



AGENDA

Water Advisory Group

Date: October 7, 2026

Time: 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Location: **Hybrid Meeting**

In-person: City of Bend Public Works Headquarters Building
21051 NE Talus Place, First Floor Roundabout Room

Online: **Microsoft Teams Meeting Link**

Speakers: Elisabeth O'Keefe, Stormwater Program Manager
Austin Somhegyi, Senior Project Engineer
Dan Denning, Water Conservation Program Manager
Julie Lowy, Communications Coordinator
Aubrie Koenig, Facilitator

Agenda

Purpose: *Provide a brief overview of the Outback Facility Expansion project and get input on information needs and future communication.*

1. **Welcome and Introduction** – 10 mins
 - a. September meeting reflection
2. **100 Years of Water** –5 mins, Julie
 - a. Update on activities/outreach celebrations
3. **Outback Facility Expansion** – 60 mins, Austin
 - a. Introduce project background (also see Background Information below)
 - i. Water system overview
 - ii. Past studies
 - iii. Outback Facility significance
 - iv. Addressing water system challenges
 - b. Share Facility Plan highlights
 - c. Provide a project update
 - d. **Discussion questions:**
 - i. *What information is most interesting and beneficial as a community member?*



- ii. *What do you feel is most important for community members to know about this project?*
- iii. *What benefits do you think should be emphasized? What suggestions do you have for clarifying key messages?*
- iv. *What questions are community members likely to have as the work moves forward?*

4. **Summary and Closing** – 5 mins

- a. Next meeting: November 4, 2026

Background Information

The 2021 Integrated Water System Master Plan (iWSMP) provided recommendations to inform investments and system operations to continue providing high-quality water to the City's water customers. The iWSMP identified the need for extensive investment at the Outback Site, which prompted the development of the Outback Siting Study as an addendum to the iWSMP. The Outback Siting Study identified the need to expand the Outback Site to accommodate future infrastructure needs.

The Outback Facility Improvements Project builds on these previous planning efforts and infrastructure needs, operational priorities, and long-term resiliency goals to identify future upgrades. The Outback Facility Plan (Facility Plan) provides a comprehensive roadmap for future improvements, describes the need for each project, estimates project cost in current year dollars, and outlines timing for the various improvements identified in the plan.

A major risk to the City's water supply is a high-turbidity event within the watershed, such as a wildfire or flood event. The Facility Plan provides the preliminary design for pretreatment facilities that will enable the existing Water Filtration Facility (WFF) to continue operating after a wildfire (if one were to occur in the watershed) and addresses seasonal conditions that require the City to shut down the treatment plant several times each year.

The development of the Facility Plan aligns with Council Goals of ensuring the City's infrastructure can meet the needs of a growing community. Implementation of in-conduit hydropower as part of the ultimate build-out of the Outback Site will provide the City with a renewable energy source, in alignment with Council Goals on Environment and Climate

WAG Meeting Roadmap *draft*

November 4, 2026 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Hybrid: in-person at City PW Headquarters or virtual on Teams	TOPIC: Stormwater Management Program Update • Introduce Central Oregon Stormwater Manual update • Share and discuss drainage and density policy updates Outcome: <i>WAG input on drainage and density topic.</i>
December 2, 2026 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Hybrid: in-person at City PW Headquarters or virtual on Teams	TOPIC: 100 Years of Water Campaign and Annual WAG Review • Highlight 100 Years of Water campaign takeaways, discuss future customer education/engagement opportunities • Share how the city is using WAG input, invite input on future topics Outcome: <i>WAG input on effective educational outreach tools and future WAG discussion topics.</i>



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