

# Why is My Utility Bill Higher?

## Your Bill Covers More than Water\*

Your utility bill includes wastewater, surface water, and street maintenance fees. Paying to keep our infrastructure well maintained is expensive but essential.

*\*Some customers outside City limits do not receive all four City utility services.*

## Wastewater Improvement: *Protecting the Environment*



The Lake Oswego Interceptor Sewer (LOIS) Project replaced the City's undersized and aging sewer interceptor. LOIS ensures that untreated wastewater does not overflow into our streets and waterways. Wastewater rates help pay for this environmentally essential project.



## Surface Water: *Healthy Watersheds*

The City's surface water management utility is in place to reduce the risk of flooding, protect and enhance natural areas and stream corridors, and improve water quality in streams and creeks. The program is funded through surface water fees.

## Street Maintenance: *Safe Travel Throughout the City*



Street maintenance fees help pay for upkeep of the City's transportation system: 150 miles of streets (roadway rehabilitation projects, overlays, slurry seals, and reconstruction).

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## Lake Oswego Tigard Water Partnership:

### *Smart Investment in the Future*

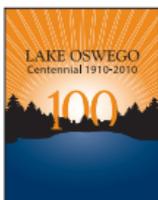
In August 2008, Lake Oswego and Tigard endorsed a partnership agreement for sharing drinking water resources and costs. Lake Oswego's water supply system is near capacity and key facilities need expansion and upgrades. Tigard residents need a secure, dependable water source.

The City's partnership with Tigard actually reduces the overall cost of the major improvements that will be constructed, compared to Lake Oswego paying on its own. Recent and future water rate increases pay for necessary upgrades and expansion of facilities that you rely on to deliver water to your home or business every day of every year. Even with these increases, **drinking water still costs less than a penny per gallon.**



Conserving water is the first and most important supply option for the Lake Oswego Tigard Partnership. Effective conservation measures alone, however, won't be enough to meet the two cities' needs.

To find out more about the Lake Oswego Tigard Water Partnership, please visit [lotigardwater.org](http://lotigardwater.org).



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