

**RESOLUTION NO. 2607
FEBRUARY 2026**

**EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD
Opposition to Ballot Measure 20-373**

Whereas, The Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) was founded in 1911 as a municipal, customer-owned utility. With a commitment to water safety following a public health crisis and has maintained a record of providing clean and safe water for over a century;

Whereas, the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) is committed to the preservation and maintenance of clean and safe drinking water, as well as the effective management of watersheds and ecosystems;

Whereas, EWEB has consistently supported existing laws and regulations that already ensure the integrity of water resources, including the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Oregon Pesticide Control Act, and the Oregon Three-Basin Rule, amongst others;

Whereas, the framing of rights and protections proposed in Ballot Measure 20-373 appears to introduce broad and vague language that could lead to significant legal complications, increased regulations, and confusion regarding the enforcement of existing water protection laws;

Whereas, the initiative would require Lane County to enforce these rights, placing an undue burden on local government resources and potentially diverting focus from ongoing efforts to protect and enhance water quality in a collaborative manner;

Whereas, the implementation of Measure 20-373 would necessitate additional legal reviews and risk assessments for EWEB's existing and future projects, delaying critical watershed protection programs and potentially halting initiatives designed to maintain clean drinking water;

Whereas, the lack of clear definitions and standards within the measure could create unpredictable obstacles for ordinary and necessary EWEB operations, including those that are currently compliant with established regulations;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that, the Eugene Water & Electric Board opposes Ballot Measure 20-373 as it poses unwarranted risks to the efficient management of water resources, could hinder existing conservation efforts, and ultimately detracts from the public's trust in water service providers.

Be it further resolved that, the EWEB Board encourages public discourse on this issue and advises Lane County residents to consider the implications of the measure on the community's access to clean drinking water and overall environmental stewardship.

Dated this 3rd, day of February 2026.

THE CITY OF EUGENE, OREGON
Acting by and through the
Eugene Water & Electric Board

President

I, ANNE M. KAH, the duly appointed, qualified, and acting Assistant Secretary of the Eugene Water & Electric Board, do hereby certify that the above is a true and exact copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board at its February 3, 2026 Board Meeting.

Assistant Secretary