



Staff Report – Public Hearing for Ordinance

August 4, 2025 Council Regular Meeting

Public Hearing - Ordinance No. 25-016 Issuance of 2025 Revenue and Refunding Bonds

Presenter: Cathy Huber Nickerson, Finance Director

Time Estimate: 15 minutes

Phone	Email
360.817.1539	chuber@cityofcamas.us

BACKGROUND: The City of Camas has identified four projects for the water and sewer utilities to be financed with revenue bonds. These projects are identified in the respective water and sewer capital plans and have been incorporated in the appropriate five-year rate plans. In addition, the timing of the revenue bond issuance coincides with the bond call features in both the 2015 and 2019 revenue bonds. If conditions permit, the City may issue refunding bonds to refinance the callable revenue bond series.

SUMMARY: Ordinance 25-016 provides for the issuance, sale and delivery of water and sewer revenue bonds and refunding bonds, sets the parameters to certain terms and covenants of the bonds and appoints the Finance Director and in her absence the City Administrator to approve the final terms of the sale of the bonds. The revenue bonds and the refunding bonds are not to exceed \$42.5 million with the aggregate true interest costs not to exceed 5.5%.

The revenue bonds will fund four projects, three for the Water Utility and one for the Sewer Utility. The Water projects include \$12 million for PFAS mitigation at Well 13, \$5 million for the land acquisition reimbursement and design for the Northshore Operations Center, and \$1 million for a new transmission main. The Sewer project is \$10 million for Wastewater Treatment Plan major upgrades.

The revenue bonds and the refunding bonds will be paid over 20 years with water and sewer rates which have been built into the existing utility rate structure. No rate increases are anticipated for the repayment of the bonds.

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY: The issuance of the bonds benefits the Camas community by funding projects identified in the utility capital plan and provides an opportunity for future residents to share in the cost of infrastructure they will be using.

In addition, the refunding bonds will lower costs which may lower or stabilize future utility rates for residents.

STRATEGIC PLAN: This bond issue meets the City's priority of **Stewardship of City Assets**. One of this priority's goal is to "modernize and enhance asset management for infrastructure, public facilities and utilities.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES: The timing of the bond issuance could be challenging because it is subject to market and economic conditions.

BUDGET IMPACT: These projects have been approved in the 2025-2026 Budget as financed with the use of bonds and repaid with utility rates.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Council move to open a public hearing for Ordinance 25-016, consider public comments, and consider approving Ordinance 25-016.