



10th Anniversary Celebration

May 18, 2009

Water for today...
and tomorrow



Tukwila Mayor Jim Haggerton: Welcome to Cascade Water Alliance's 10th anniversary celebration. I am Jim Haggerton, mayor of Tukwila and a Cascade board member. Tukwila, whose name in local Native American dialect means "land where the hazelnuts grow" is celebrating its centennial this year.

Tukwila, like the region, would not be flourishing today if those who came before us had not carefully planned for the future. That is why we are here today – to recognize Cascade's important steps in planning for tomorrow.

It's my pleasure to again welcome you all here today. First I'd like to recognize all the elected officials who have joined us. Can we have them stand? Thank you. And now I'd like to introduce the chair of Cascade Water Alliance's board of directors Lloyd Warren, a commissioner with the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District. Lloyd's been involved in Cascade since its inception; Lloyd???

Board Chair Lloyd Warren: Thank you, Jim, for hosting us here in Tukwila. I'd like to thank you also for your ongoing leadership with Cascade.

Actually, today marks about the third decade I've been involved in decisions about water resources for the future. In the 1980s, many growing communities wanted more say in how water supplies were developed and managed.

So a collection of cities and water districts began an important dialogue about the future of the region's water supply. I was among the many, including some of you here today who came together to share the responsibility and decision making to bring water to the urban areas of east and south King County.

Do you remember the "Eastside Venture", the "East King County Water Association", the "Tri-Caucus", and the "Interim Water Group"? These were 15 years of moving us steps closer to the Cascade Water Alliance.

As a result, Cascade Water Alliance was formed 10 years ago. In the water world the blink of an eye, but an amazing journey so far. Cascade's mission is clear! To provide a safe, clean, reliable water supply for the next 50 years and beyond.

Collectively, the five city and three water and sewer district members serve almost 400,000 residents and more than 22,000 businesses.

Currently, our water supply comes from members' individual groundwater supplies and the water we have purchased

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from the cities of Seattle and Tacoma.

We use our existing water wisely through a variety of conservation programs such as:

Rebates for high efficiency toilets and clothes washers, faucet aerator and showerhead installations, and irrigation system audits and upgrades.

Last year, we achieved a savings of nearly ½ million gallons of water per day, representing 42 percent of our 2013 savings goal.

And looking ahead, Cascade is finalizing the purchase of Lake Tapps to secure a much needed new regional water supply source to provide future generations with water. And I wanted to emphasize Lake Tapps as a "Regional Resource". The Cascade Board's vision has always included a responsibility to the entire region, not just current members.

We now have agreements in place with Puget Sound Energy, The Muckleshoot Tribe and the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, and the Lake Tapps Community. And will submit for our water right in the near future. Cascade has grown from a single employee to a robust organization that is involved in water management in two counties, owns and operates facilities, will soon own and operate the fourth busiest recreational lake and reservoir in the state, have long term water supply contracts with Seattle and Tacoma, and have designed and began to build a major 20 mile long water transmission pipeline.

It has been a busy decade! Stick around for the next 10, 50 and 100 years!

Let me introduce to you our visionaries – our Cascade board members and alternate board members. It has been an honor to serve with all of you. This group has worked extremely well together with a clear purpose and unified vision. As you can tell by the length of service, Board members actually seek to be reappointed by their jurisdictions.

Mary Alyce Burleigh – Kirkland City Council member. She's our vice chair and has been involved with this board for 7 years, and **Kirkland's Mayor Jim Lauinger**, the alternate, for 5 years.

Mayor Haggerton of Tukwila – our secretary treasurer. He's served with us for 10 years and alternate **Verna Griffin**, Tukwila council member, for one year.

Redmond Mayor John Marchione, 5 years, and alternate **Redmond Council Chair Nancy McCormick**, 2 years

Bellevue Mayor Grant Degginger, 8 years, and alternate Council member Don Davidson, 8 years

Issaquah council members **David Kappler**, and alternate **John Traeger** -- two years each.

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Jon Ault, commissioner, Skyway Water and Sewer District, 9 years and alternate **Joyce Clark**, commissioner, 2 years.

David Knight, Covington Water District commissioner, 5 years, and Commissioner **Jeff Clarke**, for 2.

And from my agency, the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District our recently appointed alternate, Commissioner **Robert Brady**

And join me in a special welcome to Kirkland's **Sants Contreras**, who was an original Board Member who served from 2000 to 2004 and Issaquah's **Joe Forkner** who served from 2001 to 2007.

That's a total of 80 years of commitment.

Thank you for your dedication and hard work

Working together, we created a vision for the future of water supply in the region. Cascade is open to any municipal water system in the region, and we welcome you all.

On a rainy day in this area, who would think that this discussion was even necessary? But it is a vital one – one that means clean water for people, businesses, the environment, recreation and cultural issue.

How do we best use that precious resource?

We are here today not just with our members and our customers, but with our regional partners – like Seattle and Tacoma, our Lake Tapps neighbors and the Muckleshoot and Puyallup tribes – who understand planning today is essential in being good stewards of our water resources for generations to come.

Planning together means we will have clean, safe, reliable drinking water so our region can continue to thrive. And clean and healthy rivers and streams as a legacy for the future.

Please watch our video – it tells our story far better than any one individual can.

VIDEO - [CLICK HERE >](#)

Lloyd Warren: You just heard about our vision.

But Cascade can't do it by itself.

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Please welcome Cascade's immediate past chair, Bellevue Mayor Grant Degginger, who will help us recognize some of those outstanding regional partners who are helping to make Cascade's vision a reality.

Grant Degginger: Thank you Lloyd. And let's thank Lloyd for his three decades of hard work that have helped bring us to this
As you all know, when it comes to planning, the sooner the better.

This region has in the past, put off making crucial infrastructure decisions in areas like transportation, where we are now racing to catch up to the need.

We want to avoid that situation with drinking water by looking to the future today so we don't find ourselves in crisis situations like other communities around the country and around the world.

The groups we are going to recognize today shared that vision and commitment.

Seattle Public Utilities and Tacoma Water – Most of us don't think about where our water comes from – only that when you turn on your tap, it's there.

That's thanks to the foresight shown by Seattle leaders over the past 100 years. We now all enjoy a safe, clean and reliable water supply we use today.

Seattle has provided us with water since Cascade's inception, and that will continue for years.

In addition, we purchase additional supplies from the Tacoma Water, so Cascade is assured of water supply as we build out our entire system.

And we continue to work together to plan for the entire region to ensure that if there is ever a disruption in service we can back each other up.

Together, we promise that when you do turn on your tap, you will always have water.

Please join me in recognizing our regional water supply partners **Ray Hoffman**, acting director of Seattle Public Utilities and **John Kirner**, director of Tacoma Water.

Puget Sound Energy – In 1911, Lake Tapps was formed as a reservoir by Puget Sound Power & Electric for generation of hydroelectric power from the White River.

Now, almost a century later, Puget Sound Energy is no longer producing power there.

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However, Cascade is going to not only preserve this valuable recreational resource but also create the first new water supply in the region in decades.

PSE has been an invaluable partner as we have worked together on water rights. We expect to complete acquisition of Lake Tapps late this year and Puget will continue to operate the lake for the next few years.

Representing this visionary company and regional partner is **Ed Schield** PSE's Director of Hydroelectric Resources

Lake Tapps Community Council -- Lake Tapps is so much more than just a future water supply.

It is a neighborhood, a treasured resource, a way of life.

And we are delighted to be a new part of this community.

We were all concerned about what the relationship would be with the new neighbors and the new people moving in, when we got down to talking about what was truly important we all agreed – the future.

That's what we've pledged to the residents – their lake will be preserved as well their way of life, and we will also be able to provide the necessary water supply from that lake to ensure them that generations from now there will be water for the region.

On behalf of the Lake Tapps community, its homeowners' council, the residents, and dedicated public officials like Pierce County Councilmember Shawn Bunney, State Senator Pam Roach and State Representative Chris Hurst, let's welcome **Chuck Romeo**, president of the Lake Tapps Community Council, and thank them all for welcoming us to the neighborhood!

AND..... We'd be remiss if we didn't acknowledge others we've thanked in the past who helped make these successes a reality.

This would include the Puyallup Tribe of Indians and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe with whom we have created an historic agreement last summer that provides for the protection of fish, habitat, water supply and recreation in the White River and Lake Tapps.

And our local legislative contingent, led this past session by Senators Fred Jarrett and Rodney Tom and Representative Roger Goodman, for their efforts to obtain eminent domain authority for Cascade, which will make our planning and construction of transmission of our water a reality.

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Let's thank them all.

Lloyd Warren – Thank you Grant. Let's have another round of thanks for our partners.

Now it is my pleasure to introduce Cascade's new CEO Chuck Clarke. Chuck most recently served as the director of Seattle Public Utilities, and has also served as the Seattle deputy mayor.

He was Environmental Protection Agency regional administrator, the secretary of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, and the director of Washington's Department of Ecology.

And today he will share with you his vision of our region's water future.

CEO Chuck Clarke –

I am a water geek.

The Board challenge to me was to build on the work that has been done over the last ten years to develop a more certain future for Cascade's water supply and strengthen Cascade's regional partnerships!

We are all in this together – deciding how to provide flows for fish and water for people. We are all in this together – dealing with the challenging issues and with uncertainties that face us.

We can do that. We can plan. We can analyze and we can make the best decisions even though we don't know what the future will be.

We will have to work together, plan together, share together and make decisions together or we won't be successful. Working together is essential to our long term success

Our partnerships must continue and we must build on them

We must put aside our past differences and look to the future

We must look beyond the normal 10-20 year planning horizon – out 50-100 years

We must remove as much uncertainty to certainty as possible or manage it as best as possible (minimize/manage uncertainty)

We must use the best information we have now to plan for the future and be flexible enough to make changes as

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needed. That includes:

- Obtaining our water right
- Using the portfolio approach (not just one source!) which will include conservation and reclaimed water, Lake Tapps and water from Seattle and Tacoma.
- Establishing a dynamic demand and supply analysis that can and will be updated often
- Keeping in mind our customers and ensuring enough high quality water while making sure our operations are transparent and we provide ongoing updates and education

Regional Partnerships/Connections are critical to our success. This includes the Muckleshoot and Puyallup Tribes, the Lake Tapps homeowners, Seattle, Tacoma, the four cities that are near Lake Tapps (Bonney Lake, Sumner, Buckley and Auburn), the Department of Health, the Department of Ecology, and King and Pierce Counties.

To do all this, we will need your support.

In June we will kick off a dialogue with you to get your input and support.

Built on our new supply and demand information, we can use this dialogue to develop a common vision for water that will not only

- (1) Make environmental sense (i.e. stream flows and conservation,)
- (2) Make fiscal sense (coordination of demand and supply) and
- (3) Make regional sense.

But will also ensure all of our customers will have high quality drinking water today and tomorrow.

Jim Haggerton – Thank you Lloyd, Grant and Chuck. And let's give one more hand to Cascade's board, its members and its regional partners.

It's been a great 10 years and we are looking forward to the future.

Your involvement, help and support in the past is appreciated, and we know we will work together for the region's future.

This concludes our program today.

We hope you've enjoyed yourself today.

I want also to thank the terrific Tukwila landmark – the Museum of Flight -- for hosting us today. This amazing facility is

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run by Dr. Bonnie Dunbar. She's a Washington native, a UW grad, and spent years with NASA. She has flown on five different space missions for a total of 50 days in space.

For those who have a few minutes, please take advantage of the free passes that are available to attendees to tour this terrific Tukwila landmark – the Museum of Flight.

Thank you for coming

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