

Tina Kotek, Governor

March 2, 2026

Sheila Babb or Eugene Beachler
City of Paisley
PO Box 100
Paisley, OR 97636

Re: **New Well #4 (PR# 2026-25)**
City of Paisley (PWS ID# 00611)
Site Plan Evaluation

Dear Sheila or Eugene,

Thank you for your submittal to the Oregon Health Authority's Drinking Water Services (DWS) of plan review information for the new well for the City of Paisley. On February 16, 2026, our office received a proposed well site map and construction specifications. A plan review fee of \$825 was received on February 19, 2026.

The project includes drilling a test well on City property, several hundred feet north of existing water supply wells. The test well will be completed deeper and target a different water bearing zone than existing wells. The City will analyze arsenic results from the test well, and if they are favorable, will develop the test well into a new groundwater source.

Due to the surface water – Bagley Ditch – within required setbacks and lack of a 100-foot radius of control around the proposed well location, **the site plan/location cannot be approved at this time**. A waiver for the setback and radius of control issue cannot be approved prior to drilling a well. OHA/DWS may be able to waive the setback requirement if an adequate alternate measure exists, in this case the well being determined to be properly drilled into a confined aquifer or is not determined to be highly sensitive. Otherwise, OHA/DWS is unlikely to be able to approve the well for use by the water system.

A regional geologist in our program reviewed the proposed well construction and noted the following, which should be shared with the well driller:

- The proposed well location is surficially mapped as Qts (Quaternary age pluvial lake

valley deposits).

- The water system will need to case and seal the new well from land surface through any upper water bearing zones and a minimum of 5 feet into the consolidated, confining, formation immediately overlying the artesian water-bearing zone (described as basalt in plan review document PR 2026-25, Figure 2). See Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) Administrative Rules 690-210-0150 Sealing of Water Supply Wells in Consolidated Formations and 690-210-0155 Additional Standards for Artesian Water Supply Wells. Failure to seal through the upper water bearing zone may result in comingling and contamination of the deeper water bearing zones.
- Although the proposed construction is approved, DWS recommends that the driller consult with OWRD on the seal depth prior to seal placement in the final well.
- Please note that seal method E is not allowed for use in municipal, community, or public water supply wells (see OAR 690-210-0320, Recommended Methods for Placement of Cement Grout, Appendix E).

If a properly constructed confined aquifer well is drilled, please submit:

1. The well driller's report (well log).
2. A waiver request for the above noted setback issues, as appropriate.
3. Well pumping test information including static water level, pumping rate, drawdown and rate of recover.
4. Pump information.
5. Raw (Untreated) Water Quality Data including coliform bacteria, IOCs (including nitrate, nitrite and arsenic), SOCs, VOCs and radionuclides. These are to be taken from the new well's raw water sample tap at the wellhead.
6. Engineered plans that show the above-well structure detail including the well house, concrete slab, drainage, pump-to-waste piping and plans and specifications for reconnection of the well to the water system.
7. A copy of the Water Right Permit from OWRD, if a water right permit is required.

The above items should reference Plan Review #2026-25 and can be emailed to me at baxter.call@oha.oregon.gov.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 541-393-4374.

Sincerely,

B Call

Baxter Call, PE
Regional Engineer
OHA-Drinking Water Services

CC:

- File, DWS Portland
- Russell Kazmierczak, RG, DWS Springfield
- Matthew Anderson, OWRD District 12 Water Master
- Tommy Laird – OWRD Well Construction Inspection Program Coordinator
- Kris Byrd – OWRD WCC Section Manager
- Anders Rasmussen, PE, Keller Associates
- Jim Pex, PE, Keller Associates

