



**For Immediate Release**

May 30, 2007

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## **Cascade Water Alliance Adopts Route for New Pipeline, Authorizes Construction**

(May 30, 2007) The Board of the Cascade Water Alliance has reached another milestone in delivering on its mission to ensure a safe, clean predictable water source for Members for the next 50 years and beyond.

At the May meeting, Board members unanimously passed a resolution adopting a route for the Tacoma Cascade Pipeline and authorizing design and construction of the new pipeline. The route selected is the Preferred Alternative as described in the Final Environmental Impact Statement, Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline, issued April 26, 2007.

The Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline will connect the Tacoma Water Second Supply Pipeline (SSP) and Cascade's Bellevue-Issaquah Pipeline (BIP), a distance of approximately 20 miles. The 42-inch-diameter pipeline and ancillary features will convey drinking water from the Tacoma system to Cascade Members for distribution through the eight cities and special districts comprising the Alliance.

"With the adoption of a route and authorization to proceed with construction, Cascade has moved from planning to building for the future," said Grant Degginger, Chair of the Board and Mayor of Bellevue. The new supply system is necessary to meet water resource demands projected for the region's population, the Cascade service area, and economic growth through 2060.

Construction is anticipated to begin this fall when Cascade lays 1.1 miles of pipeline under a segment of SR 900 in Issaquah that is undergoing repairs by WSDOT. "We look for opportunities to work cooperatively with other jurisdictions to avoid unnecessary disruptions for the public," says Michael Gagliardo, Cascade General Manager. "It made sense to begin our construction in Issaquah with WSDOT to make sure this road doesn't get ripped up twice."

The adopted Preferred Alternative originates at a point along the Tacoma Water Second Supply Pipeline and continues northerly through the cities of Covington, Renton, and Issaquah, and unincorporated King County before reaching its northern terminus at the BIP.

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The Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline is the first principal project feature of the Cascade Regional Water Supply System to be constructed. Once the link between SSP and BIP is complete, the full water supply that Cascade has purchased from Tacoma Water and Covington Water District can be delivered to Cascade's Members. Construction of the Tacoma-Cascade Pipeline is expected to be completed by December 2010.

Cascade Water Alliance is an association of eight cities and water districts in the Puget Sound region working together to ensure a clean, safe, and reliable water supply for people, the environment and a growing economy. Members include the Cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Issaquah, Redmond, and Tukwila, the Covington Water District, Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District and Skyway Water District.

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