



Fiscal Year 2019-2020 BUDGET MESSAGE

Providing safe drinking water to our customers is the primary goal of the Corbett Water District. The Corbett Water District was established as a taxing district in 1932 and currently provides drinking water to 1,081 service connections in the Corbett and Springdale area. The source of our water is the North Fork and South Fork intakes of Gordon Creek. The Corbett Water District filters the water using slow sand filtration. Water is transported roughly five miles to our treatment plant, which consists of three filter ponds, a clear well, and a one-million-gallon reservoir. The plant was built in the 1980's. In addition to the filter ponds and treatment plant the District has four other reservoirs with a storage capacity of 1.95 million gallons. The water is treated with chlorine at a rate of one milligram per liter, which ensures that harmful bacteria and organisms in the water have been killed, and the water is safe to drink. Soda ash is also added into the water to raise the pH and alkalinity level, which reduces the amount of corrosion in plumbing. Both processes are necessary to meet state drinking water standards.

Our Meter replacement program from the 2018-2019 Budget is 80% complete and should be completed by June of 2019. The meters in the District have been replaced with new radio read meters which should result in a reduction in water loss and a more accurate reading of water usage. The new meters allow one employee to read meters within one day as opposed to the previous system taking two employees and four days. The new system provides for more in depth reporting and the ability to log water data, down to the hour, at individual meters to check for leaks.

During Fiscal Year 2019-2020 year in lieu of funding capital improvement projects we will focus on maintenance programs to improve reliability and functionality of the district's current infrastructure. Inspecting and repairing Cla-valves, hydrants, mainline valves, treatment plant, headworks, and reservoirs.

Recent inspection of Reservoir #3 on Mershon Road has determined that internal structural members will need to be replaced due to corrosion on unprotected angle iron braces and the tanks interior will need re-coating . This project should be completed within the next few years. To begin saving for the project \$15,000 has been set aside in the proposed budget.

Our staffing for the upcoming year will continue with a full time District Manager, two full time field utility workers and two part-time office staff. Temporary summer help will be hired for cleanup and maintenance around the reservoirs and treatment plant. We will be using outside contractors to perform work that is beyond the scope and capability of district personnel, such as large main breaks, or major construction projects. This will allow our smaller crew to work on hydrant installation, meter maintenance, treatment plant monitoring and answering service calls for our customers.

A ground water well is currently under development and feasibility stages, to supply the district's current and future needs as an alternate and primary drinking water source.

We continue to make payments on our loan with Oregon Economic and Community Development Department which is scheduled for pay off in December 2025.

This budget is built on an assumption that revenue from water sales will increase slightly and property tax receipts will remain steady and was prepared in compliance with Oregon Budget Law.

I respectfully submit the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 proposed budget for the discussion and deliberation of the Budget Committee and interested citizens of the Corbett Water District.

Jeff Busto
District Manager/Budget Officer