

PRESS RELEASE

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City of Tillamook Begins Major Water Transmission Line Replacement Project

Tillamook, OR – April 21, 2026 – The City of Tillamook is moving forward with a critical infrastructure improvement project to replace and relocate its primary water transmission line, a key component of the community’s water system serving the City and surrounding water districts.

Originally installed between 1928 and 1942, the existing transmission line has exceeded its service life and was not constructed to modern seismic standards. This project will replace approximately 3.5 miles of pipeline, improving system reliability, strengthening seismic resilience, and reducing the risk of service interruptions.

The new transmission line will begin at the intersection of Long Prairie Road and Highway 101, continue south along Highway 101 to South Prairie Road, and then extend east along South Prairie Road, ending at Clemen’s Corner. Portions of the alignment will also be relocated to the east side of Highway 101, outside of the Port of Tillamook Bay’s industrial park and airport facilities, to improve long-term system security and accessibility.

Importantly, this project is not driven by a single development or customer request. Instead, it reflects the City’s proactive commitment to strengthening core infrastructure to better serve all existing customers while preparing for future growth and demand. By investing in a more resilient and modern system, the City is ensuring reliable water delivery for the entire community for decades to come.

“The City of Tillamook is committed to providing clean, safe drinking water to all of our residents and business customers,” said City Manager Sean Lewis. “This transmission line upgrade is an important part of that commitment and reflects our responsibility to invest public dollars in projects that make the most sense and benefit the greatest number of people.”

Construction is expected to begin in mid-April 2026 and continue through early 2027. Work will typically occur Monday through Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The project contractor, Tapani Inc., will stage operations on Port property near the airport. Residents and travelers should expect periodic traffic control and potential temporary access impacts near the construction zone. The City and contractor will provide updates throughout the project to help minimize disruptions. Community members, especially those outside city limits, are invited to stay informed about road closures and project updates by signing up for the City’s TextMyGov service. Simply text “TILLAMOOK” to 91896 to receive real-time notifications and updates about this project and other City alerts.

The City of Tillamook appreciates the public’s patience and cooperation as this essential infrastructure project moves forward, enhancing the safety, reliability, and resilience of the community’s water system.