



Item B: Proposed Rulemaking Division 601-0600

Public Notice for Funded Community Engagement

Action Item

June 12, 2025



Margo Mashkovskaya, *Rules Coordinator*; Adair Muth, *Grants Manager*

Presentation Overview

- Authority: ORS 541.551
- History
- Rulemaking engagement
- OAR 690-601-0600 "housekeeping" language
- Fiscal & Racial Equity Impacts
- Implementation
- Alternatives and Director's Recommendation

ORS 541.551 (2021)

Requires agencies to:

- Develop and through rule recognize community engagement best practices for water projects
- Department funded community engagement plans use recognized best practices

Comment Received: Public notice and comment period should be explicitly included in rule language

Department Response: 690-601-0600

OAR 690-601-0600

**OAR -0600 Notice of
Proposed
Rulemaking**
April 1, 2025

**Public
Hearing**
April 15,
2025

**Anticipated -
0600 Effective
Date**
July 1, 2025

**Public
Comment
Period**
April 1-15,
2025

**Water
Resources
Commission**
June, 2025

Proposed Rules: OAR 690-601-0600

Public Notice

The Department shall denote applications with community engagement plan components for a water project during public notice processes for ORS 541.561-541.581 or ORS 541.651 - 541.696.



Public Comment Opportunity - Feasibility Study Grants

The Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) invites written public comment on applications received for the 2023-2024 cycle of [Feasibility Study Grants](#). This opportunity funds studies to evaluate the feasibility of developing water conservation, reuse, and storage projects. OWRD received four complete grant applications requesting a total of \$285,179. A multi-agency review team reviewed each application and recommends funding three of the four applications.

- View the [Application Evaluations and Review Team Funding Recommendations](#).
- View the 2023-2024 applications received by visiting the [Funding Cycle History page](#).

Written comments on the applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on March 7, 2024.

Please submit comments to: OWRD.Grants@water.oregon.gov or Grant Coordinator, 725 Summer Street NE, Suite A, Salem, OR 97301.

Next steps: After reviewing public comments, OWRD will make funding recommendations for consideration and approval by the Water Resources Commission. The tentative date for the Commission to make its funding decision is at the March 21-22, 2024 meeting.

For more information, please contact:

Adair Muth | 971-301-0718 | OWRD.Grants@water.oregon.gov

Fiscal & Racial Equity Impacts

OAR 690-601-0600

- No anticipated significant fiscal impact beyond general administration of public notice as part of the OAR 690-601-0600
- Local governments, members of the public, and small businesses are not expected to experience economic affects
- No anticipated impacts to racial equity.

Implementation - Feasibility Study Grants

Funding to evaluate feasibility of a water conservation, reuse, or storage project

Timeline:

- Summer 2025 – Develop guidance documents
- Fall 2025 – Announce funding cycle
- Spring 2026 – Grant applications due



Conservation

Reuse



Storage

Commission Action: Alternatives for OAR 690-601-0600

The Commission may consider the following alternatives:

1. Adopt the final proposed rule
2. Adopt the final proposed rule as modified by the Commission
3. Not adopt the final proposed rule and request the Department to further evaluate the issues

Directors Recommendation

- 1. Adopt the final proposed rule**
2. Adopt the final proposed rule as modified by the Commission
3. Not adopt the final proposed rule and request the Department to further evaluate the issues

OREGON



WATER RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT

Thank you!

**Margo Mashkovskaya and Adair
Muth**



Oregon.gov/owrd

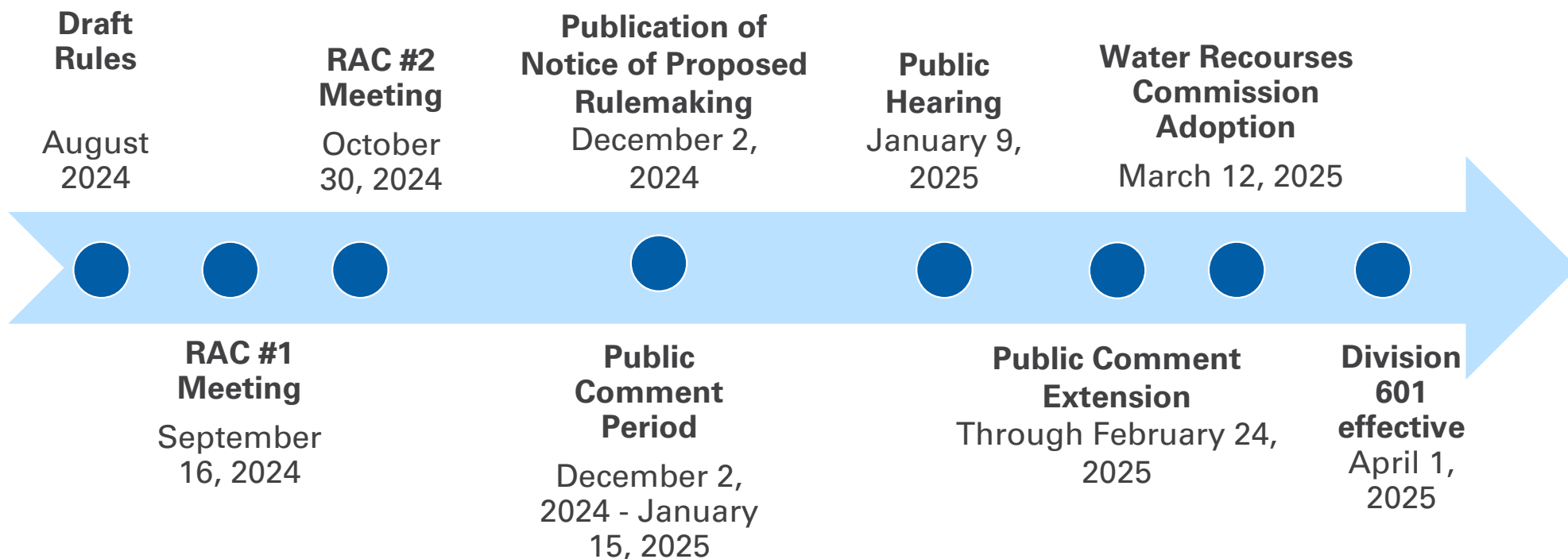


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[Linkedin.com/company/owrd](https://www.linkedin.com/company/owrd)

Division 601 Sections 0100-0500 and 0700 Rulemaking Process



Comment Theme: Public notice and comment period be explicitly included in rule language

Tribal Engagement

Before and During Rulemaking Process:

- Invited informal and formal engagement and provided updates via Staff-to-Staff Cultural Resources Cluster and Natural Resources Workgroup
- Sent Government-to-Government letters/emails inviting coordination and consultation on development of the rules, and solicitation for RAC membership
- Distributed the notice of proposed rulemaking