



Nick Fish, Commissioner
Michael Stuhr, P.E., Administrator

1120 SW 5th Avenue, Room 600
Portland, Oregon 97204-1926
Information: 503-823-7404
www.portlandoregon.gov/water



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
March 13, 2017

For more information, contact
Portland Water Bureau
Jaymee Cuti at 503-823-8064
Energy Trust of Oregon
Susan Jowaiszas, 503-546-3624

PUMP STATION REDUCES PORTLAND WATER BUREAU ENERGY COSTS

Combining gravity with energy-efficient pumps delivers \$163,000 annual savings

Energy Trust of Oregon (Energy Trust) will present the Portland Water Bureau with a check for nearly half a million dollars in front of City Council at 9:45 a.m. Wednesday, March 15 – an incentive that will benefit Portland Water Bureau customers.

Energy Trust awarded the Water Bureau's new Hannah Mason Pump Station with this incentive. This energy-efficient pumping station will also provide ongoing savings to customers.

Hannah Mason Pump Station, located in Willamette Park, puts physics and new technology to work to cut energy costs. The Portland Water Bureau replaced its second oldest pump station with the new one, which supplies water to much of Southwest Portland, including residential and business customers, 10 Portland public schools, the Portland Community College Sylvania Campus and more than 30 parks. The pump station can also supply water to the Lake Grove and Palatine Hill water districts.

Up to 14 million gallons of water move through this pump station every day. Pumping water uphill is the Water Bureau's largest single use of electricity, system-wide. Making pumping more efficient saves energy and saves money. Efficiency also reduces carbon emissions. By combining energy-efficient pumps, an innovative pump station design and the properties of gravity, the Portland Water Bureau is cutting annual energy costs by nearly \$163,000 and also contributing to achieving goals outlined in the City of Portland's award-winning Climate Action Plan.

"Making pumping more energy efficient is a strategic objective for the Water Bureau. The new Hannah Mason Pump Station supports a citywide goal of reducing energy use by two percent," said Portland Water Bureau Administrator Mike Stuhr. "Energy Trust's assistance allowed the

City to make a major contribution to meeting these goals with an investment that will pay for itself in only 3.3 years.”

Energy Trust provided technical assistance on the project. The nearly \$500,000 cash incentive helps offset the additional \$1.3 million investment needed to make the pump station a model of energy efficiency. With Energy Trust’s help, the Water Bureau identified an estimated annual savings of 2.37 million kilowatt hours. The carbon equivalent for these savings is 610 metric tons, or approximately 1.345 million pounds, of CO2 reduction.

“We commend the Portland Water Bureau for seizing the opportunity to rethink how to efficiently deliver water to the residents of the city’s west side,” said Energy Trust Executive Director Michael Colgrove. “We’re excited to be part of this project that not only saves energy, but improves the overall quality of the pumping system while providing benefits to both water and electricity ratepayers.”

Gravity works

Hannah Mason Pump Station receives electricity from Portland General Electric and draws water primarily from the city’s Washington County Supply Line. The old Fulton Pump Station drew water from the Southeast Supply Line. With an average hydraulic elevation approximately 125 feet higher than the old Fulton Pump Station, the Washington County Supply Line requires less pumping, enabling the Water Bureau to use three energy-efficient, 150-horsepower pumps to meet most of its pumping needs. This cuts pumping energy by approximately 45 percent, annually.

In addition, Portland Water Bureau opted to use hydraulically-operated butterfly valves for pump control which reduces the head pressure the pumps must provide, reducing energy use another 14 percent compared to more traditional diaphragm control valves.

Hannah Mason Pump Station is the first Water Bureau infrastructure project named after a woman. A philanthropist, landowner, and widow of Portland Mayor William S. Mason, Mrs. Mason owned most of the land on which Willamette Park sits today.

The Portland Water Bureau provides the highest quality water, customer service and stewardship of the critical infrastructure, fiscal, and natural resources entrusted to our care. For general information, call 503-823-7404 or visit portlandoregon.gov/water.

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping utility customers benefit from saving energy and generating renewable power. Our services, cash incentives and energy solutions have helped participating customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural, Cascade Natural Gas and Avista save \$2.3 billion on energy bills. Our work helps keep energy costs as low as possible, creates jobs and builds a sustainable energy future. Learn more at www.energytrust.org or call 1-866-368-7878.

END