

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION, PURPOSE AND NEED

INTRODUCTION

The City of McMinnville provides wastewater collection and treatment services to the residents, businesses, and industries within the City's urban growth boundary (UGB). By consistently and effectively providing these services, the City protects the water quality and supports the beneficial uses of the South Yamhill River.

The major elements of the City's wastewater infrastructure include the following:

- Sanitary collection system
- Collection system pump stations
- Raw Sewage Pump Station
- Water Reclamation Facility (WRF)
- Outfall to the South Yamhill River

The age and condition of the collection system varies widely as it was installed as the City developed and is undergoing continuous rehabilitation. The WRF was constructed in the early 1990s; it replaced the City's outdated wastewater treatment plant.

PURPOSE AND NEED

The *Water Reclamation Facilities Plan (Facilities Plan)* will serve as the City's long-term plan to wastewater management. Wastewater facilities plans are typically prepared or updated approximately every 10 years, and address a planning period of 20 years or more. The City of McMinnville is in a somewhat unique position in that buildout conditions are expected to be reached within the normal 20 year planning window. Consequently, the Facilities Plan represents an approach to accommodate buildout conditions. The City's previous facilities planning effort culminated in the construction of the current WRF.

Recognizing the importance of peak flow management to overall success, and the interrelationship between the collection and treatment systems, the Facilities Plan was prepared in conjunction with the *Conveyance System Master Plan* to establish a comprehensive, coordinated approach to wastewater management. In addition, work associated with these two documents was used to update the City's Wet Weather Management Plan, a condition of the NPDES permit renewal process.

The significant wastewater issues that the City is currently facing include:

- Requirement to eliminate sanitary sewer overflows by year 2010.
- Potential changes in regulatory requirements.
- The ongoing NPDES permit renewal process.

- Significant anticipated growth within the planning period and potential related WRF capacity requirements.

The *Facilities Plan* develops and presents strategies for addressing these issues. The strategies include:

- Develop an approach to accommodating increased flows and loads associated with growth through buildout conditions. The approach is consistent with ongoing comprehensive planning work such as the Growth Management and Urbanization Plan.
- Identify deficiencies in the existing infrastructure and recommend corrective measures.
- Establish a flexible approach for addressing potential future changes in the regulatory framework.
- Identify the benefits and opportunities associated with a potential future recycled water program.
- In conjunction with the Conveyance System Master Plan, develop a cost-effective approach to peak flow management.
- Develop a coordinated implementation plan that considers the multiple needs of correcting system deficiencies, accommodating capacity demands, enhancing performance, and conforming to financial limitations.

By adopting the recommendations of the facilities plan, periodically reviewing the plan, and refining wastewater management approach as dictated by changing conditions, the City will successfully meet the needs of local residents and businesses and further its reputation of environmental stewardship.