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### **OSWEGO LAKE GEOLOGIC EXPLORATION TO BEGIN THIS MONTH**

LAKE OSWEGO –On September 20, subcontractors to the City’s interceptor sewer design team will begin exploring geologic conditions in Oswego Lake and its bays and canals. This work is a critical first task in the design phase of the Oswego Lake Interceptor Sewer (OLIS) replacement project. The design phase began in earnest after the City Council selected the in-lake buoyant gravity alternative as the preferred option to replace the City’s ailing OLIS system after a public hearing held July 10, 2007. The work will provide design information regarding bedrock and the characteristics of sediments on the lake bottom that are critical to the design of the tether anchors and pile supports needed for the buoyant pipeline.

When completed in December, the exploration program will have determined the depth, strength and quality of the bedrock in the lake and the corrosive properties of the lake bed sediments. These results will provide valuable information about:

- The ability of lake bed sediments to support heavy construction equipment, particularly in the west end of the main lake and the canals, where construction of the new pipelines will be completed with excavators and dump trucks.
- The depth of ground anchors that will be needed for the floating pipe tethers.
- The locations where soft sediments require the use of pile supports for the new pipelines.
- The refinement of cost estimates for piles and ground anchors, as well as excavation.

In the first two weeks, Earth Dynamics of Portland, a geophysical consulting firm, will launch a 20-foot long boat from the Lake Corporation boat ramp on McVey Avenue, and will map the sediments and bedrock underlying the lake bottom using electronic sensors lowered from the boat.

During the week of October 1, Advanced American Construction of Portland will launch and assemble two work barges on the lake from the Lake Corporation boat ramp. Once assembled, the barges will be towed to the Lake Corporation’s Maple Circle easement. Once there, Haztech Drilling will load two drill rigs and other equipment onto the barges. Some equipment will also be loaded from the South Shore Bridge. . The initial loading process is expected to be completed by October 8th. Periodic transfer of equipment, workers and materials to and from the barges in support of offshore drilling operations will occur at the Lake Corporation boat ramp. These operations will be conducted through mid-December.

In addition to the 45 borings that will be done in the lake, bays and canals, an additional five borings will occur on Bryant Road, between the Main Canal and Cardinal Drive.

The drilling and sampling operations will create some noise primarily from diesel engines that provide power to the drill rig. Also, at intervals in the drilling operation, soil samples will be taken by driving a sampling device through lake bed sediments. The sampler is driven into the soils by a 140-pound weight.

No work or starting of equipment will occur outside the hours of 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday Through Friday, or 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. No work will be allowed on Sunday.

For more information, contact Joel Komarek, City Engineer, at 503-697-6588

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