000	0.0%

Total CIP Budget \$ 15,231,872 \$ 8,633,888 \$ 6,597,984 56.7%

Total Overall Budget \$ 61,478,795 \$ 48,525,674 12,953,122 78.9%

Cascade Water Alliance
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
From 1/1/2024 Through 10/31/2024

Attachment 2

Operating Revenue	
Water sales	\$ 36,101,813
Administrative dues	3,706,551
Conservation program	704,449
Total Operating Revenue	40,512,813
Operating Expenses	
Cost of water sold	21,551,504
Salaries and benefits	2,694,435
Professional services	1,176,799
Conservation program	104,913
Depreciation and amortization	3,631,250
Communication and public information	439,672
Office expenses	453,756
Operations	2,148,335
Bank charges	204
Rent	80,253
Maintenance	473,596
Dues and subscriptions	29,070
Miscellaneous	44,583
Total Operating Expenses	32,828,370
Operating Income	7,684,443
Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)	
Interest income	1,682,365
Other income	83,869
Interest expense, net of amount capitalized	(1,530,418)
Total Non-Operating Revenue (Expenses)	235,816
Capital Contributions	
Regional Capital Facilities Charges	6,630,336
Increase in Net Assets	14,550,595
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	151,475,139
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 166,025,734

Cascade Water Alliance
Statement of Net Position
As of 10/31/2024

Attachment 3

Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 35,258,508
Accounts receivable	10,009,773
Prepaid expenses	122,981
Total Current Assets	<u>45,391,262</u>
Capital Assets	
Equipment and furniture	2,386,409
Seattle water contract	22,267,611
Bellevue Issaquah pipeline	22,276,944
Tacoma water contract	119,740,687
Capital Leases	2,449,159
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(67,492,585)
Total Capital Assets	<u>101,628,225</u>
Projects in process and assets not yet in service	
Lake Tapps	108,423,326
Tacoma Cascade pipeline	26,539,385
Total Projects in process and assets not yet in service	<u>134,962,711</u>
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	20,990,912
Total Assets	<u><u>302,973,110</u></u>
Liabilities	
Current liabilities	
Payables and accrued liabilities	2,832,295
Retroactive water credit	909,016
Accrued interest	483,114
Long-term debt current portion	
Bonds Payable-Current Portion	6,945,000
Other	39,474
Total Long-term debt current portion	<u>6,984,474</u>
Total Current liabilities	<u>11,208,900</u>
Long-term Liabilities	
Long-term debt	70,640,000
Tacoma contract	47,680,238
Seattle contract	5,000,000
Bond premium, net of amortization	2,183,896
Total Long-term Liabilities	<u>125,504,134</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>136,713,034</u>
Net Assets	
Restricted for debt service	109,937,897
Unrestricted	56,322,179
Total Net Assets	<u>166,260,076</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	<u><u>\$ 302,973,110</u></u>

Consultant and Other Vendor Contract Status Summary

Open contracts											
Vendor	Contract number	Contract title	Cascade manager	Effective date	End date	Status date	Percent work completed	Contract amount, including	Amount invoiced	Percent invoiced	Contract balance
Aquatechnex	1	2024 Lake Tapps Aquatic Plant Maintenance Program	P. Anderson	12/29/2023	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	99%	\$ 160,000	\$ 157,788	99%	\$ 2,212
Aspect	1	Water Supply Modeling	R. Hoffman	5/6/2020	N/A	11/8/2024	65%	\$ 24,900	\$ 16,196	65%	\$ 8,704
Aspect	2	Water Resources Services	R. Hoffman	8/17/2018	N/A	11/8/2024	98%	\$ 60,000	\$ 58,251	97%	\$ 1,749
Aspect	3	Climate Change Analysis	R. Hoffman	9/7/2022	N/A	11/8/2024	95%	\$ 150,000	\$ 139,689	93%	\$ 10,311
Ben Bernstein Music	1	Podcast production	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	50%	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,475	50%	\$ 2,525
BHC Consulting	1	Planning & Permit Assistance	T. Richmond	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	20%	\$ 25,000	\$ 3,297	13%	\$ 21,703
Brilliant Marketing	1	We Need Water Social Media Outreach	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	75%	\$ 49,500	\$ 35,236	71%	\$ 14,264
Clark Nuber	1	Annual Financial Audit and Quarterly AUPs	C. Paulucci	1/1/2024	N/A	11/8/2024	96%	\$ 78,000	\$ 75,000	96%	\$ 3,000
Colehour and Cohen	1	Staffing for classes and events	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	70%	\$ 110,750	\$ 77,845	70%	\$ 32,905
Confluence Engineering Group, LLC	1	Lake Tapps Supply & BIP Water Quality Advisory Services Project	D. Roberts	12/1/2023	N/A	11/8/2024	35%	\$ 49,000	\$ 17,162	35%	\$ 31,838
David Evans	1	On-call Land Surveyor	H. Chen	11/18/2022	12/31/2025	11/8/2024	30%	\$ 160,000	\$ 46,440	29%	\$ 113,560
David McGrath	1	Irrigation Program Assistance	M. Brent	1/25/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	10%	\$ 18,000	\$ 1,339	7%	\$ 16,661
Environmental Science Assoc (ESA)	1	Aquatic Plant Management	P. Anderson	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	88%	\$ 49,000	\$ 43,199	88%	\$ 5,801
Environmental Science Assoc (ESA)	2	Development of Cascade's Integrated Aquatic Plant Management Plan	P. Anderson	3/20/2024	N/A	11/8/2024	25%	\$ 44,750	\$ 10,818	24%	\$ 33,933
GeoEngineers	1	Dam Engineering/Hydrology/ Geotechnical Service	H. Chen	1/3/2024	12/31/2026	11/8/2024	15%	\$ 570,000	\$ 49,974	9%	\$ 520,026
Gordon Thomas Honeywell	1	State legislative outreach	A. Bennett	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	85%	\$ 84,000	\$ 70,000	83%	\$ 14,000
Herrera	1	On-call limnology services	M. Thung	12/1/2022	12/31/2025	11/8/2024	5%	\$ 45,000	\$ -	0%	\$ -
Herrera	2	Water Quality Management Plan	M. Thung	10/9/2023	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	65%	\$ 165,000	\$ 107,024	65%	\$ 57,976
HDR	1	MMD Fish Passage Design Review	H. Chen	12/1/2015	N/A	11/8/2024	99%	\$ 1,231,100	\$ 1,159,740	94%	\$ 71,361
Industrial Fab and Repair	1	Valve house control system improvements	D. Roberts	8/28/2023	5/3/2024	11/8/2024	100%	\$ 88,118	\$ 88,118	100%	\$ -
Jacobs Engineering Group	1	Demand Forecast Model Support Services	M. Thung	8/20/2021	N/A	11/8/2024	5%	\$ 5,000	\$ -	0%	\$ 5,000
Jennergy	1	Turf Out Guidebook	M. Brent	7/19/2024	N/A	11/8/2024	95%	\$ 16,900	\$ 15,550	92%	\$ 1,350
Jon Shimada	1	On-Call Project Support Services	M. Thung	4/8/2024	12/31/2025	11/8/2024	0%	\$ 35,000	\$ -	0%	\$ 35,000
Langton Spieth	1	Community relations	A. Bennett	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	85%	\$ 78,000	\$ 65,000	83%	\$ 13,000
Lisa Taylor	1	Turf Removal Program Development	M. Brent	4/3/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	80%	\$ 21,500	\$ 16,884	79%	\$ 4,616
Long Building Tech	1	Security Maintenance	H. Chen	6/1/2023	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	35%	\$ 120,000	\$ 37,642	31%	\$ 82,358
Madsen Electric	1	Pipeline Intake and Valve House Battery Charger Inverter Removal and Replacement Project	D. Roberts	12/1/2023	4/27/2024	11/8/2024	95%	\$ 29,090	\$ 27,474	94%	\$ 1,616
Media for International Development	1	WeNeedWater Video Production	A. Bennett	1/1/2023	12/31/2023	11/8/2024	30%	\$ 35,000	\$ 9,500	27%	\$ 25,500
Nature Vision	1	Classroom Water Education	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	88%	\$ 105,000	\$ 90,472	86%	\$ 14,528
Okamoto Strategies, LLC	1	Capital Projects and Strategic Planning	H. Chen	6/21/2023	6/21/2024	11/8/2024	25%	\$ 25,000	\$ 5,569	22%	\$ 19,431
Pacifica Law	1	Legal Assistance	H. Chen	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	0%	\$ 25,000	\$ 238	1%	\$ 24,763
Parametrix	1	On Call Civ/Mech/Structural Eng	H. Chen	1/1/2023	12/31/2025	11/8/2024	30%	\$ 550,000	\$ 164,625	30%	\$ 385,375
Performance Dimensions	1	Executive Coaching Services	M. Thung	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	0%	\$ 15,000	\$ -	0%	\$ 15,000
Puget Sound Energy	1	Water Efficiency Rebates	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	88%	\$ 120,000	\$ 103,574	86%	\$ 16,426
Rainier Stillwater Risk Advisors	1	Trespassing Management	M. Thung	12/14/2023	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	5%	\$ 33,000	\$ -	0%	\$ 33,000
RH2	2	On-Call Electrical Engineering Svcs	H. Chen	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	60%	\$ 133,750	\$ 79,010	59%	\$ 54,740
RH2	3	Wholesale Master Meter Eval	H. Chen	1/21/2020	3/31/2023	11/8/2024	8%	\$ 24,500	\$ 1,342	5%	\$ 23,158
Robinson Noble	1	Water Audits	E. Cebren	10/3/2019	N/A	11/8/2024	85%	\$ 135,060	\$ 115,183	85%	\$ 19,877
Sammamish Plateau Water	1	GIS support services	H. Chen	12/6/2022	N/A	11/8/2024	48%	\$ 50,000	\$ 24,020	48%	\$ 25,980
Sazan	1	On-call value analysis/engineering	J. Shimada	10/23/2023	10/23/2025	11/8/2024	30%	\$ 250,000	\$ 73,371	29%	\$ 176,629
SC Words & Pictures Inc.	1	Design Services	A. Bennett	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	55%	\$ 30,000	\$ 16,000	53%	\$ 14,000

Seattle Public Utilities	1	Garden Hotline	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	75%	\$ 15,825	\$ 11,869	75%	\$ 3,956
SMC Consulting	1	Water Efficiency Consultant	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	75%	\$ 26,500	\$ 18,765	71%	\$ 7,735
Sustainable Water	1	Teacher Fellows program	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	90%	\$ 60,000	\$ 55,755	93%	\$ 4,246
Tacoma Pierce County Health Department	1	TappsWise Monitoring at Lake Tapps	A. Bennett	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	70%	\$ 120,000	\$ 79,135	66%	\$ 40,865
TeamLogic IT	1	Info Technology Consulting	C. Paulucci	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	80%	\$ 139,500	\$ 108,217	78%	\$ 31,283
TechniArt	1	Conservation Website Order page	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	65%	\$ 15,900	\$ 10,008	63%	\$ 5,892
Tilth Association	1	Garden Water Efficiency	M. Brent	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	80%	\$ 45,000	\$ 34,056	76%	\$ 10,944
Transpo Group	1	On-Call GIS Support	H. Chen		12/31/2024	11/8/2024	75%	\$ 49,000	\$ 44,963	92%	\$ 4,037
Upstream PBC	1	HydroForecast-Glacier Climate Change Analysis	M. Thung	11/1/2022	N/A	11/8/2024	85%	\$ 49,900	\$ 40,000	80%	\$ 9,900
Upstream PBC	2	HydroForecast Subscription Service	M. Thung	8/9/2023	10/31/2024	11/8/2024	45%	\$ 24,000	\$ 9,900	41%	\$ 14,100
USGS	1	Joint Funding Agre-Streamgaging	H. Chen	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	75%	\$ 374,000	\$ 262,253	70%	\$ 111,748
Vanir Construction Management, Inc.	1	On-call Construction Management	J. Shimada	5/1/2021	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	50%	\$ 560,000	\$ 186,174	33%	\$ 373,826
VanNess Feldman	1	General Counsel	R. Hoffman	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	75%	\$ 630,000	\$ 449,412	71%	\$ 180,588
Veolia	1	White River-Lake Tapps Reservoir Project Operations and Maintenance Agreement \$2,251,944 Fixed, \$225,000 Variable	J. Shimada	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	75%	\$ 2,476,944	\$ 2,043,114	82%	\$ 433,830
Washington Crane	1	Fish Screen Gantry Crane Repair	D. Roberts	11/9/2022	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	100%	\$ 168,700	\$ 168,700	100%	\$ -
Water Value	1	Climate Study Advisory Services	M. Thung	6/16/2022	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	75%	\$ 22,500	\$ 11,952	53%	\$ 10,548
Winterbauer and Diamond	1	Legal Assistance	R. Hoffman	1/1/2024	12/31/2024	11/8/2024	75%	\$ 20,000	\$ -	0%	\$ 20,000

Closed Contracts

Vendor	Closed contract number	Contract title	Cascade manager	Effective Date	End date	Status date	Percent work completed	Contract amount, including amendments	Amount invoiced	Percent invoiced	Contract balance
Langton Spieth	2	25th Anniversary Event Support	A. Bennett	3/4/2024	N/A	11/8/2024	100%	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	100%	\$ -
Lake Tapps Construction	1	Dingle Basin Actuators Replacement Project	D. Roberts	10/12/2023	5/25/2024	11/8/2024	100%	\$ 42,838	\$ 42,061	98%	\$ 777
Lake Tapps Construction	2	Clearing/Sign Posts/Eco Blocks for Covington Properties	J. Amspacher	11/7/2023	12/15/2023	11/8/2024	100%	\$ 4,908	\$ 4,908	100%	\$ (0)

Payment Authorization Warrants and Wire Transfers 11/20/24

WHOLESALE WATER

WIRE	Seattle Contract Payment 11/24	\$1,469,421.00
		<u>\$1,469,421.00</u>

CONSULTANTS

31909	Vanir Construction Management Inc.	\$30,237.06
31915	Confluence Engineering Group, LLC	\$2,430.00
31919	Environmental Science Associates (ESA)	\$16,863.14
31920	Herrera	\$7,819.90
31925	State Auditor's Office	\$1,404.91
31927	Van Ness Feldman, LLP	\$52,947.85
31936	RH2 Engineering, Inc.	\$7,978.66
31937	Tacoma Pierce County Health Department	\$8,716.27
31938	TeamLogic IT of Bellevue, WA	\$3,030.53
31947	Environmental Science Associates (ESA)	\$4,894.85
31949	Parametrix	\$19,731.19
31956	TeamLogic IT of Bellevue, WA	\$14,149.95
31961	Aspect Consulting	\$418.75
31966	SC Words & Pictures, Inc.	\$600.00
31967	Gordon Thomas Honeywell Govern. Affairs	\$7,000.00
31968	Inslee, Best, Doezie & Ryder	\$200.00
31969	Jennergy	\$3,205.00
31970	Langton Public Affairs LLC	\$6,500.00
		<u>\$188,128.06</u>

SALARY, BENEFITS AND EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS

	Payroll (October)	\$162,818.48
31917	David Roberts	\$341.76
31918	Melina Thung	\$227.86
31930	AWC Employee Benefit Trust	\$24,160.16
31932	Henry Chen	\$245.02
31941	MissionSquare-107080	\$41,467.80
31942	MissionSquare-304525	\$20,521.91
31948	HRA VEBA Trust	\$2,574.00
		<u>\$252,356.99</u>

CONSERVATION

31912	Jessica Bloom	\$1,350.00
31914	City of Seattle	\$3,956.25
31926	Techniart C S D	\$538.46
31934	Lisa Taylor	\$17,583.75
31943	Ben Bernstein Music	\$800.00
31951	Puget Sound Energy	\$24,952.70
31952	SMC Consulting LLC	\$2,497.50
31954	Sustainable Seattle dba Sustainability Ambassadors	\$5,313.50
31971	Nature Vision, Inc.	\$10,772.89
		<u>\$67,765.05</u>

GENERAL

31910	AMWA	\$13,000.00
31911	AT&T FirstNet	\$408.60
31922	Pacifica Law Group	\$237.50
31923	Pacific Office Automation	\$298.41
31931	Bellevue Gateway One Equities, LLC	\$31,919.61
31935	Lumen	\$115.32
31939	Washington State Department of Revenue	\$473.04
31945	Code Publishing Co.	\$275.50
31946	Comcast	\$551.67
31953	Staples Advantage	\$69.07
31958	Water & Sewer Risk Management Pool	\$168,700.00
31962	City of Bellevue	\$3,643.55
31963	Cintas Corporation	\$137.97
31964	CLEARFLY	\$1,094.95
31965	Comcast	\$5,964.82
31972	Pacific Office Automation Inc.	\$100.89
31973	Pacific Office Automation, Inc.	\$229.09
31974	Verizon Wireless	\$270.06
		<u>\$227,490.05</u>

LAKE TAPPS

31913	Cintas Corporation	\$7.83
31916	Culver Company, LLC	\$503.51
31921	Linde Gas & Equipment Inc.	\$598.69
31924	Seattle Boat Co.	\$1,064.41
31928	Veolia Water North America	\$212,937.88
31933	Honey Bucket	\$80.00
31944	Certified Hydraulics	\$5,964.95
31950	Puget Sound Energy	\$112.51
31955	SYBIS LLC	\$2,246.94
31957	Veolia Water North America	\$249,706.60
		<u>\$473,223.32</u>

CONSTRUCTION

31940	Vanir Construction Management Inc.	\$8,882.50
31960	Lake Tapps Construction Unlimited	\$3,887.71
		<u>\$12,770.21</u>

SOFTWARE AND EQUIPMENT

31929	Abila	\$292.04
31959	Industrial Software Solutions	\$27,054.10
		<u>\$27,346.14</u>

DESTROYED AND VOIDED CHECKS:

Total Warrants	\$1,249,079.82
Total Wires	\$1,469,421.00
Total warrants/wire transfers authorized for November 2024	<u>\$2,718,500.82</u>

**Cascade Water Alliance
Monthly Treasurer's Report
October 2024**

	Operating Fund	Construction Fund	Bond Fund	RCFC Fund	Water Supply Development Fund	Rate Stabilization Fund	US Bank Payroll Account	All Funds
Beginning Balances, October 1	\$ 17,678,910	\$ 12,455,163	\$ 8,500,823	\$ -	\$ 13,605,666	\$ 2,353,312	\$ -	\$ 54,593,875
Additions:								
Cash received	\$ 4,527,763	\$ 47,119	\$ 9,204	\$ -	\$ 23,746	\$ 8,783	\$ -	\$ 4,616,614
Transfers from other Cascade funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,335,726	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 163,578	\$ 6,499,304
Total additions	\$ 4,527,763	\$ 47,119	\$ 6,344,930	\$ -	\$ 23,746	\$ 8,783	\$ 163,578	\$ 11,115,918
Subtractions:								
Bank fees, payroll, and bond payments	\$ 1,403	\$ 914	\$ 2,149	\$ -	\$ 1,119	\$ 170	\$ 163,578	\$ 169,333
Warrants paid	\$ 800,342	\$ 38,130	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 838,472
Wire and other electronic payments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
King Co. Investment Pool impairment (realized)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
King Co. Investment Pool impairment (retained)	\$ (40)	\$ (34)	\$ (19)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (5)	\$ -	\$ (98)
Transfers to other Cascade funds	\$ 6,499,304	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,499,304
Total subtractions	\$ 7,301,008	\$ 39,009	\$ 2,130	\$ -	\$ 1,119	\$ 165	\$ 163,578	\$ 7,507,010
Ending Balances, October 31, 2024	\$ 14,905,665	\$ 12,463,273	\$ 14,843,623	\$ -	\$ 13,628,293	\$ 2,361,930	\$ -	\$ 58,202,783



MEETING MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
VIA HYBRID
OCTOBER 23, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 3:34 p.m. Chair Sweet called the meeting to order. Board Members confirmed that they received the meeting materials and could hear the speakers clearly.

2. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: City of Bellevue (Hamilton), City of Issaquah (Pauly), City of Kirkland (Sweet), Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District (Warren), and Skyway Water and Sewer District (Ault)

Board Members Absent: City of Redmond (Birney), City of Tukwila (McLeod)

Board Alternates Present: City of Redmond (Nuevacamina), City of Tukwila (Martinez), Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District (Hooshangi)

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Ms. Nuevacamina and second by Mr. Ault to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ray Hoffman, Cascade CEO, reviewed the Chief Executive Officer's Report that was included in the Board Packet, and responded to questions from Board Members.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

- A. Board Meeting Minutes for September 25, 2024.
- B. Motion to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract with Tetra Tech Inc., to provide services in updating Members' risk and resiliency assessments and emergency response plans in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.

Motion by Mr. Warren and second by Mr. Ault to approve Consent Action Items A-B as presented. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

8. OTHER ACTION ITEMS

- A. Motion to authorize staff to increase the contract budget with Marketplace Events from \$15,000 to \$20,000 for expanded Cascade activities at the 2025 Northwest Flower and Garden Festival.

Michael Brent, Cascade Water Efficiency Manager, said that Cascade was the prime sponsor of “Container Wars,” a high-profile, daily event at the 2024 Northwest Flower and Garden Festival (NWFGF). In January 2024, the Board authorized staff to continue with this sponsorship role at the 2025 NWFGF with a contract budget amount of \$15,000. After planning for the 2025 event began, Cascade staff and event organizers developed a proposal to expand Cascade’s role at the NWFGF. Mr. Brent discussed the additional elements of the sponsorship. These expanded elements will require more involvement and staff time on the part of Marketplace Events, which will require an additional \$5,000 to implement. Pursuant to Resolution 2009-02, any sponsorship over \$1,000 requires Board authorization.

Motion by Mr. Martinez and second by Mr. Warren to authorize staff to increase the contract budget with Marketplace Events from \$15,000 to \$20,000 for expanded Cascade activities at the 2025 Northwest Flower and Garden Festival. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

9. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

- A. Wholesale Contracts Status Update

Ray Hoffman said that two letters were drafted for review by the Public Affairs Committee and the Board: 1) letter from the Board to Seattle Mayor; 2) letter from Cascade CEO to SPU General Manager. In addition, a consultant information session was held regarding the Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline project. Approximately 25 consultants from 14 firms attended the meeting.

- B. Lake Tapps Projects Update

Dave Roberts, Cascade’s Contract Administrator, provided a report about the total number of projects completed in 2023 and 2024 with a cost summary, a status report for the 2024 outage, and a look ahead for 2025-2026 anticipated projects for the Lake Tapps Project.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Executive Committee – no meeting held.
- B. Finance & Management Committee – no meeting held.
- C. Public Affairs Committee – no meeting held.
- D. Resource & Management Committee – Meeting held October 10, 2024. The meeting recap was included in the Board Packet.

11. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Warren said that Sammamish Plateau & Water is dealing with the Master Builders Association and how fixture counts are metered on new housing projects. Ms. Pauly added that there is a gross misunderstanding on how impact fees are calculated, significant education is needed.

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on November 20, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.

13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

Penny Sweet, Chair

Angela Birney, Vice-Chair

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT

Motion to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract with Confluence Engineering Group to conduct a water quality blending study in an amount not to exceed \$230,000.

BACKGROUND

At the direction of Cascade's Board, Cascade and Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) are in the process of developing new long-term water supply contracts. The contracts will enable Cascade to take water from Tacoma starting in 2041 to replace the declining Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) block contract.

New contracts with TPU require construction of the Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline (TCP) project to connect Cascade to TPU's water system. To avoid building duplicative infrastructure, reduce members' costs, and reduce environmental impacts, Cascade has asked SPU to allow Cascade to wheel TPU water through SPU's pipe under the current declining block contract. Wheeling would also benefit SPU – Cascade's wheeling payments would offset some of SPU's lost revenue when Cascade transitions to taking TPU water.

Although SPU has expressed no interest to-date in allowing Cascade to wheel water, Cascade would like to proceed with a water quality blending study, in the event SPU reconsiders or other options to wheel become available. Cascade wishes to execute a consultant contract with Confluence Engineering Group to conduct this study in an amount not-to-exceed \$230,000.

Blending water from two sources needs to be closely analyzed, even when both sources are high quality. The objective of the blending study is to identify potential water quality risks through evaluation of chemistry compatibility between the TPU Green River and SPU Cedar River supplies (and potentially the Tolt River supply and member-controlled independent supplies).

The blending study will be conducted as a desk-top effort focused on chemistry and water quality compatibility of the supplies, factoring in operational components. Additional monitoring that is needed to fill data gaps will be identified, as will recommendations for characterizing and mitigating potential risks, if any are identified. Publicly available SPU data will be used if SPU continues to decline to participate in the study. TPU has already agreed to participate.

PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Cascade followed its CEO Procedures to select the Consultant to provide non-engineering services.

FISCAL IMPACT

Budget Line	2025 Budget	Spent and Committed to Date	Available 2025 Budget	This Action	2025 Remaining Balance
Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline Project	\$2,175,000	\$0	\$2,175,000	\$230,000	\$1,945,000

OPTIONS

1. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract with Confluence Engineering Group to conduct a water quality blending study in an amount not to exceed \$230,000.
2. Do not authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract with Confluence Engineering Group and provide alternate direction to staff.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract with Confluence Engineering Group to conduct a water quality blending study in an amount not to exceed \$230,000.

ATTACHMENTS

None

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT

Motion to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to renew contracts for vendor and consulting services as shown in the table below totaling \$2,191,450, and in accordance with the adopted 2025 - 2026 Cascade budget.

BACKGROUND

The following table shows vendors and consultants with which Cascade is contracting for services during 2024 whose current contracts expire on Dec. 31, 2024, and for which staff recommends renewal for 2025. The listed vendors and consultants provide services for legal, conservation, community relations, information technology support, USGS joint funding agreements, SCADA maintenance and legislative outreach initiatives. All the contractors listed below have been evaluated positively in 2024. Prior year expenditures for each vendor and consultant are also shown below.

More detailed information about the contracts and the changes in compensation can be found in attachment 1, contract summaries.

Vendor/Consultant	Work	2025 proposed	2024 contracts	2023 exp.	2022 exp.	2021 exp.
Brilliant Marketing	We Need Water social media Outreach	\$55,000	\$49,500	\$40,020	\$30,450	N/A
Colehour + Cohen	Conservation class & event staffing	\$110,750	\$111,000	\$90,146	\$89,704	\$50,673
Gordon Thomas Honeywell	State legislative outreach	\$84,000	\$84,000	\$84,000	\$84,000	\$84,000
Langton Public Affairs LLC (formerly Langton Spieth)	Community relations	\$78,000	\$78,000	\$78,000	\$72,000	\$72,000
Long Building Technology	SCADA/Security Maintenance Services	\$100,000	\$120,000	\$58,810	\$46,967	\$40,262
Nature Vision	Classroom education programs	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$99,993	\$94,990	\$73,557
Puget Sound Energy	Water efficiency rebates	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$50,000	\$47,220	\$64,613
Sustainable Seattle	Problem-Based Learning for Water Systems	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$59,972
Tacoma-Pierce County	LakeWise Program at Lake Tapps	\$140,000	\$120,000	\$116,001	\$119,960	\$116,627
TeamLogic IT	IT Consultant	\$138,700	\$139,500	\$128,568	\$104,455	\$85,745
USGS	Joint funding agreement	\$350,000	\$374,812	\$323,468	\$313,598	\$312,872
Van Ness Feldman	General counsel/water right/real estate/franchises	\$850,000	\$630,000	\$544,956	\$695,861	\$799,136
TOTAL		\$2,191,450	\$1,991,812	\$1,673,961	\$1,759,205	\$1,759,455
Prior year renewal authorizations (includes previously renewed contractors not being renewed by this memo for 2025)			\$2,116,062	\$1,971,275	\$2,084,370	\$2,090,390

PROCUREMENT PROCESS

Each of the contracts listed above for renewal was individually procured using approved processes that led to prior Board authorization for each.

Budget Line	2025 Operating Budget	Spent and Committed to Date	Available 2025 Budget	This Action	2025 Remaining Balance
Conservation professional services	\$391,000	\$0	\$391,000	\$330,750	\$60,250
TappsWise Program	\$140,000	\$0	\$140,000	\$140,000	\$0
Security and SCADA Maintenance	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
Legislative Strategy	\$85,000	\$0	\$85,000	\$84,000	\$1,000
Members Communications and Outreach	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$78,000	\$2,000
Conservation rebates	\$120,000	\$0	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$0
Professional Fees (Technical)	\$145,000	\$0	\$145,000	\$138,700	\$6,300
USGS joint funding agreements	\$400,000	\$0	\$400,000	\$350,000	\$50,000
Legal services, general counsel*	\$855,000	\$0	\$855,000	\$850,000	\$5,000
Total	\$2,316,000	\$0	\$2,316,000	\$2,191,450	\$124,550

FISCAL IMPACT

The total maximum compensation for the contracts listed above is \$2,191,450. These are anticipated costs for which funding has been included in the 2025 - 2026 operating program budget.

OPTIONS

1. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to renew contracts for vendor and consulting services as listed in the table above totaling \$2,191,450, and in accordance with the adopted 2025 - 2026 Cascade budget.
2. Do not authorize the Chief Executive Officer to renew contracts for vendor and consulting services as listed in the table above and provide alternate direction to staff.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to renew contracts for vendor and consulting services as listed in the table above totaling \$2,191,450, and in accordance with the adopted 2025 - 2026 Cascade budget.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Contract Summaries.

Brilliant Marketing – We Need Water

Cascade is managing an active social media presence for promoting its classes, events, and mission. We Need Water is critical to promoting Cascade as a leader in water resource management and making its programs successful. Brilliant Marketing helps Cascade create content and strategies and work with Cascade members to align our respective social media strategies for maximum effectiveness.

Colehour + Cohen – Conservation Class and Event Staffing

Colehour + Cohen provides staffing and support services for Cascade’s community events, Water Wall, water audits, inventory management, workshops, leak detection distribution, and social media content development. This support allows Cascade to provide programs and services that represent all members and serve thousands of residents, businesses, and schools. Colehour + Cohen helps to establish Cascade as an active community member and achieve its water efficiency program goals.

Gordon Thomas Honeywell – State Legislative Outreach

Cascade will continue with this full-service, governmental affairs agency that provides lobbying and legislative presence for Cascade and its members in relation to water supply and related issues at the Legislature, with state agencies and the industry. This includes but is not limited to creating legislation, amending legislation, working with lawmakers and key committee staff, as well as Cascade, its members and their lobbyists, and industry associations. With this contract, Cascade obtains the services of Diana Carlson, as well as other staff from Gordon Thomas Honeywell as needed to assist on Cascade work.

Langton Spieth – Community Relations

Sarah Langton provides community relations and outreach efforts with Cascade both in member service areas and in the Lake Tapps community. This includes, but is not limited to, work with each member, community and civic groups, the business community and key stakeholders and organizations. Their knowledge and connections within these sectors help Cascade reach critical decision makers and keep them informed as to Cascade’s work and potential future needs. At Lake Tapps, she works with the chambers, community groups and helps host public meetings, as well as provide written materials pertaining to critical needs or upcoming initiatives and measures residents need to know about.

Long Building Tech-SCADA/Security Maintenance Services

Cascade completed Phase 1 of the Security Improvement Program in the summer of 2018. In 2022, Cascade began construction and completed construction work in 2023 on the remaining phase of this program. As with newly acquired assets, this predominantly mechanical and electrical equipment requires annual, scheduled maintenance to ensure proper performance. The scope of this contract is to provide routine, scheduled equipment maintenance and related services for all security equipment installed between 2018 and 2023. The related services include unscheduled problem diagnosis and remediation and minor system add-ons.

Nature Vision – Classroom Education Programs

Nature Vision provides excellent classroom education programs for Cascade-member schools. Prior to Covid, Cascade’s programs reached approximately 11,000 students annually. Programs are tailored to meet STEM requirements and were specifically developed to address Puget Sound water issues.

Puget Sound Energy – Water Efficiency Rebates

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) invited Cascade to cost-share on a variety of residential rebate and direct installation programs including clothes washer and showerhead rebates, showerhead and aerator installation at apartment complexes and fixture replacements at commercial properties. The partnership with PSE allows Cascade to leverage its program budget and resources to help more residents and achieve its water efficiency savings goals.

Sustainable Seattle – Teacher Fellows

Cascade’s partnership with Sustainable Seattle (Sustainability Ambassadors) allows Cascade to develop and provide water-related curricula and programming into middle and high schools. The Teacher Fellows program is well-established in all four school districts Cascade serves.

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department - TappsWise

Through this partnership, Tacoma-Pierce County Health engages in natural yard care and septic maintenance service education and workshops for the community to help residents prevent water quality challenges, as well as disseminates critical water quality information year-round. In addition, the contract ensures water quality at Lake Tapps is tested, monitored, and reported on at least a weekly basis over the summer months, which helps Cascade’s water quality efforts on its future water supply. The increase in contract amount this year reflects increases in staffing and lab costs.

TeamLogicIT – IT Consultant

TeamLogicIT has provided IT support for Cascade for seven years and their support has been excellent. Monthly services are billed at a flat rate of \$5,700/month (\$68,400/year) for IT managed services, \$1,700/month (\$20,400) for cloud backup and \$700/month (\$8,400/year) for Egnite cloud-based file system. Services are provided for both the Bellevue office and the Lake Tapps facilities and include:

1. Remote Monitoring and Proactive Maintenance
2. Unlimited Remote and Telephone Support
3. 2 onsite visits per location per month (1 hour per visit)
4. IT Procurement
5. Strategic IT Planning, Training
6. Cloud backup storage
7. Cloud-based file system

Additionally, TeamLogicIT has recommended several IT projects that will improve the overall IT infrastructure, and this contract incorporates them as well. These additional projects (\$41.5K) include:

1. Penetration testing and network security assessment (audit recommendation) \$20K
2. Lake Tapps server replacement labor \$3.5K
3. ArcGIS server replacement labor \$7.5K
4. SCADA network switch replacement labor \$4.5K
5. Additional IT services billed at \$200/hour \$6K budgeted

USGS Joint Funding Agreement – White River Hydrologic Data Collection

Cascade is required, by the terms and conditions of the Lake Tapps Water Rights and White River Management Agreement, to maintain a system of stream flow gages on the White River and Lake Tapps Reservoir. The USGS operates and maintains a system of ten, gaging stations on the White River and Lake Tapps Reservoir, which monitor stream flow, water quality, and

Lake water surface elevation. Data from these gaging stations is available to the public on the USGS web site and real-time data from key gaging stations is provided directly to Cascade (and Veolia). Refurbishing an existing stream gaging station to provide additional data is planned for a future date. The service provided by the USGS has been very good over the years and Cascade anticipates continuing to receive hydrologic data collection services from the USGS in 2025 and beyond.

Van Ness Feldman – General Counsel/Water Right/Real Estate/Franchises

Van Ness Feldman continues to provide excellent legal counsel services to Cascade. Their services are as general counsel. Their legal staff is competent, professional, proactive, and engaging. They understand Cascade's operational and organizational environment and work very well with staff to anticipate and address legal issues that Cascade encounters or may encounter. Van Ness Feldman communicates its own contract issues (scope, budget, etc.) well with Cascade management to manage its work and to prevent contract budget overruns. The 2025 budget increase is due partly to a 7% rate increase but primarily is a result of an anticipated 400 additional Partner hours because of T.C.'s retirement.

AGENDA MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-16 adopting Cascade's 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda.

BACKGROUND

Each year, Cascade develops a legislative and public policy agenda to guide its activities at the federal, state, and municipal levels of government in order to further Cascade's and its members' interests. This agenda builds on Cascade's existing relationships with legislators, agency staff, state and national water industry organizations, and other partners in order to advance key interests as well as track and respond to issues as they arise during the year.

The 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda (attached) is similar to 2024 and adds a new focus on advocacy around federal and state funding opportunities for the Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline. Other changes include support for state legislation that would require state agencies to identify utility relocation costs as part of project estimates and continued efforts to advocate for Cascade's participation in the Ruckelshaus Center's evaluation of the state's water conservation statute. A few bullets regarding setting PFAS standards have been deleted given that the Environmental Protection Agency released a final rule with new standards and the state has begun its process to adopt the federal standards. However, efforts around PFAS will continue, and the agenda keeps the rest of the bulleted list intact to recognize the continued work.

The agenda also contains a list of issues that Cascade monitors generally, and support for new legislative initiatives not specifically addressed by the legislative agenda would be brought back to the Public Affairs Committee and the Board for further direction.

The agenda is presented with track changes so the Board can easily see the changes from last year. The Public Affairs Committee has reviewed and provided feedback that has been incorporated into the 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda.

PROCUREMENT PROCESS

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

OPTIONS

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2024-16 adopting Cascade's 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda.
2. Do not adopt Resolution No. 2024-16 adopting Cascade's 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda and provide alternate direction to staff.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution No. 2024-16 adopting Cascade's 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 2024-16.
2. Cascade's 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda.



CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-16

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE,
A WASHINGTON MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, ADOPTING THE 2025 LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC POLICY
AGENDA

WHEREAS, the Cascade Water Alliance (“Cascade”) is a Washington municipal corporation formed under authority of the Joint Municipal Utilities Authority Act (Chapter 39.106 RCW) to provide water supply to its Members;

WHEREAS, the Cascade staff in consultation with the Public Affairs Committee has drafted a 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda to guide Cascade’s activities and legislative efforts in the federal, state and municipal levels of government to advance Cascade’s and its members’ interests.

WHEREAS, the Cascade Board of Directors now desires to adopt the 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE as follows:

Section 1. Adoption of Cascade’s 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda. The Board hereby adopts the 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda (Attached).

Section 2. Effect. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect on the date of its adoption.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Board of Directors of the Cascade Water Alliance at a meeting thereof, held on the 20th day of November 2024.

CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

Penny Sweet, Chair

Attest – Ray Hoffman, Chief Executive Officer

Angela Birney, Vice Chair

Mary Lou Pauly, Secretary/Treasurer

Members

Yes _____

No _____

Demand Share

Yes _____%

No _____%

Include in CWAC?

Yes

No



20254 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda

Cascade supports measures at all levels of government that enhance Cascade’s ability to provide safe, clean, reliable water in a cost-effective, environmentally sensitive manner. Cascade’s strategy is to develop and implement an overall legislative and public policy plan that will continue already established positive relationships at all governmental levels to further Cascade and its members’ interests.

FEDERAL

The plan includes outreach as appropriate to Cascade’s Congressional delegation, as well as key committees, agencies such as the Departments of the Interior and Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Corps of Engineers. Cascade will seek opportunities to have a presence at key industry and/or policy meetings and events by staff and/or members.

20254 Federal Agenda:

- Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline (TCP) Funding: Identify grant and loan funding opportunities for planning, design and construction of the pipeline and associated facilities. Meet with appropriate federal agencies such as the Bureau of Reclamation and the Environmental Protection Agency to introduce Cascade and the project. Develop an advocacy plan to educate Congressional delegation and staff about the project.
- Mud Mountain Dam operations:
 - Fish Passage and Barrier Structure: Ensure necessary funding is available to keep this project on track to meet federal biological opinion requirements and monitor project testing progress.
 - Multi-Purpose Study: Study the possibility of expanding the flood control purpose of the Corps of Engineers’ Mud Mountain Dam to include storage of water for later use supporting in-stream flows, recreation and water supply with other key stakeholders in the Lake Tapps community.
 - Gauges/Ongoing Monitoring on the White River: Continue Cascade’s commitment to accurate gauges and monitoring on the White River.
- Infrastructure and Study Funding: Continue Cascade’s commitment to resilience (seismic, water quality, climate, wildland fire protection) and monitor water utility funding opportunities for infrastructure, studies, analyses, and forecasting.
- Water Affordability Programs and Funding: Monitor and support water affordability programs and funding.
- PFAS: Cascade will monitor PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) legislation and rulemaking that impact water utilities, including wastewater and reclaimed water proposals,

and work with members on advocacy as needed. Cascade urges Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency to:

- ~~Use transparent, best available science to set a National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for PFAS that is not based on the recently issued water health advisories that are below levels of detection and quantification.~~
 - ~~Undertake a complete financial impact analysis of any proposed PFAS regulations that incorporates a cost analysis for any treatment construction and operation, remediation, and disposal costs that may burden ratepayers with significant rate increases.~~
 - Support a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) exemption for water utilities engaged in PFAS treatment and remediation.
 - Support source control and manufacturer liability to mitigate costs to water utilities.
 - Support funding for water utilities to comply with federal mandates regarding PFAS in drinking water supplies.
- Lead and Copper Rule: Track the implementation of EPA’s Lead and Copper Rule and compliance requirements for members.
 - High Efficiency Water Standards: Support legislation and rulemaking that promote high efficiency water standards for fixtures, appliances or products.
 - Federal Administration Change: Monitor utility and environmental policy changes due to the change in administration that could impact water utilities and state policies.

STATE

Cascade will continue to grow its strong existing relationships at both the legislative, executive and staff levels as well as with key water industry associations.

2025 State Agenda:

Legislative Priorities:

- Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline (TCP) Funding: Identify grant and loan funding opportunities for planning, design and construction of the pipeline and associated facilities. Meet with appropriate state agencies to introduce Cascade and the project. Develop an advocacy plan to educate legislators and staff about the project.
- Cost Responsibility for Utility Relocations: Oppose ~~any~~the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) proposal that would prohibit WSDOT from funding utility relocations, effectively shifting cost responsibility for state project utility relocations from taxpayers to ratepayers. Monitor the Public Works Board study of utility relocation costs. Support state funding for utility relocation costs due to state transportation projects. Support legislation that requires state agencies to identify relocation costs as part of the project estimate.
- Water Use Efficiency Proviso: Advocate for Cascade’s participation in the Ruckelshaus Center’s evaluation of the state’s municipal water conservation statute.
- PFAS. Cascade will monitor PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) legislation and rulemaking that impact water utilities, including wastewater and reclaimed water proposals, and work with members on advocacy as needed. Cascade urges the state to:

- ~~Use transparent, best available science to set state regulations for PFAS that are not based on the recently issued federal water health advisories that are below levels of detection and quantification.~~
 - Undertake a complete financial impact analysis of any proposed PFAS regulations that incorporates a cost analysis for any treatment construction and operation, remediation, and disposal costs that may burden ratepayers with significant rate increases.
 - Support source control and manufacturer liability to mitigate liability and costs to water utilities.
 - Support funding for water utilities to comply with state mandates regarding PFAS in drinking water supplies.
 - Require the Department of Ecology to identify sites and locations of known PFAS contamination potentially impacting a public water supply system to be classified as “listed sites” under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) to ensure there is a public process, including SEPA, which will include engagement of stakeholders in any proposed remediation plans, while exempting the public water supply systems from MTCA.
- Affordability Measures: Support continued funding of the Department of Commerce Connecting Housing to Infrastructure Program (CHIP) that reimburses utility connection charges. Support streamlining the program to reduce the administrative burden on utilities. Consider actions and/or legislation to allow utilities to address affordability issues, as directed by the board. Support the development and state funding of a low-income household water assistance program.
- Funding opportunities under the Climate Commitment Act (CCA): The state has raised \$1.3 billion so far through the CCA, the state’s cap and trade program. Proceeds will be used to increase climate resiliency, fund alternative-transportation grant programs and help Washington transition to a low-carbon economy. Cascade will monitor opportunities for Cascade and its members to access funding from the program.
- Municipal Water Law: Support the Washington Water Utilities Council (WWUC) efforts to educate legislators and respond to ~~review and comments on~~ the Department of Ecology’s revised draft policy 2030 that interprets the state municipal water law.
- Collection Flexibility: Protect existing authority and provide flexibility and new tools to allow utilities to work with impacted customers on payment plans to preserve the financial viability of the utility and avoid raising rates on other customers, including an extension of the ability to collect outstanding debt related to waiver of late fees and shut offs.
- Federal Administration Change: Monitor state utility and environmental policy changes due to the change in the federal administration and policies.

Legislation/Rulemaking Cascade is monitoring and/or supporting as appropriate:

- Promote Cascade and Members’ Presence at Legislature as Industry Leader/Problem Solver:
 - Review, and, if appropriate, support members’ 2024⁵ legislative agendas.
 - Work with other agencies of which Cascade is a member – support and promote approved issues on agendas of groups like the Water Supply Forum, Washington Water Utilities Council (WWUC), and Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts (WASWD).

- Support existing industry organizations – Continue to further common water-policy interests, legislative goals, technical fixes as needed, conservation, etc.
- Climate Change: Monitor climate change proposals that have implications for water supply planning and resiliency.
- Shoreline Management/Bulkhead Heights: Monitor the Department of Ecology’s work on shoreline management and standards for bulkhead height for opportunities to address raising bulkhead heights at the Lake Tapps Reservoir.
- Regional Resiliency Planning: Support proposals that enhance regional resiliency and water supply reliability. Oppose proposals that hinder or discourage opportunities for regional resiliency. Continue to lead resiliency planning for members on issues as needed, including resiliency funding efforts by the Water Supply Forum.
- Milfoil Prevention: Support state action to follow the example of California and Oregon and restrict boater access to state waters without a boat inspection.
- Water Efficiency Measures: Review and support legislation that promotes high efficiency water standards for fixtures, appliances or products.
- State funding options for infrastructure and investments: Cascade will continue to monitor proposals regarding water infrastructure investments.
- Initiate and Participate in Legislative Workshops and Committees: Cascade will promote responsible, environmental water use/regional governance at workshops/committee hearings.
- Monitor Other Key Industry Issues: Watch progress on pending or emerging issues.
- Tours: Offer legislators/staff tours of the Lake Tapps Reservoir to educate them on critical issues there.

MUNICIPAL

Cascade works with all cities and counties in our service area and the Lake Tapps/Pierce County area and will continue to hold regular meetings with the Four Cities (Bonney Lake, Buckley, Sumner and Auburn), Lake Tapps communities, Pierce County and other related agencies. Cascade will continue to identify and address issues as they arise.

2025~~4~~ Municipal Agenda:

- Support Cascade members’ legislative agendas as appropriate.
- On-going monitoring of King County legislation, regulations or permits that may have an impact on Cascade members, including the Regional Wastewater System Plan (RWSP) Clean Water Plan’s elements that involve reclaimed water.
- Ongoing monitoring and engagement in (Pierce County, Bonney Lake, Buckley, Sumner) local land use (comprehensive plans, shoreline management plans), stormwater, water quality and other issues that may impact Cascade’s operations in the White River and Lake Tapps area.

Cascade Turf Removal Program Proposal

Cascade Board of Directors
November 20, 2024



**What
it's not**

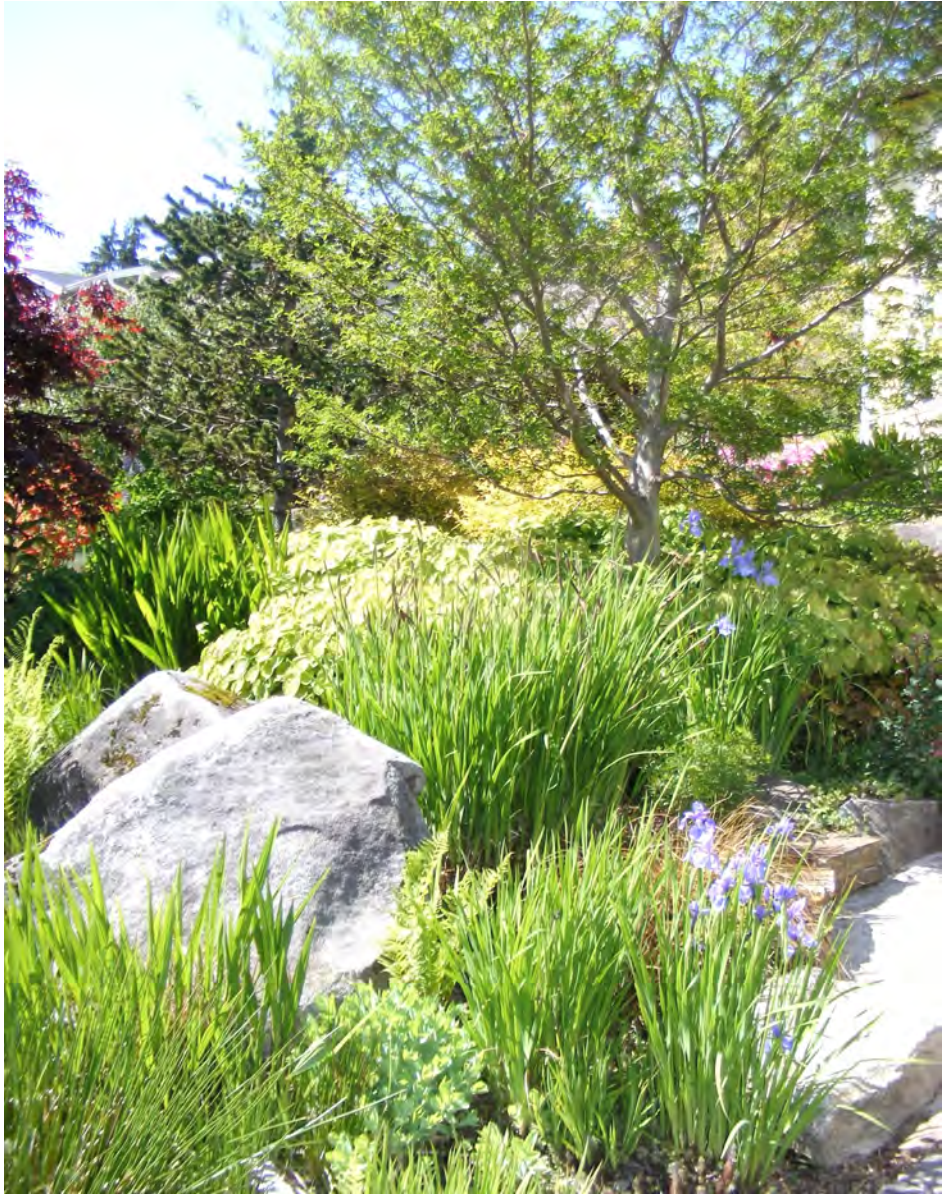
- It's not a "War on Turf" or a ban on grass
- It's not to shame anyone who has a green lawn
- It's not about rock and cactus landscapes



**What
is it?**

- Cascade rebate program
- Help customers minimize or eliminate outdoor watering
- Incentivize customers to remove irrigated turfgrass and replace it with native or drought tolerant plants
- Diversifying the landscape
- Opportunity to teach our community that there are alternatives to traditional landscapes







**Why
do it?**

1. Most “Low Hanging Fruit” is gone

- Years of toilet and clothes washer rebates
- Showerhead and aerator giveaways

2. Industry Changes

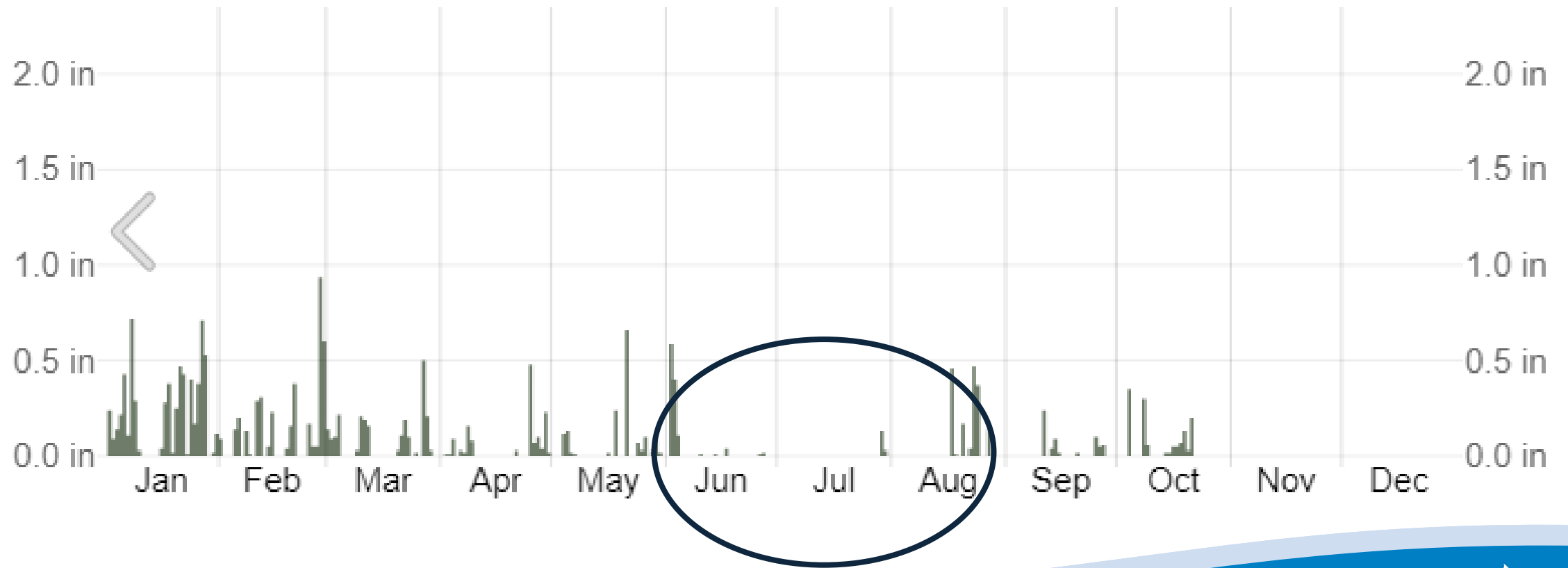
- Fixtures, Clothes Washers, Dishwashers, Showerheads

3. Code Changes

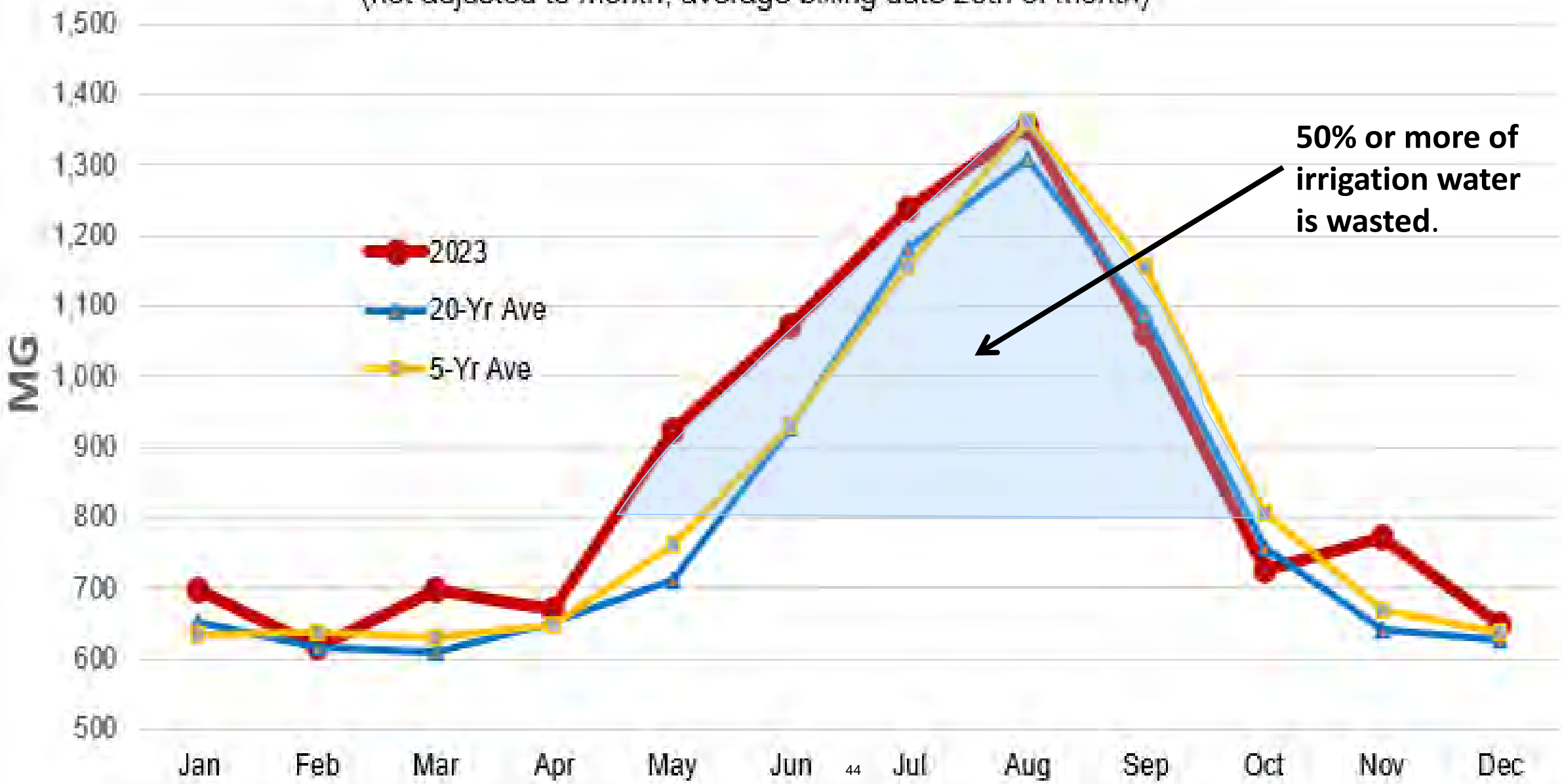
- Washington standards for new construction are among the most stringent in the nation

411.2.2 Performance. Water closets installed shall meet or exceed the minimum performance criteria developed for certification of high-efficiency toilets under the WaterSense program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

2024 Rainfall Totals, SeaTac International Airport



Total Member Purchases - SPU (MG)
Current year vs. 5- and 20-year averages
(not adjusted to month, average billing date 20th of month)





**The
fine
print**



- **Working title: Turf Out!**
- **Eligibility:**
 - Residential and commercial (Parks, Schools, Multifamily)
 - Irrigated turf (automatic, in-ground irrigation system)
- **Requirements:**
 - Residential: remove 100 – 500 square feet of turf
 - Commercial: remove 500 – 1,000 square feet of turf
 - Replace with native or drought tolerant plants
 - Decommission irrigation system
 - Pledge not to replant grass
- **Incentive:**
 - \$1 per square foot of turf removed
 - Multimedia training resources
- **Annual Budget: \$50,000**



**Program
examples**

Research Areas

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Los Angeles County (CA) | • Orange County (CA) |
| • Coachella Valley (CA) | • San Luis Obispo (CA) |
| • San Diego County (CA) | • Carpintera Valley (CA) |
| • Buellton (CA) | • Solvag (CA) |
| • Goleta (CA) | • Ventura County (CA) |
| • Kingsburg (CA) | • Madera (CA) |
| • Ashland (OR) | • Scottsdale (AZ) |
| • Castle Rock (CO) | • Southern Nevada (NV) |
| • Spokane (WA) | • San Antonio (TX) |

Findings

- Range of rebate amount: \$0.5 - \$4 per square foot of removed turf
- Annual program budget: \$75k (Spokane) - \$10m (SNWA)
- Residential AND commercial accounts? All
- Requirement to remove irrigation? Most cap system or switch to drip
- Inspections: Mix of in-person and customer-provided photos
- Program viability: No one expressed any plans to stop their program
- Savings tracking: No tracking (Solvang and Kingsburg, CA) – Extensive tracking (SNWA)



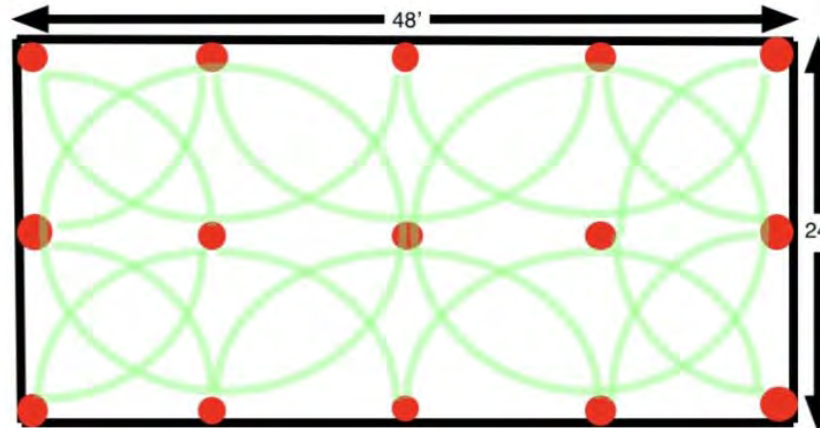
**Savings
potential**

1. Conservative Estimate:

Fifteen weeks x 1" of water per week = 9.35 gallons per square foot


2. More Realistic Estimate

Square Footage: 1,152sq'
Types of Heads: Rain Bird Spray U-Series Nozzles
Number of Heads: 15, 4"
Zone Flow Rate: 20.8 GPM
Schedule: 10min 6x/wk
Irrigation Season: 20 weeks
Annual Water use: 24,960 gallons
Annual Water use per sq': 21.7 gallons



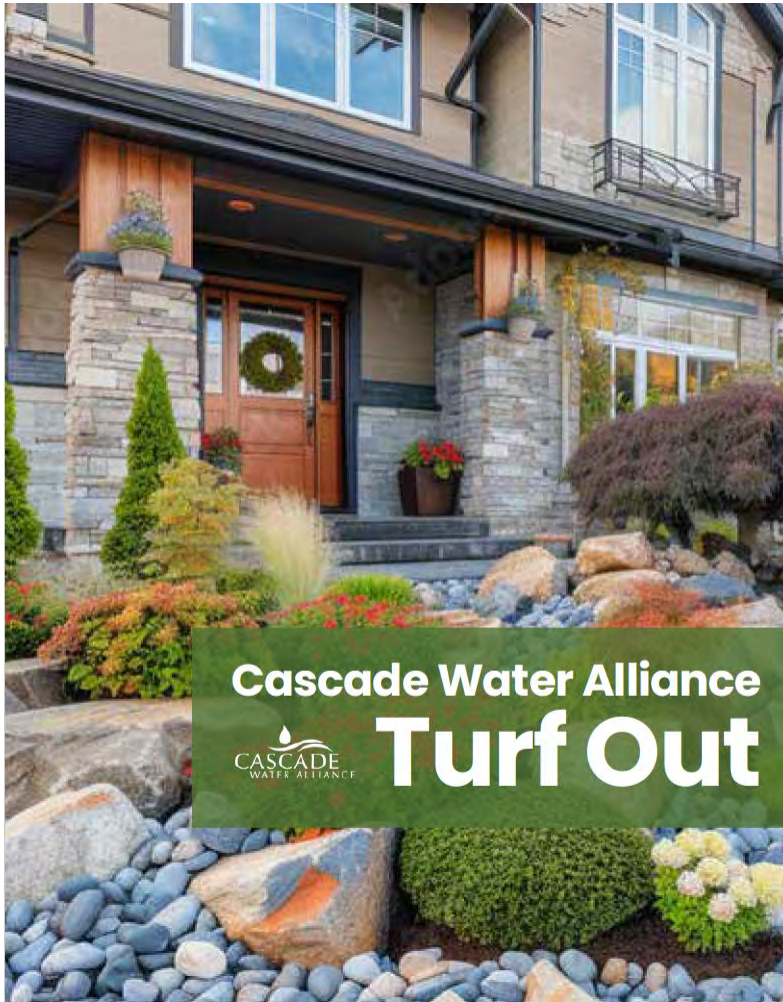
For Discussion Purposes:
A savings range of 10 – 20 gallons per square foot of irrigated turf annually.

One Utility's Experience: Southern Nevada Water Authority reported a 38% reduction in total water use in residential accounts participating in their turf removal program.



Program materials

Digital Guide



This is a step-by-step DIY guide to ripping out your lawn and planting a fantastic pesticide free garden.

This Guide Will Help You

- Create a plan and design your project.
- Learn how to remove quickly or more slowly.
- Get our water system figured out.
- Start building healthy soil.
- Learn how to plant and mulch so your new garden can thrive.
- Finally, make a plan for establishing your new garden for the first three years.

Turf Out, Garden IN

If you want to help pollinators, wildlife, people and the planet, it can be as easy as removing some turf and putting in other plants such as trees, shrubs and groundcovers.

Grass lawns are an ecological wasteland with very little diversity and very little life. If grass doesn't measure up, people apply water, chemical fertilizers and poisons to try to fix it. The EPA estimates that about 9 billion gallons of water is used every day in our landscapes. Americans spend about 150 billion dollars on their lawns every year. All those nasty chemicals and poisons, are tracked into homes and run into our waterways during storm events. Most lawn soils are so compacted they don't really absorb storm water. Besides, grass is boring.

*NPR npr.org/2024/06/05/nx-s1-4984990/the-arguments-for-swapping-lawns-for-more-natural-landscaping



Alternatives to Turf

Are you ready for something better? Join the growing movement of people who are removing their lawns and putting in gardens that feature regionally adapted plants that help pollinators, wildlife, people and the planet.

Imagine how wonderful your yard could be without all that grass. You could make a rain garden or other stormwater feature. You could grow native plants and a kitchen garden. You could plant for pollinators or grow drought tolerant plants. You can have it all.

This DIY guide is for people who want to do most of the work themselves and who have a typical, mostly flat residential property. If your property has problem areas such as steep slopes, bad drainage, excessive storm water runoff or is near a waterway, find a professional to create a design that won't result in a bigger problem.



Grow a Native Landscape

Landscaping with native plants is a great way to create a garden that supports wildlife with plants that thrive here.

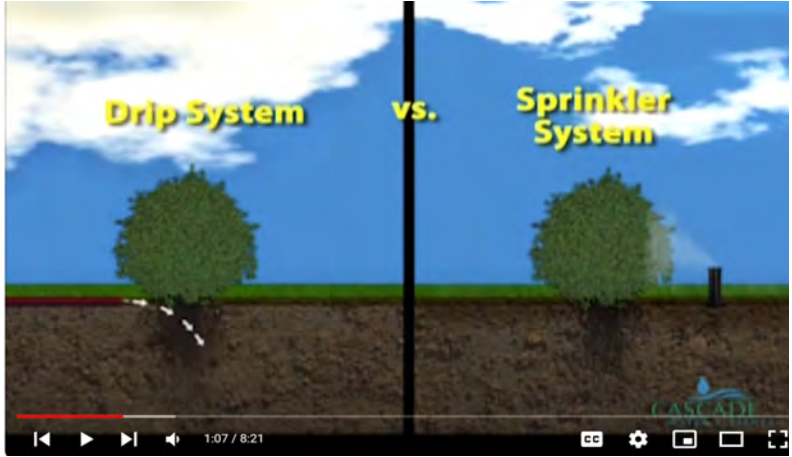
- Native plants are cool.
- Perfectly suited to our climate.
- Support native pollinators and wildlife.
- Disease and pest resistant.
- Beautiful and require less care and water.
- Deep root systems help slow rain water and improve water quality.

Helpful Tips

- Plant natives in groups: Imitate how plants arrange themselves in nature with clumps and drifts.
- Clump and gap mosaic: Create repeating clumps of similar species with gaps to create a mosaic.
- Plant in clusters and drifts: Plant larger patches using 2 or 3 species.

-  Vine Maple
-  Woodlawn Strawberry
-  Snowberry
-  Foam Flower
-  Sword Fern

12 CASCADE WATER ALLIANCE

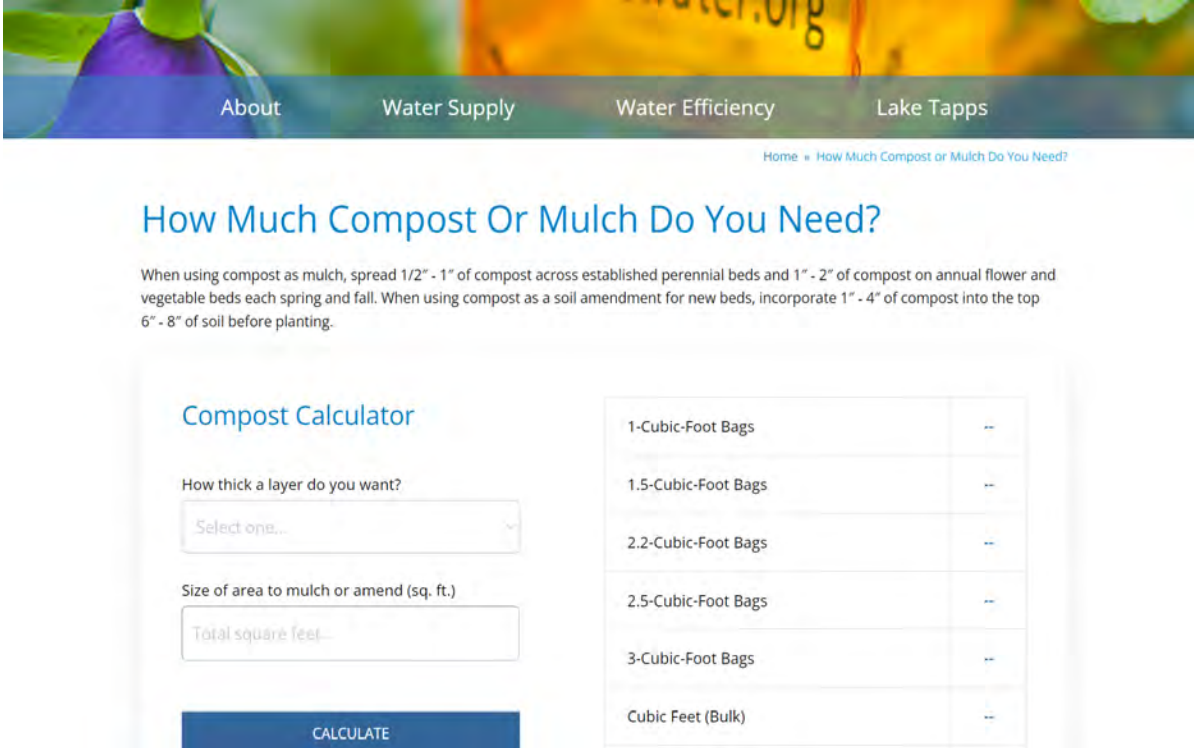


Step-By-Step Videos



Streamlined process

- Fillable online application
- Online guidance
 - Compost calculator
 - Plant lists
 - Example plans
 - Case studies



The screenshot shows the website header with navigation links: About, Water Supply, Water Efficiency, and Lake Tapps. Below the header is a breadcrumb trail: Home » How Much Compost or Mulch Do You Need?. The main heading is "How Much Compost Or Mulch Do You Need?". Below the heading is a paragraph of text: "When using compost as mulch, spread 1/2" - 1" of compost across established perennial beds and 1" - 2" of compost on annual flower and vegetable beds each spring and fall. When using compost as a soil amendment for new beds, incorporate 1" - 4" of compost into the top 6" - 8" of soil before planting." Below the text is a "Compost Calculator" form. The form has two input fields: "How thick a layer do you want?" with a dropdown menu showing "Select one..." and "Size of area to mulch or amend (sq. ft.)" with a text input field showing "Total square feet...". Below the input fields is a blue "CALCULATE" button. To the right of the form is a table with six rows, each representing a different compost quantity and its corresponding result.

1-Cubic-Foot Bags	--
1.5-Cubic-Foot Bags	--
2.2-Cubic-Foot Bags	--
2.5-Cubic-Foot Bags	--
3-Cubic-Foot Bags	--
Cubic Feet (Bulk)	--

Additional Program Support

- Cascade Gardener
- We Need Water
- Webinars
- Podcasts
- Garden Hotline
- NWFGF
- Tilth Alliance
- Local Nurseries





**Measures
of success**

- **Savings:** Did the participants reduce their water use?
- **Longevity:** Are the savings permanent?
- **Cost-effectiveness:** ROI compared to new supply?
- **Participation:** Numbers meet program threshold (TBD)?
- **Resources:** Is the time commitment manageable?
- **Difficulty:** How difficult was the program to manage?

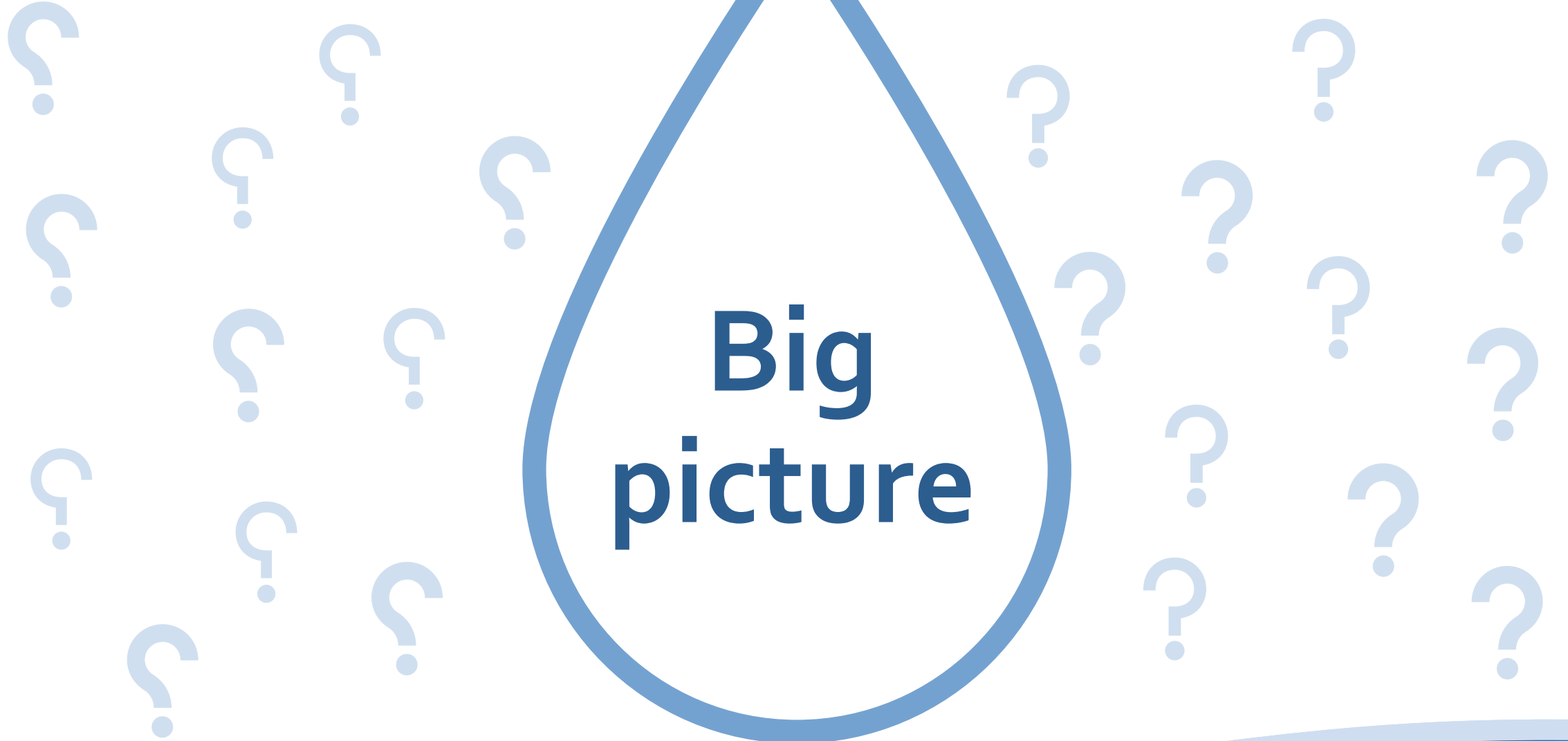


Variables

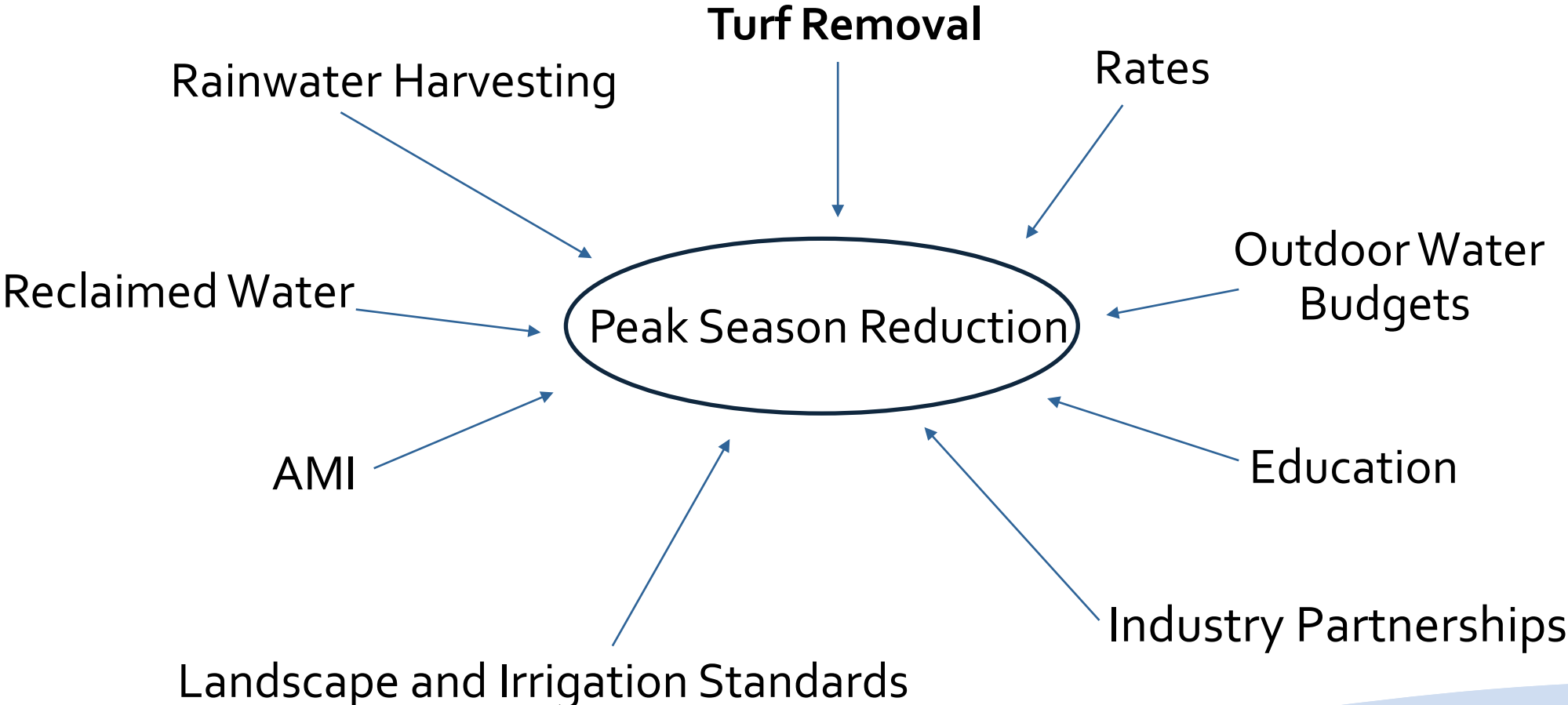
- Technical requirements
 - Decommissioning the irrigation system
 - Replacement plants
- Application process
 - Degree of difficulty and completeness
- Inspections and follow up
 - How many and how frequently
- Accounting for savings
- General time commitment



**Big
picture**



How this fits into Cascade's long-term strategy





Takeaways

- Peak season demand drives Cascade's supply and investment decisions
- Irrigation is the major contributor to peak season demand, and it is inherently wasteful
- Customers are ready for this
- Turf removal should be one of several measures to tackle peak season demand
- There are unknowns with turf removal
- Turf removal should be viewed as a long-term measure
- The sooner you start, the sooner you'll see savings



**Next
steps**



- Revise based on today's feedback
- Present to Cascade's Board on November 20
- If there is Board support, incorporate feedback and continue developing program
- Work with members to find opportunities for program alignment
- Finalize all program materials
- Launch at the Northwest Flower and Garden Festival (February)



Questions

Thank You



FINANCE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Mary Lou Pauly, Chair, City of Issaquah
Penny Sweet, City of Kirkland
Dave Hamilton, City of Bellevue
John Stokes, City of Bellevue

Meeting RECAP
Tuesday, November 12, 2024
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
Held at Cascade's office and via Zoom

Call to Order

1. **Chair Comments.**
2. **Executive Session.**
3. **Items Recommended for Action at the November 20, 2024 Board Meeting.**

- A. **Contract Renewals.** Cascade staff will present a list of contracts that expire on December 31, 2024, and for which staff recommend renewal for 2025. It is recommended that the Board authorize the CEO to execute the professional service agreements proposed for renewal in 2025 at its November 20 meeting. (Attachment)

Recap: Staff presented the contracts proposed for renewal. The committee recommended that the item be placed on the Board's consent agenda for November 20.

4. **Discussion Items.**

- A. **Wholesale Contracts Update.** Staff will update the committee on recent activities related to Cascade's wholesale contract discussions, including negotiations with Tacoma Water, responses to Seattle's Mayor and Seattle Public Utilities regarding Mayor Harrell's wheeling letter, and plans for the mini deep dive in December.

Recap: Staff updated the committee on negotiations with Tacoma Water, including a Tacoma City Council budget proposal regarding the current Tacoma Gross Earnings Tax that could be expanded to apply to System Development Charges. The proposal has not been approved yet, and the committee asked Cascade staff to evaluate ways to mitigate the impact from this and other similar proposals. The next full draft agreement is expected to be received from Tacoma on November 19. Staff also reported that draft letters to Seattle Mayor Harrell and SPU have been reviewed by the Public Affairs Committee and will be brought to the full Board for review next week.

5. Other Issues.

6. Next Meeting Date and Location.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, December 10, 2024, 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Cascade's office and via Zoom.



PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Angela Birney, Chair, City of Redmond
Penny Sweet, City of Kirkland
John Stokes, City of Bellevue
Ryika Hooshangi, Sammamish Plateau Water
Russell Joe, City of Issaquah
Dennis Martinez, City of Tukwila

Meeting RECAP
Wednesday, November 6, 2024
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
Held at Cascade's Office and via Zoom

1. **Chair Comments.**
2. **Executive Session.**
3. **Items Recommended for Action at the November 20, 2024 Board Meeting.**

A. Draft 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda. Staff will provide an update on state legislative activities and preparation for the 2025 legislative session. Committee review and feedback is requested on the draft 2025 legislative agenda. The attached draft agenda is presented in track changes to highlight the proposed changes from last year's legislative agenda. (Attachments)

***Recap:** The committee received a state election update from Diana Carlen, Gordon Thomas Honeywell. It also discussed the proposed legislative agenda and suggested changes to capture the uncertainty with the federal administration change and support for regional resiliency proposals. Staff will update the draft legislative agenda and place it on the Board's November 20 meeting agenda.*

B. Wholesale Contracts Update. Staff will update the committee on recent activities related to Cascade's wholesale contract negotiation. Committee review is requested on a response to Seattle Mayor Harrell's letter to the Board regarding wheeling issues.

***Recap:** The committee discussed and provided feedback regarding letters to respond to Seattle Mayor Harrell's letter to the Board regarding wheeling issues. Staff will update the letters based on the committee's feedback and place the item on the Board's November 20 meeting agenda.*

4. Discussion Items.

- A. Turf Removal Program.** Staff will discuss progress on developing materials and digital content to help homeowners diversify their landscape by removing some of the turf. Staff will present a proposal to develop a turf removal rebate program for 2025.

Recap: Staff showed a presentation on research and planning that has been completed for a Cascade turf removal rebate program. The committee provided suggestions for the presentation to the Board on November 20.

5. Other Issues.

- A. January Public Affairs Committee Meeting.** The regular date for the January Public Affairs Committee meeting falls on January 1. Would the committee like to reschedule the January meeting to the following week, Wednesday January 8 at 9 am?

Recap: The committee changed the date of its January meeting from January 1 to January 8 from 9 am – 10 am.

6. Next Meeting Date and Location.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 4, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. at Cascade's office and via Zoom.



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Lloyd Warren, Chair, Sammamish Plateau Water
Jon Ault, Skyway Water & Sewer District
Dave Hamilton, City of Bellevue
Tom McLeod, City of Tukwila
John Stokes, City of Bellevue
Jon Pascal, City of Kirkland
Ryika Hooshangi, Sammamish Plateau Water
Angie Nuevacamina, City of Redmond

Meeting RECAP
Thursday, November 7, 2024
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Held at Cascade’s office and via Zoom

1. Chair Comments.
2. Executive Session.
3. Discussion Items.

A. Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) – Water Supply Status. SPU staff will join the committee meeting to provide a water supply status update. Current SPU water supply information can be found [here](#).

Recap: SPU staff attended and provided an end of season water supply briefing for the committee. SPU reported that although 2024 was an average year for precipitation, it was a low year for snowpack. SPU was able to use its low snow reservoir management tools, such as starting reservoir refill earlier than normal, to manage water supply. The combined reservoir storage for 2024 was above average. SPU staff will return in May to begin committee briefings for 2025.

B. Cybersecurity Report (TeamLogic). Cascade’s IT Consultant, TeamLogic IT, will provide the committee with a presentation on Cybersecurity best practices and an overview of some of the measures that Cascade has implemented.

Recap: Cascade’s IT Consultant, TeamLogic IT, presented best practices in Cybersecurity with a backdrop of what Cascade is doing and what more can be done. The presentation discussed the biggest threats and how they can be mitigated with different levels of protection.

C. Update on Milfoil Program and Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan (IAVMP). Staff will provide an update on the annual milfoil treatment program and present the draft IAVMP.

Recap: Staff provided a brief background on aquatic plants, an update on the annual treatment program, and an update on the 2025 IAVMP. In response to the community, Cascade conducted a pilot project in 2023 and 2024 that enabled HOAs and homeowners to pay Cascade's contractor for milfoil treatment beyond Cascade's planned areas. Though there has been low participation, the community values the option to pay for additional treatment and Cascade plans to offer this as a permanent part of the annual treatment program. The current IAVMP was developed in 2015, and a new 10-year IAVMP is being drafted and will be completed in January 2025. The purpose of the IAVMP is to provide long-term adaptive management strategies for aquatic plants that are cost effective, ecologically sustainable, and maintain reservoir water quality. The plan will include continued chemical treatment of milfoil, evaluation of other non-native and native nuisance plants, recommend regular lake-wide surveys, and apply the water quality framework. SEPA will be conducted and the final IAVMP will be presented to RMC and the Board in January for concurrence of recommendations within the IAVMP.

D. Update on Phase 3 Project. Staff will provide an update on the Phase 3 Project.

Recap: Staff provided an update on the Phase 3 Project and briefed the committee on project progress, including schedule and budget. Staff are anticipating change orders that could impact the project budget and will provide more detailed updates as more information is available in January.

E. Reclaimed Water Update. This item will provide staff updates and committee discussion of King County's RWSP update and Cascade's agreement with King County on reclaimed water.

Recap: Staff provided background and briefed the committee on the latest discussions with King County's Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) regarding the Cascade and WTD policy discussions pursuant to the Cascade/King County Agreement to Coordinate Reclaimed Water (Agreement). The Agreement expires at the end of 2025, and discussions have been stalled since mid-2023. The parties can let the agreement expire, which means that King County would be able to actively pursue Cascade member customers to offer them reclaimed water in place of potable water. It would also mean that Cascade would be free to explore legislation to achieve its policy goals. An alternative option would be to reconvene discussions and pursue an extension of the Agreement until the Regional Wastewater Services Plan (RWSP) policy work on reclaimed water is completed, possibly in 2029 or 2030 at the current pace. Committee Chair Warren reported on the RWSP work and the desire by RWQC utility members for a top-down approach to policy making rather than the bottom-up approach proposed by King County. Cascade staff will be reaching out to WTD and will report back at future committee meetings.

4. Items Recommended for Action at the November 20, 2024 Board Meeting.

A. Water Quality Blending Study. Motion to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract with Confluence Engineering Group to conduct a water quality blending study in an amount not to exceed \$230,000 (attachment).

Recap: Staff presented a proposal to evaluate the chemical compatibility of blending Green River with Cedar River and Tolt River supplies to determine if there are any potential water quality risks. The committee supported the proposal and agreed to move this to the Board's consent agenda in November.

5. Other issues.

6. Next Meeting Date and Location.

The next meeting will be Thursday, December 5, 2024, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Cascade's office and via Zoom.