

BURLINGTON WATER DISTRICT

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Internet: BWD Website <https://burlingtonwater.specialdistrict.org/>

Notice of Public Hearing

to be held on October 15, 2026, at 5:30 pm

Hearing held by the Multnomah County Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission
and Commissioners of Burlington Water District
on Property Tax Measure

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Public Hearing Purpose

- To provide opportunity for public comments.
- For the Commissioners of Burlington Water District to address questions from the public and the Multnomah County Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission (TSCC).
- As preparation for the **November 3, 2026, Multnomah County ballot measure** election to increase property taxes within the Burlington Water District for fire and emergency services.

Explanation of Measure (see below)

Invited

- **General Public**
- **Multnomah County Tax Supervising and Conservation Commission Board Members:**
- *Matt Donahue, Chair; absent, Dr. Rita Moore, Tod Burton, Dr. Will Terry, Erik Kvarsten*
- **Commissioners of Burlington Water District Board Members:** Ricardo Lovett, Tami Ege, Anne Squire, Robin Walden, appointed, not yet sworn in.

AGENDA

- Meeting brought to order. (Rita Moore, TSCC Vice-Chair)
- Explanation of Property Tax Measure (see below).
- General discussion and Q and A.
- Adjourn.

EXPLANATION OF BALLOT MEASURE

Burlington Water District (District) a municipal corporation receives revenue from water sales and loan payments for infrastructure. The District receives tax revenues from properties within the District boundaries for services for emergency (fire and ambulance) services contracted with other agencies. The district provides water and emergency services to approximately 400 people.

The proposed levy of \$1.70 per \$1,000 of assessed value would raise an estimated average of \$87,029 annually for five years. This will supplement the existing \$3.4269 permanent rate and is separate from water rates. Rising costs from the City of Portland Fire Bureau make this adjustment necessary; average annual increases have risen 10% per year over the past four years, nearly double the average growth in property taxes. Current property tax revenue is no longer enough to cover the costs of emergency services. The average assessed value for a property in our taxing district is \$166,000.00. For the average property, the current monthly cost for emergency services is \$47. The local levy option would add \$24 per month for a total of \$70.92. These taxes are collected by Multnomah County and can only be used to pay for emergency services from the City of Portland Fire Dept.