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**Contact: Stephanie Schulz, Salem, 503-986-0132**

## **City of Lafayette awarded a \$6.9 million funding package for wastewater system improvements**

The Oregon Economic and Community Development Department has awarded the city of Lafayette a \$6.9 million funding package to help pay for improvements to the city's wastewater system.

The city's original wastewater treatment system was constructed in 1964. The last significant upgrade took place in 1974. Since that time, treatment standards have changed and the city's population has grown by 50 percent. The severity of the situation is supported by a history of non-compliance with the regulations of the Department of Environmental Quality. The funding will be used to design and construct a new wastewater treatment plan, upgrade the Wilson Street pump station, improve the collection system and decommission the old wastewater treatment plant.

The \$6.9 million funding package consists of \$712,500 from the Community Development Block Grant and a \$5.8 million loan and \$395,900 grant from the Water/Wastewater Financing Program. The funding accounts for 100 percent of the project's total estimated cost.

The Special Public Works Fund makes loans and grants to communities to develop community facilities and infrastructure needed to attract and keep businesses in Oregon communities, with special effort to assist small towns with inadequate alternative sources of funding. The Water/Wastewater Financing Program provides grants and low-interest loans to cities, counties, and water and sewer districts for projects needed to meet quality standards.

The Oregon Economic and Community Development Department is a state agency that invests lottery, federal and other funds to help communities and businesses build quality communities and improve the economic opportunities for all Oregonians.