



Olympia 2045 Utilities Chapter: ERRATA SHEET

Pending Revisions to the February 1, 2024 UAC Recommended DRAFT Utilities Chapter

June 14, 2024

The following changes will be made at finalization of the February 1, 2024 UAC Recommended DRAFT Utilities Chapter.

Section “Managing Wastewater Effectively” will be replaced with the following text:

The purpose of Olympia’s Wastewater Utility is to protect public health and environmental health by ensuring that wastewater is collected and conveyed to treatment and disposal facilities with minimal risk.

Olympia provides wastewater collection service to 17.5 square miles of the City and about eight square miles of Urban Growth Area in unincorporated Thurston County. However, many neighborhoods and individual lots within the City are still using septic systems. By 2045, Olympia expects public sewers will be extended to serve most of the Urban Growth Area. City Wastewater Utility activities are guided by the City of Olympia Wastewater Management Plan.

All wastewater collected by Olympia is conveyed to the LOTT Clean Water Alliance, a regional partnership of the cities of Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater and Thurston County. LOTT provides wastewater treatment at its main Budd Inlet Treatment Plant in downtown Olympia, treating the water to the highest level of any treatment plant in the Puget Sound region. Most of the treated water is discharged to Budd Inlet, although some is treated to an even higher standard to become Class A reclaimed water, safe for non-drinking uses such as landscape irrigation.

In the late 1990s, the LOTT Water Alliance developed its long-range management plan, known as the Wastewater Resource Management Plan. LOTT completed an update to the plan in 2023. The 2050 Master Plan identifies infrastructure needs to maintain the Budd Inlet Treatment Plant and other critical assets, as well as long-term strategies to meet system-wide capacity needs through 2050. The Plan addresses wastewater treatment and reclaimed water needs for all its partners.

The Wastewater Utility coordinates a number of activities with the LOTT Clean Water Alliance, including maintenance, condition assessments, and pre-treatment program efforts. These activities are all required under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, which covers both the City’s wastewater collection system and LOTT-owned facilities. This shared responsibility requires continuous communication between the two entities, at both the operation and planning levels.

Appendix A: Utilities Inventory and Future Needs, City-Owned Utilities, Section “Drinking Water Inventory”, Paragraph 2, Sentence 1 will be revised as follows:

Class A reclaimed water treatment, production and main distribution facilities are jointly owned by the Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater and Thurston County (LOTT) LOTT Clean Water Alliance.

Appendix A: Utilities Inventory and Future Needs, City-Owned Utilities, Section “Wastewater Inventory”, Paragraph 1, Sentence 2 will be revised as follows:

There are 4,200 privately owned and maintained septic systems, and regional collection and treatment facilities owned by the LOTT Clean Water Alliance.

Section titled “Coordination with Private Utilities”

The Utilities Advisory Committee reviewed the portions of the Utilities Chapter related to public utilities. There is a section of the Chapter that addresses private utilities as well. The recommended changes for private utilities are proposed in a separate, but attached, document.