

June 1, 2011

Legislature Approves Funding for Infrastructure Funding

At the close of the 2011 Washington State Legislative Session, approval was granted for 77 public infrastructure projects, including Cross Valley Water District. Total funds allocated to the program were \$324 million, of which \$842,000 will go to support an important project locally.

“I applaud the Legislature in maintaining their commitment to improving the states infrastructure,” says Washington Association of Sewer & Water Districts President, Steven Skipworth. “Even with the state facing challenging economic times, their understanding that sewer & water infrastructures are critical to maintaining and attracting business development is important.”

The Public Works Trust Fund Board, which administers the fund, had reviewed and recommended all 77 projects approved by the Legislature. Governor Gregoire also supported the recommendations of the PWTF Board seeing it as part of her jobs initiative.

Locally, the project will help with necessary infrastructure improvements. Mark Cassell, Cross Valley Water District Board President says that without the financial support from the PWTF, these improvements would have been more difficult to accomplish.

“The Public Works Trust Fund is an important program not just for our district, but for the state as well,” said Mr. Cassell “I’m glad the value of the program was seen by the Legislature. Our District would like to thank Senators Hobbs and Stevens and Representatives Dunshee, Hope, Kristianson, and Pearson for their support in maintaining this program which is critical to our community.”

“We further believe that Governor Gregoire is right when she supported this program as part of her jobs initiative,” says Gary Hajek District Manager. “We anticipate this pipeline replacement project will put 12 to 15 people back to work in our community and reduce water loss. Truly a win-win for everyone.”

The Public Works Trust Fund was established in 1985. It is a revolving loan fund that offers low interest loans to help local governments finance critical public works projects. The Public Works Board receives administrative support from the Washington State Department of Commerce. Projects include roads, domestic water, sanitary sewers and storm sewer systems. For more information on the Public Works Board, visit www.pwb.wa.gov.