

The Lyons-Mehama Water District (District) operates a community water system that serves the residents of the City of Lyons in Linn County, Oregon, and the residents of the unincorporated community of Mehama in Marion County, Oregon. The District's water system has been assigned the state and federal Public Water System Identification No. 4100493. The District's system provides an average of nearly 409,000 gallons per day of treated water to the community. The distribution system has two service zones. Water is delivered to customers directly from the Water Treatment Plant pumps or by gravity flow from reservoirs, or both.

The District's most recent Water System Master Plan, completed in 2013, performed a storage analysis of the system. Potable water storage is necessary in public water systems to meet varying customer water service demands, and to provide reserve capacity for fire flow and emergencies. The current total storage volume in the district is 550,000 gallons with the two southern reservoirs accounting for 50,000 gallons. Those two reservoirs were constructed in 1957 for a 50,000-gallon steel tank and 1966 for a 200,000-gallon wood tank. According to the Water System Master Plan, the recommended total storage volume is 1.6 million gallons to meet current needs. It recommended replacement of the two southern reservoirs with a new 1.3 million gallon tank. This would improve system resiliency and address the current system deficit.

In addition to this reservoir, the master plan recommended two other projects as high priority. One is the installation of a water main through John Neal Memorial Park to connect water mains on Juniper Street and Neal Park Drive. This pipeline would contribute to higher fire flow capacity. It would also improve water delivery in the system during the time the south reservoir is taken out of service for construction of the new, larger replacement reservoir. The 200,000 gallon wooden reservoir has been taken out of service due to its deteriorating condition. The second project is installation of a new water main along Highway 22. This line would also contribute to higher fire flow capacity, as well as improving system redundancy.

