

May 22, 2025

Dane Maben, PE
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La Grande, Oregon 97850

**Re: Water System Master Plan, PR #51-2025, City of Heppner, PWS ID#4100369
Concurrence with Master Plan**

Dear Dane:

Thank you for your submittal to the Oregon Health Authority's Drinking Water Services (DWS) of the 2025 Water System Master Plan for the City of Heppner. On April 4, 2025, a pdf copy of the draft Water System Master Plan was received. On April 10, 2025, the plan review fee of \$4125 was received. On April 14, 2025, a hard copy of the draft Water System Master Plan was received. The review of the draft Master Plan confirmed the criteria listed in Oregon Administrative Rule 333-061-0060(5) have been met.

The Master Plan covers a 20-year planning period from 2025 to 2045. It includes a system description, future demand estimates, and a prioritized list of capital improvements with cost estimates. The system's existing water sources are adequate to supply the projected demand, however the system lacks redundancy should the Willow Creek transmission line fail. Recommended projects include constructing a new well, a 500,000-gallon steel reservoir, recoating reservoir No. 3, replacing the well No. 1 building, obtaining a backup power source for one of the wells, replacing undersized and asbestos-cement pipes, eliminating dead-end lines, installing several new fire hydrants, and other miscellaneous improvements.

I have the following comments:

- I generally concur with the list of recommended capital improvement projects.

- I note that the preferred funding source for the improvement projects will be determined in consultation with Business Oregon, USDA Rural Utilities Service, and other agencies.
- I note that no environmental impacts for the proposed projects were specified.
- I note that additional operation and maintenance costs will be incurred for periodic inspections and cleaning of the proposed new reservoir and to maintain the proposed new well.
- I note that on page 5-4 it states that pressures dropped below the minimum required 20 psi during a fire hydrant flow test in the area of Pioneer Drive and Rock Street, and that the proposed projects address the low pressures in this area.
- On page 4-3 in the fourth paragraph there is a reference to the inspection report for Reservoir No. 1, where it should refer to Reservoir No. 2.
- On page 4-5 in the last paragraph, it mentions the operating range of Reservoir No. 3 as being 6 feet, while on page 4-7 in the second paragraph it states Reservoir No. 3 has an operating range of 3 feet.
- Please send me either a hard copy of the final version of the plan, or replacement pages for any that are edited.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at william.h.goss@oha.oregon.gov or call at (541) 966-0900.

Sincerely,



William Goss, PE
Regional Engineer

cc: Julie Wray, OHA/DWS, Portland
Chad Doherty, City of Heppner
John Doherty, City of Heppner (pdf copy only)
Ryan DeGrofft, Business Oregon (pdf copy only)