



April 14, 2025

The City of Portland is in the process of constructing a drinking water filtration facility that will serve more than 600,000 customers throughout the region. The filtration plant will provide multiple public health benefits:

- **Remove disease-causing microorganisms.** Exposure to *Cryptosporidium* can cause cryptosporidiosis, a serious illness. Symptoms include diarrhea, vomiting, fever, and stomach pain. The new filtration facility will remove *Cryptosporidium* and other disease-causing microorganisms and contaminants from our water to further protect our health. This is especially critical in protecting our most vulnerable community members, people with diseases affecting the immune system, cancer and transplant patients, and people taking certain immunosuppressive drugs.
- **Reduce disinfection byproducts (DBPs) regulated by the EPA.** DBPs are potentially harmful materials created after chlorine reacts with certain types of organic material. Filtration treatment will significantly reduce DBPs by removing organics in the water.
- **Increased water supply resilience.** In addition, the Filtration Project will increase our water system's resilience by improving the ability to serve water from the Bull Run after a large storm, landslide, or fire. Hospitals cannot function without continuous clean drinking water. Emergencies and water shortages put public health at risk.

Our health systems understand that further project delays will jeopardize the City's ability to complete the project within the mandated timeframe required by the Oregon Health Authority. Project delays could result in an extended boil-water requirement, which would be extremely challenging for hospital operations.

Thank you for considering our perspective as we seek to protect the health of our patients and the public at large.



LUP Hearings <lup-hearings@multco.us>

Wednesday's Land Use Hearing - public comment

1 message

Michael Harrison <harmicha@ohsu.edu>

Mon, Apr 14, 2025 at 6:24 PM

To: "LUP-Hearings@multco.us" <LUP-Hearings@multco.us>

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Hello,

Please see the attached public comment letter submitted on behalf of Adventist Health Portland, Legacy Health, Oregon Health & Science University and Providence Health & Services. If you have any questions, please feel free to share them with me and I can share them with all the submitters.

Thanks so much,

Michael

Michael Harrison, Director of Local Relations

OHSU | Oregon Health & Science University

he/him

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**Health System Public Comment.pdf**

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