EWEB’s College Hill water storage tank is part of the backbone of the water system that would be needed after an earthquake in order to meet critical community needs, including fire suppression, health and emergency response, and drinking water distribution.

As part of EWEB’s Water Storage Improvement Projects, we plan to replace the existing 80-year-old, 15 million gallon (MG) tank with a new 7.5 MG tank, and a potential second 7.5 MG tank in the future.

This is a significant investment aimed at diversifying EWEB’s water storage system with additional, but smaller tanks to enhance resiliency, water quality, and systems operations.

**Why is this project necessary?**

1. College Hill’s water tank is nearing the end of its useful life, does not meet current seismic standards, and requires significant, expensive repairs to protect the safety and quality of the drinking water inside.

2. Citing contamination concerns from leaking roof joints, the Oregon Health Authority is requiring EWEB to rehabilitate or decommission College Hill in 2023.

3. The College Hill storage tank does not drain and fill effectively, which impacts water quality.

Constructing a new water storage facility at College Hill and removing the existing facility is the most cost-effective solution long-term, and will improve water quality and resiliency for all Eugene residents.

**Site work and construction**

We anticipate construction activity likely will begin in 2021. Neighbors will be given at least three months notice prior to construction activity starting.

For public safety reasons, the site will be fenced during construction activity and the existing tank structures will be removed.

EWEB will develop and share with neighbors a Construction Mitigation Plan that establishes methods for regular communications with residents, and outlines strategies for noise management, dust control, neighborhood safety, and other construction impacts.

**Public access and honoring College Hill’s history**

The new facilities will be designed according to contemporary standards, which prevent public access to critical drinking water facilities. In order to protect our drinking water supply, the new tank structure(s) will be fenced.

Understanding that public access has been a valued community benefit, EWEB is evaluating options for maintaining areas of open space at the project site. We will invite ideas from neighbors about how to appropriately honor College Hill historic features and role in our community, while ensuring responsible use of public funds. This could include re-landscaping portions of the site for public use and erecting interpretive signage to educate visitors and celebrate the site’s history.
Preliminary siting option. May be revised as the project progresses.

### Anticipated Timeline

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Planning</th>
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