

# CITY OF ASHLAND

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SEP 02 2008

WATER RESOURCES DEPT  
SALEM, OREGON

August 29, 2008

Bob Rice  
Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem OR 97301

RE: WATER CONSERVATION, REUSE AND STORAGE GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Rice:

The City of Ashland is pleased to submit an application of the Oregon Water Resources Department Water Conservation, Reuse and Storage Grant. We believe our application exemplifies the goal of OWRD to promoting responsible water management while protecting the environment.

We have several factors that place Ashland in a unique position to lead the way for other mid sized Oregon cities:

- limited water storage capacity
- wastewater treatment plant effluent does not currently meet the new DEQ TMDL temperature limits
- potable water source is vulnerable to floods, drought, and climate change
- stakeholder's perceptions of the use of treated effluent as an irrigation water source

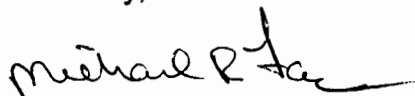
This planning study would allow us look at each of these factors in an attempt to seek a comprehensive solution to water constraints.

Ashland's proposed planning study offers a holistic approach to water use. It would develop *The Right Water for the Right Use* concept to better conserve limited potable water supplies and utilize available water resources to maximize community and environmental benefits. The study would identify all potential water sources including reuse water from the City's advanced wastewater treatment plant and identify the best use for each water resource.

Planning for future potable water use along with irrigation needs for this arid region is important to maintain Ashland's goal to lead the way for water conservation and reuse for the 50 year horizon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Faught  
Director of Public Works

Engineering  
20 E. Main Street  
Ashland, Oregon 97520  
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GC0010 09

OREGON WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
WATER CONSERVATION, REUSE AND STORAGE
GRANT PROGRAM

RECEIVED

SEP 02 2008

WATER RESOURCES DEPT
SALEM, OREGON

Project Name: Right Water Right Use Planning Study

Type of Grant Requested: [X] Water Conservation [X] Reuse [ ] Above Ground Storage
[ ] Storage Other Than Above-Ground [Including Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)]

Program Funding Dollars Requested: \$ 225,000 Total cost of planning study: \$ 452,500
Note: Request may not exceed \$500,000

Table with 2 columns: Applicant Name: Michael R. Faught, Organization: City of Ashland, Address: 20 East Main Street, Ashland OR 97520, Phone: (541) 488-5587, Fax: (541) 488-6006, Email: faughtm@ashland.or.us

Table with 2 columns: Fiscal Officer Name: Lee Tuneberg, Organization: City of Ashland, Address: 20 East Main Street, Ashland OR 97520, Phone: (541) 488-5300, Fax: (541) 488-5311, Email: tuneberl@ashland.or.us; Principle Contact: Michael R. Faught, Organization: City of Ashland, Address: 20 East Main Street, Ashland OR 97520, Phone: (541) 488-5587, Fax: (541) 488-6006, Email: faughtm@ashland.or.us

Certification:

I certify that this application is a true and accurate representation of the proposed work for a project planning study and that I am authorized to sign as the Applicant or Co-Applicant. By the following signature, the Applicant certifies that they are aware of the requirements of an Oregon Water Resources Department grant and are prepared to implement the project if awarded.

Applicant Signature: Michael R. Faught Date: 8/29/08
Print Name: Michael R. Faught Title: Director of Public Works

Please give a brief summary of the planning study using no more than 150 words.

Water is a primary concern for long term community sustainability. The City of Ashland has two fundamental water challenges:

- 1. Provide reliable and safe potable water for anticipated community growth,
2. Improve the health of Ashland Creek and Bear Creek by increasing summer time stream flow and lowering temperatures to improve fish habitat.

The proposed planning study will develop The Right Water for the Right Use within Ashland to better conserve limited potable water supplies and utilize available water resources to maximize community and environmental benefits. The Plan will identify all potential water sources including reuse water from the City's advanced wastewater treatment plant and identify the best use for each water resource. Planning for future potable water use along with irrigation needs for this arid region is important to reach Ashland's goal to remain "green" and lead the way for water conservation and reuse for the 50 year horizon.

## Section A. Common Criteria

1. Describe how the planning study will be performed. Include:
  - a. A description of the planning schedule/timeline, which includes identifying all key tasks. (Section VI provides an opportunity for a “graphical” representation of the schedule.)
    - **Develop a request for proposals and award an engineering consultant services contract for the planning study to include the tasks listed below** – Estimated completion: 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter FY09.
    - **Review, analyze, validate and identify gaps in Ashland’s existing water master plans and water sources.** – Estimated completion: 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter FY09.
    - **Validate the City’s future water needs through the year 2058** – Estimated completion: 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter FY09.
    - **Identify and fully describe all other alternative sources of water that will fully meet the City’s needs through the year 2058** – Estimated completion: 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter FY09.
    - **It is anticipated that each water source will have define uses and as such, identify options that explore different methods to utilize the right water for the different water uses; potable, irrigation (sources and uses)** – Estimated completion: 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of FY09.
    - **Identify benefits and challenges to using irrigation water (Talent Irrigation District and Bureau of Reclamation and their concerns from the Klamath Water basin; Oregon Fish and Wildlife issues, Oregon Water Resources, etc.)** – Estimated completion: 1<sup>st</sup> quarter FY10
    - **Specifically analyze environmental harm or impacts with the long term use of various irrigation water sources for City irrigation use** – Estimated completion: 1<sup>st</sup> quarter FY10
    - **Explicitly address the hydrological benefits and challenges and anticipate the effects of climate change with regard to water needs and water use** – Estimated completion: 1<sup>st</sup> quarter FY10.
    - **Identify benefits and challenges to using recycled water (the community’s perception and realities, restrictions, support from DEQ and State health, fruit growers, etc.)** – Estimated completion: 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter FY10.
    - **Identify options and cost estimates (piping the irrigation canals, piping for reuse/recycled water uses, ponds, treatment, pumping, etc)** – Estimated completion: 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter FY10.
    - **Identify the potential of using reuse water to offset irrigation water withdrawals and restore and/or maintain stream flows in Ashland Creek and Bear Creek with particular focus on improving the temperature of Bear Creek to support cold water fish rearing and migration** – Estimated completion: 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter FY10.
    - **Complete a consolidated engineering and financial feasibility study and cost benefit analysis of the preferred alternatives (anticipate no more than 3 separate alternatives will go forward for full financial analysis). Identify the link between conservation and enhanced conservation efforts and the preferred alternative** – Estimated completion: 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter FY10.
    - **Identify the specific community and public benefits accruing from the proposed alternative including estimated project costs, financing for the project and projected financial returns from the project** – Estimated completion: 4<sup>th</sup> quarter FY10.
    - **Develop justification for the preferred alternative** – Estimated completion: 4<sup>th</sup> quarter FY10.
    - **Develop final report and present to the City Council** – Estimated completion: 4<sup>th</sup> quarter FY10.
    - **Throughout the process and not less than every 2 months, utilize the support and community input from an Ad Hoc Water Reuse and Conservation Task Force that has been convened by the Mayor and City Council** – Estimated completion: Throughout the study period.
    - **Report to the Ashland City Council every 6 months with interim ideas, support or re-direction** – Estimated completion: Throughout the study period.
  - b. When the planning study could begin.

**This planning study could begin as early as three months from receiving grant approval (anticipate approval in 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter FY09). It will take approximately three months to develop a request for proposals, advertise, select and award a contract to the selected consultant.**

**The needed dollar-for-dollar cash match is available: \$50,000 in FY09 and \$125,000 in FY10. This project has been stated in different ways, but the concept is included in the Capital Improvement Project list and water temperature concerns have been a City Council priority for the past 3 years. Funds have been accumulating and are in the budget as stated above. Public Works Engineering staff will assist and manage the consultant though an in-kind (direct labor cost) match (\$52,500).**

2. Provide a description of the relevant professional qualifications and/or experience of the person(s) that will play key roles in performing the planning study. If the personnel have not been decided upon, include a description of the professional qualifications and/or experience of the person(s) you anticipate will play key roles in performing the planning study.

**This study would be performed by a highly qualified consultant team selected as a result of a competitive procurement process. The selected consultant must have the requisite engineering and water resources / environmental expertise and demonstrate experience in developing comprehensive master plans for water systems of similar size or larger using proven processes and innovative techniques. The selected consultant must also have the background in innovative water exchange and reuse programs available to highly treated wastewater treatment plant effluent.**

**The selected consultants would have significant water resources, environmental science, engineering and water analysis background as outlined after the key tasks below:**

- **Review and validate the existing water master plans and identify any other alternative sources of water, validate the future water needs to the year 2058 – will require technical expertise in water master planning techniques, water supply, water availability, climate change, etc.**
- **Identify the right water for each different water use; potable, irrigation (sources and uses) – will require technical expertise in water use and delivery mechanisms, wastewater reuse options, irrigation water availability, vegetation and irrigation needs, etc.**
- **Identify challenges to using irrigation water (Talent Irrigation District and Bureau of Reclamation and their challenges from Klamath Water basin; Oregon Fish and Wildlife issues, Oregon Water Resources, etc.) – will require technical expertise in water resources, water laws, environmental and biological evaluations, wastewater reuse options, coordination with fish biologists, watershed needs, climate change, etc.**
- **Identify challenges to using recycled water (the community's perception and realities, restrictions, support from DEQ and State health, fruit growers, etc.) – will require technical expertise in water reuse, treatment, irrigation specialists, climate change, etc. and will also require someone with expertise in marketing recycled water, recycled water use, etc.**
- **Identify options and cost estimates (piping the irrigation canals, piping for reuse/recycled water uses, ponds, treatment, pumping, etc) – will require technical expertise in water delivery, engineering design, cost benefit analysis, and construction estimating, etc.**

**In addition, staff from Ashland's Public Works Department would provide oversight and management. The Public Works Director, Michael Faught, has been in the Public Works field for 31 years. He has extensive experience preparing Request for Proposals (RFP) and managing significant contracts for transportation, water, sewer, stormwater, and facilities master plans.**

3. What local, state or federal project permitting requirements/issues do you anticipate in order for the planning study to be conducted?

**The need for permits for the proposed planning study has been thoroughly researched and permits will not be required. Permits will ultimately be required for implementation of the preferred option.**

4. Are permits/governmental approvals required for the planning study? If yes, indicate whether you have obtained the necessary permits/governmental approval. If you have not obtained the necessary permits/governmental approval, describe the steps you have taken to obtain them.

**The opportunity to prepare a response to this grant application has been presented to the City Council and their conceptual approval of the *Right Water for the Right Use* Program. It is also included in the adopted Capital Improvement Project list for the current budget year. City Council approval will be required to accept any grant funding and to enter into a contract with the selected consultant.**

**The need for any additional permits/governmental approvals for the planning study has been researched and is not anticipated to be a requirement for the proposed planning study. Permits, significant coordination and additional governmental approvals will be required for implementation of the preferred option.**

5. Describe your goal (which must be based on evaluating the feasibility of developing a water conservation, reuse or storage project) and how this study helps to achieve the goal.

**Ashland's proposed planning study is innovative; it is a holistic approach to water use. The goal of this water conservation and reuse planning study is to define the interrelationships between all of the available sources of water including the use of irrigation water and recycled/reuse of treated effluent to offset irrigation demand within Ashland's Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). In addition, the ability to specifically identify benefits and challenges of using irrigation water within the existing construct of providers, regulatory oversight (Talent Irrigation District and Bureau of Reclamation; Oregon Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Water Resources, etc.) and benefitting users will ultimately enable implementation of the preferred option.**

**Expressly analyzing all environmental impacts of long-term irrigation water use for the City's UGB will ensure that any barriers can be overcome prior to final implementation. Specifically addressing hydrological benefits and challenges and anticipating the effects of climate change with regard to water needs and water use will ensure the right water needs are well defined within all anticipated parameters well into the future and will provide the basis for updating these plans in 5–10 year increments to validate the way ahead. Integrating the need to resolve the temperature regulation for the treatment plant effluent and potentially turning that into a water source might enable the best of all coordinated solutions.**

**This study will define *the Right Water for the Right Use* by evaluating all the environmental parameters, all of the community needs, promoting acceptability of using recycled water and ultimately developing a sustainable conservation and irrigation program to meet the City's needs to 2058.**

**To accomplish these goals the proposed study would assess: 1) the state of the art in water reclamation; 2) how water management issues and the role of water reclamation are framed in Ashland; 3) the perspectives and alignment of different groups of stakeholders involved in water management issues; and 4) reclamation technology and policy interactions with respect to public perception, health, environment, regulation and incentives and security issues.**

**Exploration of all possible options at the planning study stage will establish a practical context for the plan and also help to avoid creating dead-ends in the planning and ultimately in the implementation stages of the process.**

6. Describe the technical aspects of the planning study and why your approaches are appropriate for accomplishing the goal of the planning study.

**Water history in Ashland demonstrates the level of commitment City leaders and citizens have toward water quantity and quality knowing it must be a top priority to maintain the health of the community.**

**The approach to the proposed planning study was developed in a series of Technical Memorandums (TM) developed by Carollo Engineers as a result of the City's desire to fully**

explore long term water needs and brainstorm available solutions. An evaluation of the projected future water demands and available supply was completed in 1998 as TM 1. Potential water supply alternatives were identified in TM2. These two memorandums provide the technical basis for this planning effort.

The City's use of water exponentially increases in the summer due to the arid climate and the need/desire to have appropriate landscaping, gardens (vegetable and perennial) and a well utilized parks system. This additional water use in the summer months drove the desire to refine the water analysis and develop the *Right Water for the Right Use*. This element is an added basis for the desired planning study. Ashland is a proactive community focused on water conservation. The use of potable water for irrigation needs is not the best solution for a conservation model.

Analyzing not only alternative sources of water and their acceptable uses, but fully coordinating those possibilities with the regulatory agencies, while adding the potential of a water exchange to help the wastewater treatment plant temperature limitations for discharge into Bear Creek (TMDL), and defining enhanced conservation efforts that will fully support the preferred alternative are all of the technical aspects requiring a thorough analysis of the options. There is not just one solution that will fit this complicated water model.

7. Describe the level of involvement, interest and/or commitment of different entities associated with the planning study (attach letters of support). Describe how these entities will benefit or be impacted by the planning study.

Ashland is a community that is strongly committed to preserving the environment and wisely managing natural resources. Ashland citizens actively participate in most water issues and are committed to water conservation activities (e.g. extraordinarily responsiveness during pre-curtailment actions brought on by drought).

Besides the community itself, there has been prior involvement with commercial and hobby farmers adjacent to Ashland's UGB who have been concerned with the use of treated effluent and any water exchanges with the irrigation system (TID). This study will utilize the support and community input from an Ad Hoc Water Reuse and Conservation Task Force to help better define their concerns and overcome negative perceptions of using highly treated wastewater effluent as a source for irrigation water.

The proposed planning study will reach out to all stakeholders on the local, state and federal level including, but not limited to:

- Talent Irrigation District (TID) - currently one of two water sources for the City. Ashland has two long-standing water supply contracts with TID. Long-term water solutions may involve water exchange for the use of irrigation water in trade for reuse water from the treatment plant effluent.
- Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) - a partner concerned with the need for water for fish habitat protection. A coordinated water delivery program may involve water exchange for the use of irrigation water in trade for reuse water from the treatment plant effluent and release of held water at needed times for fish spawning and rearing.
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) - the regulatory body for TMDLs. Ashland is regulated and must meet temperature requirements for the wastewater treatment plant effluent. Potential solutions may involve water exchange with TID to help meet temperature regulations.
- Oregon Water Resources (OWR) – state agency involved with any irrigation water or removal of water (effluent) from the creeks. Down stream water users may be affected by some of the potential solutions offered through this study.
- Bear Creek Watershed Council (BCWC) - a volunteer organization concerned with improving summer low flows and improving fish access past irrigation barriers in streams. BCWC could help to promote the *Right Water for the Right Use* program at

outreach events and partner with the city in brokering agreements to improve fish and riparian habitat.

- **Water for Irrigation, Streams and Economy (WISE) - a non-profit organization seeking to improve water quantity and quality for native anadromous salmonides in the Little Butte Creek and Bear Creek watersheds. Although WISE Project is built around the water management needs for the Medford and Rogue River basins, their findings could be applicable on a smaller scale to Ashland and the TID system. Ashland is an active partner in the WISE program.**
- **Oregon Fish and Wildlife (OFW) – resource to offer advice and opinion on all stream flow options. Any solution that uses water trading and changes to treatment plant effluent reuse will require coordination and review with OFW for fish impacts.**
- **Interdepartmental coordination within the City of Ashland’s Conservation, Finance, Administration and Community Development departments will ensure acceptable solutions that will promote Ashland’s sustainability goals and commitment to the Valdez principals.**
- **Elected Officials – Mayor and City Council will approve the initial planning grant acceptance and the resulting consultant contracts, use interim reports to provide direction and will ultimately adopt the final planning study which will include implementation steps. Elected officials will ultimately be responsible for approving the actual implementation program as well.**
- **Potential customers – the study helps answer the “why” of a “*Right Water for the Right Use*” project. Without such validation, past reclamation programs have found the public scrutiny to be an overwhelming concern. This study will aggressively seek public involvement and public approval through each step of the process.**
- **Ad Hoc Task Force will consist of representatives from all stakeholders and invited experts that will be involved in two-way communication and consensus building. Ashland has had Ad Hoc Commissions working on water recycling and to meet DEQ thermal load limits for Bear Creek.**
- **Coordination with local, state and federal agencies as well as public participation will be necessary to adequately complete the study and gain at least planning level approval for the concepts being developed for the *Right Water for the Right Use*.**

## Section B. Unique Criteria

**Instructions:** Answer the set of questions below that applies to the type of planning study that this grant will fund.

### **Water Conservation** or **Reuse**

1. Water Conservation or Reuse projects that may result from this planning study are requested to be included in the Water Resources Department's "Inventory of Potential Conservation Opportunities". Though you may have already submitted this information earlier in the year through a separate survey, we ask that all applicants complete the information on the form provided at the end of this application.  
 I have filled out the application or  I have not filled out the application.
2. Describe the water supply need(s) that the project associated with the planning study is intended to meet. Applicant should reference supporting documentation that would be available upon request.

**Ashland has two raw water sources that are converted into filtered/treated potable water: live flows from Ashland Creek and diverted irrigation water from the Talent Irrigation District (TID)/Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) system. Water from Ashland Creek can be directly fed from either the East or West Forks of the Middle Fork of Ashland Creek that are immediately upstream of Reeder Reservoir, or from Reeder Reservoir, the City's only raw water storage facility, to be treated in the water treatment plant for potable use. Water purchased from TID is delivered to the City by TID canals and is used either for direct irrigation (no treatment) or is pumped to the City's treatment plant for further filtration and treatment and used to augment the City's potable water supply (typically in drought years as an alternate supply source).**

**Flooding has plagued Ashland since records were kept; most notably the "floods" of December 1861, February 1927, January 1948, December 1964, January 1974, and most recently the New Year's Day flood in January 1997. Floods often resulted in limited or incapacitated water treatment or delivery, resulting in the need for emergency water sources. In addition, Ashland's water supply and the ability to store water in the relatively small Reeder Reservoir relies on spring run-off from mountain snow packs. There are concerns that the snow packs are likely to decrease or at least change in measurable ways due to climate changes.**

**In addition to flooding, the City continually faces drought conditions. Severe drought conditions were documented in the late 1800s with the first documented significant drought impacts in 1928-31. Droughts typically do not occur during a single water year (or calendar year), but instead may overlap two or more years. The impacts of a theoretical back-to-back drought condition was examined by Carollo (TM 1- 1998) by assuming that the 1930-31 hydrologic conditions would occur in consecutive years (referred to as the "worst case" drought condition). Drought conditions are cyclical, but difficult to predict on any regularity. Most recently drought conditions were in 1993 and 2001 and were only one year events. Drought is significantly compounded in a two year back-to-back event.**

**Throughout the early years and into the 1940s, Ashland commissioned several water studies. These early studies, and those that continued into the 1990s, evaluated a variety of sources of water including: additional reservoirs in the Ashland Watershed, obtaining additional TID water, treating TID irrigation water for potable water use, obtaining water from the City of Medford (evaluated as early as 1948), adding distribution reservoirs as storage, water conservation and water curtailment.**

**In 1998, the City hired Carollo Engineers to update Ashland's Comprehensive Water Supply Study. The scope of work evaluated current water usage and demand patterns to determine future water needs through 2050 or projected build out. The scope of work also included an update of available water supply options to augment the City's existing water sources. To help gain diverse community input, the City also formed the Water Advisory Group (WAG), an informal ad hoc committee made up of various community members and staff, to participate in the evaluation of potential long term water supply recommendations.**

**The study predicted that the yearly water demand for the City would range from 1,451 million gallons by 2020 to 1,991 million gallons by 2050. The demand estimates incorporated an adjustment for a proposed conservation plan that included a 20% reduction during summer months and an additional 10% voluntary curtailment during drought years.**

**The WAG group reviewed the initial Carollo water supply report and ultimately developed seven feasible water supply options: wastewater reclamation; ground water from wells and springs; pipeline supply from Talent Irrigation District in lieu of existing canal; connection to the Talent, Ashland, and Phoenix (TAP) Pipeline; additional reservoir storage; cooperative water supply projects with TID and; increased snow pack in Ashland Creek Watershed.**

**Each of these alternatives was then thoroughly evaluated by Carollo who ultimately identified the TAP project as the only “stand alone” option that would meet the community’s water supply needs through 2050. [The City Council responded in 1998, by funding the initial planning, design and to oversize the pipeline that was constructed from Medford to Talent (completed in 2002), but is waiting to make the final decision on the construction timing of the last link of the pipeline from Talent to Ashland. This planning study will help to validate that requirement and define the final timeline.]**

**Ten years later, the 1998 Carollo Water Supply Study’s, population and annual water usage projections proved to be very accurate. The actual 2005 population was 20,880 as compared to the Carollo population projection of 20,743. Of interest was that the Carollo population projections were lower than the actual population increases even with their projected 1.4% annual population increase estimates. The water usage was substantially higher than projected in 2000 (the year prior to a significant drought year in 2001); however, the usage not only dropped in 2001 through 2005, but has held constant through 2008 (1,218 MG).**

**The 1998 master plan looked at the City’s supply and demand for water through the year 2050 (Carollo – TM 1). The report indicated that as Reeder Reservoir is undersized, the City does not have adequate water supply during severe drought conditions. The water supply deficit reaches 450 million gallons in the design year of 2050. Although aggressive summer conservation could theoretically achieve a goal for 20% reduction in water use, it was not seen as realistic. The report finally recommended that the City implement a voluntary conservation / curtailment program that targets a 10% reduction during the high use summer months – every year and that mandatory curtailment would be used to achieve the additional 10% (total 20%) reductions during severe drought conditions.**

**The timing of the construction of the TAP Pipeline to Ashland and overcoming even short-term deficits are highly dependent upon drought conditions. The reports suggest that with “...aggressive summer conservation, the City can theoretically reduce the overall [water supply] deficit through the year 2020. “However, demand reduction conservation would need to be achieved every year during the highest demand months to adequately protect against unanticipated drought. Demand reduction by summer conservation alone is therefore not considered a suitable planning strategy for deficit reduction.” The amount of projected deficit is a strong function of projected population growth and other factors including drought conditions. The year 2016 has been used as a planning target for overcoming the additional growth related deficit and completion of the TAP Pipeline to Ashland. The City has already spent over \$2M to purchase water rights from Lost Creek Lake and has participated in the TAP pipeline construction from Medford to the City of Talent to ensure the pipe is sized to accommodate Ashland’s 1.5 mgd deficit need.**

**While the study did not implicitly recommend a new water supply evaluation once the first phase of the TAP project was complete, a new water supply study is the essential next step given that ten years have elapsed since the water study was completed in 1998. A conventional water supply study would validate all potential raw water sources available based on the most current information. However, even with TAP as an ultimate resource, there is a need to explore the right water source for the right use and look at emergency raw water sources that meet Ashland’s needs in the event of a catastrophic incident (Watershed Wild Fire, Water Plant Failure, etc.).**

**Reference Documentation:**

- Ashland Municipal Code
- Comprehensive Water Master Plan (RW Beck 1980)
- City of Ashland Water Supply Report (RW Beck 1989)
- Comprehensive Water Master Plan (RW Beck 1991)
- City of Ashland Water Demand-Side Resource Study (SRC 1992)
- Comprehensive Water Master Plan (Carollo Engineers; Technical Memorandas: TM 1 (1998), TM 2 (1998) and TM 3 (1999))
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities Plan (Brown and Caldwell 1996, Updated Carollo Engineers 2003)
- Budget Documents including the CIP
- Where Living Waters Flow: An Overview of Ashland's Water Source (Atwood, 1998)

3. Explain how the associated project will mitigate the need to develop new water supplies and/or use water more efficiently. Reference documentation and/or examples of the success of similar or comparable water conservation/reuse projects that would be available upon request.

**Detailed analyses will lead to a preliminary assessment of technical feasibility, costs and environmental impact. Comparison among alternative reuse programs will be possible, as well as preliminary comparison between these programs and alternative water supplies, both existing and proposed. In this phase, economic comparisons, technical optimization steps and environmental assessment activities will lead up to a conceptual plan for conservation and reuse.**

**The City has a solid history of successfully acquiring water conservation savings. Water conservation programs (toilet, washing machine and dishwasher rebates, showerhead replacements, irrigation audits, leak detection and repair program and seasonal water rates) have operated in some form for over 13 years resulting in a current water savings of nearly 440,000 gallons per day. The experience gained will result in adaptive management techniques to launch new initiatives and modify both new and old programs. The City's relatively small watershed and high quality potable drinking water source should be maintained for that use and not stretched to accommodate high irrigation needs in the summer months.**

**The City's Wastewater Treatment Plant treats 2.2 million gallons per day (mgd) of highly treated, tertiary water that goes through the membrane facility. Water reuse regulations allow the use of treated effluent for a variety of uses. With only minor modifications, the use of this water is unlimited and could be applied as irrigation for golf courses, parks and food crops. The State encourages reuse or recycled water and is continuing to develop regulatory language to ensure its safety and appropriate uses.**

**The City of Ashland wishes to go beyond a traditional Water Management and Conservation Plan. The City has several factors that make Ashland in a unique position to lead the way for other mid sized Oregon cities. We have limited storage capacity, we have different but related issues in that our wastewater treatment plant effluent does not currently meet the new DEQ TMDL temperature limits, our primary potable water source is vulnerable to floods, drought, and perhaps climate change, as well as other perceptions of the use of treated effluent as an irrigation water source. This planning study will help to look at each of these factors in an attempt to seek a comprehensive solution to a bigger water problem and take away the previous, sometimes self imposed limitations of looking at each water issues as an isolated issue.**

**Similar plans have been developed in King County, Washington <http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wtd/reuse/docs/FeasibilityStudy/index.htm> and Santa Rosa, California <http://ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/departments/utilities/irwp/masterplan/Pages/default.aspx> .**

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- Ashland Municipal Code
- Comprehensive Water Master Plan (RW Beck 1980)
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- City of Ashland Water Demand-Side Resource Study (SRC 1992)
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- Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities Plan (Brown and Caldwell 1996, Updated Carollo Engineers 2003)
- Budget Documents including the CIP
- Where Living Waters Flow: An Overview of Ashland's Water Source (Atwood, 1998)

4. Explain how the project associated with the planning study will meet the water supply need(s), and indicate what percentage of that need will be met. (For example: If your water supply need is 20,000 acre-feet of additional water and the project will supply 10,000 additional acre-feet, 50% of your need will be met).

**Irrigation water sources have been a part of the water system since the turn of the century and are routinely available throughout the irrigation season (April to October) in the Rogue Valley. Ashland has perpetual municipal water rights from the TID system for 769 acre feet. This is equivalent to 250.6 mg or 83 days of irrigation water using 3 mgd (conversion 325,850 gal per acft). Fully utilizing all of the TID water available to the City of Ashland would enable over 2.5 months of irrigation use. That does not take into account current use of the existing backyard TID users in the City, but illustrates one of the possibilities for the right water for the right use. In addition, the City now treats its wastewater effluent to Class A which is considered more than suitable for irrigation. This enables another 2.2 million gallons per day for irrigation water use. Combined, these water sources could provide a partial solution to Ashland's irrigation and summer water deficits. There may be other sources of water, yet unknown, to help meet Ashland's summer irrigation uses. Conservation, along with alternative landscaping options, definitely plays a role in creating a sustainable Ashland. Finding a way to make this happen in a cost efficient and timely manner is the next step.**

**Options provided in this planning study will fully define options and a preferred alternative to meet the City's needs with the *Right Water for the Right Use* through the year 2058.**

5. Provide data and information on the associated project and the project's sources of water supply:
- a. The location of the associated project. (Include the basin, county, township, range and section.)

**The site of the proposed planning study is the City of Ashland Urban Growth Boundary located in the Bear Creek Basin, Jackson County, City of Ashland, Oregon – Township 29 South, Range 1 East. See attached map.**

- b. The name(s) and river mile(s) of the source water and what they are tributary to, if applicable.

**Some irrigation water within Ashland is supplied from Emigrant Lake, a large reservoir on Emigrant Creek, at tributary to Bear Creek. Emigrant Lake dam is located approximately 25 miles upstream from the confluence of Bear Creek with the Rogue River. Emigrant Lake is also the source of much of the flow down Bear Creek in summer. Emigrant Lake is fed by the Emigrant watershed (southern end of the Bear Creek Watershed) that drains into the lake (approximately 64 square miles) within the Rogue watershed. The lake is also fed by diversions from the high plateau country to the east within both the Rogue and Klamath watersheds. Approximately 58 square miles within the Rogue watershed, are diverted into Howard Prairie Lake. The drainage area around Howard Prairie Lake is diverted from Keene Creek Reservoir into Bear Creek watershed.**

**Water flows into the Ashland Lateral canal, which runs along the hillside above Ashland and feeds numerous irrigation customers throughout the town. The rest of the diverted flow runs into Emigrant Lake, from which it is delivered down Emigrant and Bear Creeks to feed irrigation users all across the Bear Creek valley.**

**Tailwater returns from the Ashland Lateral canal are emptied into Ashland Creek approximately 2.5 miles upstream from its confluence with Bear Creek, or into Wrights Creek approximately 1.25 miles upstream from its confluence with Bear Creek. Ashland Creek and Wrights Creek flow into Bear Creek between river mile 19 and 19.5.**

**City of Ashland obtains its drinking water from Reeder Reservoir on Ashland Creek, located approximately 4.5 miles upstream from its confluence with Bear Creek. Reeder Reservoir is fed by the East and West Fork of Ashland Creek. Bear Creek flows into the Rogue River at river mile 126. The City of Ashland's wastewater treatment plant discharges treated effluent into Ashland Creek, approximately ¼ mile upstream from its confluence with Bear Creek. This treated effluent may constitute up to 50% of the total flow down upper Bear Creek at times in summer.**

**Downstream of Ashland, Bear Creek feeds diversions for a number of irrigation districts (Talent Irrigation District, Medford Irrigation District, Rogue River Valley Irrigation District).**

- c. Environmental flow needs and water quality requirements of supply source water bodies and water bodies downstream of associated and/or affected return flows.

**Bear Creek is the water body downstream of affected irrigation return flows and wastewater treatment plant discharge. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality initially developed a TMDL for Bear Creek in 1992 addressing non-attainment of standards for pH, aquatic weeds and algae, and dissolved oxygen. TMDLs were also established water concentration targets for total phosphorus, ammonia nitrogen and biochemical oxygen demand. In 2007 Bear Creek TMDL dealt with the violation of three additional parameters: bacteria, temperature and sedimentation.**

**The 2007 Bear Creek Watershed TMDL is now being implemented; Ashland is faced with meeting stringent temperature limits to discharge effluent into Bear Creek. Although Ashland's wastewater treatment plant effluent is treated to the highest standards, the actual process to treat the effluent does not cool the water and often shows some increases in temperatures in the summer months. The proposed planning study would lend itself and greatly enhance the current requirement to meet temperature regulations for Bear Creek 303d listing and the new TMDL limitations.**

- d. Reliance on return flows by downstream water right holders.

**There are water right holders downstream that use Ashland's effluent as irrigation water. These water rights holders include live water rights on Bear Creek as well as long term presumptive users. Bear Creek is also used as a transport mechanism for the Talent Irrigation District, the Medford Irrigation District and the Rogue River Irrigation District. The effect on downstream water rights users and holders will be thoroughly evaluated and further determined through this planning study with consultation with the Water Master and the Oregon Water Resources Department.**

**Talent Irrigation District (TID) manages Howard Prairie Lake, Hyatt Lake, Keen Creek reservoir and Emigrant reservoir. TID uses these sources of stored water in addition to natural stream flow water rights and irrigation water recovered from return flows to supply irrigation water to the southern end of the Bear Creek valley. TID supplies water to 3300 users on 16,400 acres (BCLAC, 2004)**

**Medford Irrigation District (MID) uses Rogue River Basin Project – Talent Division water (7.5117%) for irrigation in the central portion of the Bear Creek watershed. In addition to stored**

**water, MID picks up TID return flows from the main stem of Bear Creek. MID supplies approximately 12,800 acres (BCLAC, 2004)**

**Rogue River Valley Irrigation District (RRVID) uses Rogue River Basin Project – Talent Division water (3.7559%), live stream flow water rights, in addition to a 1/3 share of Four Mile and Fish Lake waters and Agate Reservoir for irrigation in the northern portion of the Bear Creek watershed. In addition to stored water, RRVID picks up TID and MID return flows from the mainstem of Bear Creek. RRVID supplies 8,400 acres (BCLAC, 2004).**

**In addition to the irrigation districts, there are private irrigation rights and ditch associations operating on Bear Creek and some of its major tributaries which cumulatively may take up to 15-20 CFS from the system (RVCOG, 1999).**

Reference Documents:

**Bear Creek Local Advisory Committee (BCLAC), 2004 Bear Creek Sub-Basin Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan 2004 Revisions with assistance from Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District.**

**Water 2050 Study; (Rogue Valley Council Of Governments (RVCOG) 1999)**

<b>Match Funding Source</b> (if in-kind, briefly describe the nature of the contribution)	<b>Type</b> (✓ One)	<b>Status</b> (✓ One)	<b>Amount/ Dollar Value</b>	<b>Date Match Funds Available</b> (Month/Year)
<i>City of Ashland Water Fund (SDC)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cash <input type="checkbox"/> in kind	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> secured <input type="checkbox"/> expended <input type="checkbox"/> pending	\$50,000	January 2009
<i>City of Ashland Water Fund</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in kind	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> secured <input type="checkbox"/> expended <input type="checkbox"/> pending	\$7,500	January 2009
<i>City of Ashland Wastewater Fund</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in kind	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> secured <input type="checkbox"/> expended <input type="checkbox"/> pending	\$7,500	January 2009
<i>City of Ashland Water Fund (SDC)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cash <input type="checkbox"/> in kind	<input type="checkbox"/> secured <input type="checkbox"/> expended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pending	\$75,000	July 2009 FY10
<i>City of Ashland Wastewater Fund (SDC)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cash <input type="checkbox"/> in kind	<input type="checkbox"/> secured <input type="checkbox"/> expended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pending	\$50,000	July 2009 FY10
<i>City of Ashland Water Fund</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in kind	<input type="checkbox"/> secured <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> expended <input type="checkbox"/> pending	\$17,500	July 2009 FY10
<i>City of Ashland Wastewater Fund</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in kind	<input type="checkbox"/> secured <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> expended <input type="checkbox"/> pending	\$12,500	July 2009 FY10
<i>City of Ashland Finance (Admin)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in kind	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> secured <input type="checkbox"/> expended <input type="checkbox"/> pending	\$2,500	June 2009
<i>City of Ashland Finance (Admin)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in kind	<input type="checkbox"/> secured <input type="checkbox"/> expended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pending	\$5,000	June 2010

**Estimated Project Duration: October 2008 (Q2-FY09) to June 2010 (Q4-FY10)**

Place an "X" in the appropriate column to indicate when each element (key task) of the project will take place.

Project Planning Study Element (Key Tasks)	FY 2009				FY 2010				2011 & Beyond
	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr	4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr	
Develop RFP and award Engineering Consultant Services Contract		X							
Review, analyze, validate and identify gaps in Ashland's existing water master plans and water sources.		X	X						
Validate the City's future water needs to the year 2058.		X	X						
Identify and fully describe all alternative water sources to fully meet the City's needs to the year 2058			X						
Identify options that explore different methods to utilize the right water for the different water uses; potable, irrigation (sources and uses).			X	X					
Identify benefits and challenges to using irrigation water (TID and BOR, Klamath Water basin challenges; ODFW concerns, Oregon Water Resources Dept, etc.).				X	X				
Specifically analyze environmental harm or impacts with the long term use of various irrigation water sources for City irrigation use.				X	X				
Explicitly address the hydrological benefits and challenges and anticipate the effects of climate change with regard to water needs and water use.				X	X				
Identify benefits and challenges to using recycled water (perception, realities, restrictions, necessary support from DEQ and State health, fruit growers, etc.).				X	X	X			
Identify options and cost estimates (piping the irrigation canals, piping for reuse/recycled water uses, ponds, treatment, pumping, etc).				X	X	X			
Identify potential use of a water exchange to help meet irrigation water source needs and also meet the wastewater treatment plant temperature limitations for discharge into Bear Creek (TMDL).						X	X		
Complete a consolidated engineering and financial feasibility study and cost benefit analysis of the preferred alternatives. Identify the link between conservation and enhanced conservation efforts and the preferred alternative.						X	X		
Identify the specific community and public benefits accruing from the proposed alternative including estimated project costs, financing for the project and projected financial returns from the project.							X	X	
Develop justification for the preferred alternative.							X	X	
Develop final report and present to the City Council.							X	X	
Throughout the process, utilize the support and community input from an Ad Hoc Water Reuse and Conservation Task Force that has been convened by the Mayor and Council.		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Report to the Ashland City Council every 6 months with interim ideas and gain support or re-direction			X		X		X		X
<b>implementation</b>									<b>X</b>

**Section A**

Please provide an estimated line item budget for the project planning study. An example would include: labor, materials, equipment, contractual services and administrative costs.

Line Items <i>Note: Administrative costs may not exceed 10% of the total funding requested by the Department.</i>	Unit Number (e.g. # of hours)	Unit Cost (e.g. hourly rate)	In-Kind Match	Cash Match Funds	OWRD Grant Funds	Total Cost
City Administrative Costs (Finance primarily)	150 hours	\$50	\$7,500			\$7,500
City Engineering Department coordination and management	600 hours	\$75	\$45,000			\$45,000
Consultant Study				\$175,000	\$225,000	\$400,000
<b>Total for Section A</b>			<b>\$52,550</b>	<b>\$275,000</b>	<b>\$225,000</b>	<b>\$452,500</b>
<b>Percentage for Section A</b>			<b>11.6%</b>	<b>38.7%</b>	<b>49.7%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Section B**

If Grant amount requested is \$50,000 or greater, you **MUST** complete Section B. Elements (key tasks) in Section B should be the same as the elements (key tasks) in Section VI (Project Planning Study Schedule).

Project Planning Study Element (Key Tasks)	In-Kind Match	Cash Match Funds	OWRD Grant Funds	Total Cost
Develop RFP & award Contract (contract oversight/management)	\$5,250.00	\$3,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$13,250.00
Review, analyze, validate and identify gaps in Ashland's existing water master plans and water sources.	\$1,050.00	\$5,250.00	\$6,750.00	\$13,050.00
Validate the City's future water needs to the year 2058.	\$1,050.00	\$5,250.00	\$6,750.00	\$13,050.00
Identify and fully describe all alternative water sources	\$1,050.00	\$8,750.00	\$11,250.00	\$21,050.00
Identify options that explore the right water for the different water uses; potable, irrigation (sources and uses).	\$3,150.00	\$8,750.00	\$11,250.00	\$23,150.00
Identify benefits and challenges to using irrigation water	\$1,050.00	\$12,250.00	\$15,750.00	\$29,050.00
Analyze environmental harm or impacts with the long term use of various irrigation water sources for City irrigation use.	\$1,050.00	\$12,250.00	\$15,750.00	\$29,050.00
Evaluate hydrological benefits and challenges and anticipate the effects of climate change with regard to water needs and water use.	\$1,050.00	\$8,750.00	\$11,250.00	\$21,050.00
Identify benefits and challenges to using recycled water	\$3,675.00	\$12,250.00	\$15,750.00	\$31,675.00
Identify options and cost estimates	\$1,575.00	\$12,250.00	\$15,750.00	\$29,575.00
Identify potential use of a water exchange to help meet wastewater treatment plant temperature limitations (TMDL).	\$2,625.00	\$10,500.00	\$13,500.00	\$26,625.00
Complete a consolidated engineering and financial feasibility study and cost benefit analysis of the preferred alternatives. Identify the link between conservation and enhanced conservation efforts and the preferred alternative.	\$3,150.00	\$21,000.00	\$27,000.00	\$51,150.00
Identify the specific community and public benefits accruing from the proposed alternative including estimated project costs, financing for the project and projected financial returns from the project.	\$5,250.00	\$17,500.00	\$22,500.00	\$45,250.00
Develop justification for the preferred alternative.	\$4,200.00	\$17,500.00	\$22,500.00	\$44,200.00
Develop final report and present to the City Council.	\$4,200.00	\$8,750.00	\$11,250.00	\$24,200.00
Coordinate with Ad Hoc Water Reuse and Conservation Task Force	\$7,875.00	\$5,250.00	\$6,750.00	\$19,875.00
Report to the Ashland City Council every 6 months	\$5,250.00	\$5,250.00	\$6,750.00	\$17,250.00
<b>Total for Section B</b>	<b>\$52,500</b>	<b>\$175,000</b>	<b>\$225,000</b>	<b>\$452,500</b>

Totals in Section B must match the totals in Section A

*Request to be added to the Oregon Water Resources Department's*  
**Inventory of Potential Conservation Opportunities**

This is a  Capital Conservation Project  Programmatic Conservation Project

<b>Project #/Name</b>	<b>Irrigation Controller Rebate Program</b>
Project Description	Irrigation controller rebate pilot program for the installation of weather data based irrigation controller in two separate situations: 1) an existing (approximately 50 units) subdivision or neighborhood and 2) a new (approximately 50 units) subdivision or neighborhood. Research shows weather based irrigation can significantly reduce summer time peak water use.
Estimated Future Savings	With complete installation the City could save an estimated 1,100,000 gallons of water per year.
Seasonality	Saving should occur during our peak use season usually May through October, however, we will use an estimation of 100 days to allow for seasonal differences.
Estimated Future Costs	Approximate cost will be \$10,000.
Implementation Schedule	We would like to start this program in January 2009 with installation to begin irrigation season '09.
What are the barriers to implementation, e.g. funding?	Funding is not yet in place, however, if this pilot program is successful it could be established as an ongoing program similar to our other rebate programs and expanded to include commercial accounts.

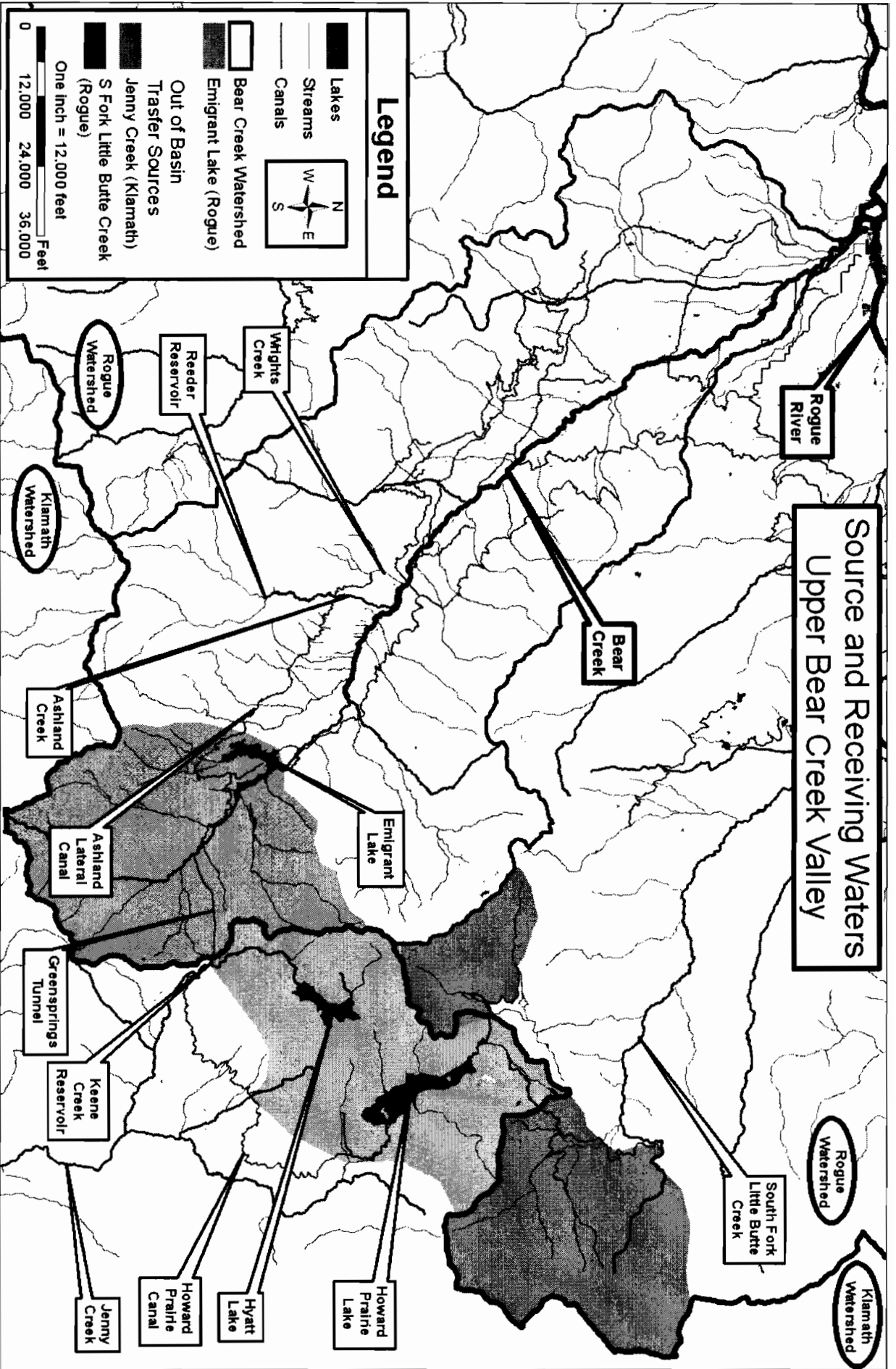
This is a  Capital Conservation Project  Programmatic Conservation Project

<b>Project #/Name</b>	<b>Weather Station for Conservation Project</b>
Project Description	Purchase of a computerized weather station to collect weather data for use in programming irrigation controller systems for both residents and businesses in Ashland. Ashland has a wide range of weather microclimates and only one weather station. This additional system would be installed at a different microclimate thus increasing the available data and increasing water savings. This project would also benefit other water users to access the weather data.
Estimated Future Savings	Studies show that using weather data to fine tune the irrigation of gardens during the dry season show significant savings in water. It is estimated an additional 50% savings (500,000 gallons) per year to those already realized from the use of a programmable irrigation controller alone.
Seasonality	Savings would occur during irrigation season or approximately May through October.
Estimated Future Costs	Purchase cost is estimated at \$25,000 with yearly maintenance costs at \$1,000.
Implementation Schedule	The weather station installation could occur immediately after purchase.
What are the barriers to implementation, e.g. funding?	This project is currently not budgeted, but is a high priority for Ashland's Conservation Department.

This is a  Capital Conservation Project  Programmatic Conservation Project

<b>Project #/Name</b>	<b>TAP Pipeline to Ashland</b>
Project Description	The Talent, Ashland, Phoenix pipeline (TAP) project includes the design and construction of a 24" pipeline from Talent to Ashland providing potable water from the Medford Water Commission to Ashland. It is seen as one solution to future growth/emergency related water supply demand needs to the year 2050.
Estimated Future Savings	The pipeline will enter the City's system and utilize an existing reservoir for operational storage and system integration eliminating the need for a separate TAP Pipeline reservoir or clear well. It has the capacity to provide 1.5 mgd thereby reducing the load on future resource needs within the Ashland watershed area.
Seasonality	For Ashland, the TAP project provides two primary needs; foremost an emergency raw water source in the event of a catastrophic incident such as wildfire, flood, water plant failure, and secondly it provides a resource during severe drought years.
Estimated Future Costs	Ashland has already expended over \$2M on this controversial, yet important

	<p>emergency water source. The costs were spent on the feasibility study, design and Ashland's portion of the construction from Medford to Talent.</p> <p>Future expenditures include \$250,000 in FY 2009, \$580,000 in FY 2010, \$6,200,000 in FY 2012 and \$4,000,000 in FY 4,000,000 for an estimated total of \$11,080,000 in future costs.</p>
Implementation Schedule	<p>Preliminary design work to complete the remaining portion of the project from Talent to Ashland is complete. Final design could begin as early as Spring 2009 and will take approximately two years to complete. Construction could begin as early as July 2011, but both are dependant upon City Council approval.</p>
What are the barriers to implementation, e.g. funding?	<p>Final design efforts will expand upon the need for fish habitat protection for the Bear Creek pipeline crossings (or borings) and any crossing of the Talent Irrigation District canals. The primary implementation factor is City Council approval which is pending the results of the <i>Right Water Right Use</i> and water needs assessment studies.</p>



# TALENT IRRIGATION DISTRICT

**P.O. Box 467**

**104 Valley View Ave**

**Talent OR 97540-0467**

**Website:**

**[www.talentid.org](http://www.talentid.org)**

**Phone: 541-535-1529**

**Fax: 541-535-4108**

**Email: [tid@talentid.org](mailto:tid@talentid.org)**

August 27, 2008

Bob Rice  
Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, Oregon 97301

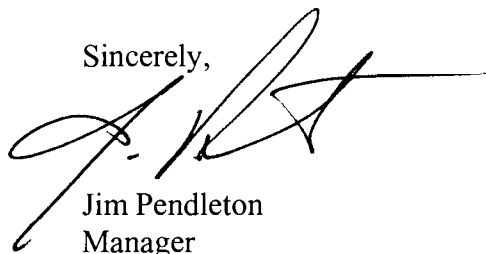
Dear Mr. Rice:

By this letter Talent Irrigation District would like to extend our support of the City of Ashland's grant application regarding the "Right Water for the Right Use Program".

The City and T.I.D. have worked together for several years to help acquire additional long term water delivery contracts with the Bureau of Reclamation to firm up its water supply. Additionally the City and T.I.D. have water delivery agreements dating back to the early 1900's.

It seems apparent that this request fits very nicely with the ongoing water Conservation/Management Plans of several entities within the Bear Creek Basin.

Sincerely,



Jim Pendleton  
Manager

**CITY OF  
ASHLAND**

Bob Rice  
Oregon Water Resources Dept.  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301

August 25, 2008

Dear Mr. Rice:

The City of Ashland's Conservation Department has been operating Water Use Efficiency Programs on behalf of the City's Water Utility since 1992. Our successful programs have helped reduce water usage and also helped our customers lower their water bills. We fully support the Public Works Department's application for a grant for the planning study "The Right Water for the Right Use."

The study can ensure the continued efficient use of water within the City and support the greater sustainability goals of the City of Ashland. Please feel free to give me a call if you have any questions or need further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Dick Wanderscheid  
Electric and Conservation Director



August 28, 2008

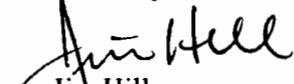
Bob Rice  
Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer Street NE Suite A  
Salem OR 97301

RE: CITY OF ASHLAND OWRD GRANT APPLICATION

Dear Mr. Rice:

The Water for Irrigation, Streams and Economy (WISE) Project is a proposed integrated water management program to improve the Bear Creek and Little Butte Creek watersheds by using water wisely to benefit agriculture, irrigation, municipalities, the environment, recreation and fisheries interests. The City of Ashland's "The Right Water for the Right Use" project will promote the best use of water resources in the Ashland area to benefit both agricultural irrigation and Bear Creek. Therefore, the WISE Project Advisory Committee supports the above referenced grant OWRD grant application.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Hill  
WISE Chair