

## Improving water reliability

Eugene is the largest city in the Pacific Northwest that depends upon a single drinking water source. To address this concern, the Eugene Water & Electric Board has launched the Water Reliability Initiative to diversify our water supply and upgrade the existing water system in case an earthquake or other emergency impacts the utility's ability to draw and treat water from the McKenzie River.

In addition to pursuing the development of alternate water sources, the initiative also calls for continued upgrades to the Hayden Bridge water filtration plant and EWEB's water-distribution system to improve resiliency and reliability.

For more information, go to eweb.org/waterreliability

**EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD** 



## Saving for the future

Although it is a long-term project that will include many community conversations, EWEB's elected commissioners have made the Water Reliability Initiative a high priority. In December, commissioners voted to create a special savings account to help fund development of alternate water sources.

When Commissioners approved the overall average water rate increase of 6 percent – about \$1.88 per month for a single-family home – they directed staff to put half of that increase (about 94 cents) into this dedicated reserve fund. This increase is reflected in your February bill.

In the coming years, EWEB will continue to inform and involve customers in investment decisions to improve water system reliability and meet the community's long-term drinking water needs.

For more information, go to eweb.org/waterreliability/faq



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