

# Ashland Canal Piping Project Citizen Feed Back Forms

January 31, 2019

## Costs of Project

- **Alternative #1:** “Well run meeting appreciate how you kept on time. I am for #1 HOWEVER the City does not stick to budget city shot itself in the foot with hiring of 5 police w/o funding.”
- **Alternative #3:** “This is a huge expense for 2 Miles!!! If you can’t control E.coli, evaporation + seepage upstream of this 2 miles then this is a huge waste of taxpayer money!
- **Alternative #3:** “A proportion of canal H2O goes to TID customers, another portion goes to drinking H2O, and some flows into Ashland Creek. I propose that the cost (outside of grants) be distributed to the proportions of City H2O, Ashland Cr. H2OP and TID irrigation user and not paid by all Ashland citizens for the TID irrigation users. TID irrigation users should pay for their benefit.”
- **Alternative #3:** “The cost of piping does not outweigh the benefit of piping project is overkill.”
- **Alternative #4:** At present, cost-benefit allowance IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY JUSTIFIABLE.
- **Alternative #4:** “Cost/benefit of #s 1-3 are not convincing. \$75k/year covers 40 years before reaching \$3.1 million.
- **Alternative #4:** “This is not cost beneficial and find costs will inevitably end up far greater. -
- **Alternative #4:** “Cost vs Benefit is absurdly bad for 1-3”
- **Alternative #4:** Sarah Breckenridge- homeowner & TID walker in neighborhood -Waste of money
- **Alternative #3-4 Hybrid:** “This project will negatively impact homeowners who have pipes running across their land. Costs should include compensation for the value of the timber removed, diminished property values and temporary housing. Stop this project and rethink it with more creative incremental approach.”
- **Alternative #3 or 4:** “At this point I will have to support OPT # 3 or #4. Too much \$.”
- **No Alternative Selected:** “1) Cost/benefit of preferred option (1) that includes very reduced water cements(?) (global warming/drought) in NEAR (+-5 years).

## Aesthetics

- **Alternative #3:** KEEP THE WATER OPEN!! HOW DO YOU MEASURE ENJOYMENT?”
- **Alternative #3:** “Retain aesthetic value of open flowing water.”
- **Alternative #3:** The aesthetic, the open water is most important to me.
- **Alternative #3:** Take into account the peaceful mindset we get when we walk by open water.
- **Alternative #4:** Do not cover the open water. Please.
- **Alternative #4:** “The quality of life brought by the trees and brush, both for people and birds, must be considered.”
- **Alternative #4:** lack of care for the community concerns for the beauty of the area & the release(?) of non-material factors.”

## Wildlife

- **Alternative #3:** Bears would ruin our pool if they drank from it.”
- **Alternative #4:** The water is an important source of wildlife. We’ve had kingfishers, owls, ducks, geese, frogs and a wide variety. This is a huge part of what makes me love living in this area.

## Trees

- **Alternative #3:** “Irrigate selected trees-remove others that are a fire danger- What’s wrong with watering trees along the canal? How will removing all of these trees effect hillside stability?”
- **Alternative #4:** “On our property, pines continually send roots into our sewer pipes, causing clogs and ‘transpiration’. How would that problem be avoided in this pipeline?”
- **Alternative #3:** “+ Save the Trees!”
- **Alternative #3:** “Use ‘grant’ money to systematically repair the ‘ugly’ then ‘bad’ then ‘good’ sections and not cut 280+ trees.”
- **Alternative #4:** Necessity of large tree removal with 1-3 is a major impact that is not necessary.”
- **Alternative #4:** Surviving trees will be drier, and plan includes removing largest trees that are more fire resistant. How does this improve our fire safety?”
- **Alternative #4:** “Who is financially responsible for trees that die due to water loss after project completion?”

## Property Values

- **Alternative #1:** “If a homeowner can show adverse effects to property value, are any funds available for compensation?”
- **Alternative # 4:** “Very important to assess the loss of property value. Julies comment that a realter reports tree removal will increase the view and the value is simply not reasonable. Will the City reimburse home owners for loss of value?”
- **Alternative #4:** How many people with real estate interests (developers, large landowners, real estate agents) are on the advisory group?

## Trails

- **Alternative #1:** “Would definitely like trails to stay the same and increase! (Make sure gardens aren’t planted on the path to eliminate trails) Would actually like TID to do what you’re proposing (Tolman to Starlite)”
- **Alternative #3:** “Pls focus on trail system and coordinate w/ Parks. The beauty of the trails is my top priority.”
- **Alternative #3:** “Consider the suggestion of creating a parkland. The aesthetics is of major importance to our community.”
- **Alternative #3:** “Consider declaring canal Parklands.”
- **Alternative #3:** “The trail by our house is of ‘granitic soil’- well drained in winter. The trail new section(?) that was replaced when piped several years ago has turned to mud- what’s the future for trail adjacent to new pipe?”
- **Alternative #4:** “+ Parkland. Project- too expensive for gains which will be minimal.”
- **Alternative #4:** Convert to park land.
- **No Alternative Selected:** “Alternative #5, set aside City owned portion of ditch as Parkland, retain open flow, but enhance natural canopy to reduce evaporation & liner repair as is necessary.”

## Water Quality (E. coli)

- **Alternative #3:** “AND investigate other non-conventional solutions to E. coli mitigation including upstream contamination.”
- **Alternative #4:** What caused the dip in contamination between 2010 and 2018? Can we do more of that? In the 20 years we’ve walked the ditch, the amount of dog poop has decreased exponentially, how much would more communication and enforcement further decrease E.coli contamination? The project will do nothing to decrease contamination in the water before it reaches the Ashland section.
- **No Alternative Selected:** How about re-routing water from canal **NOT into creek**”

## Water Efficiency (Seepage)

- **Alternative #4:** I understand the urgency of preserving our access to water especially in the face of a drier future. But I feel the City is steamrolling this project through without paying regard to other more progressive ways of ensuring we have enough water.
- **Alternative #3:** Only 10% lost in evaporation, IF ditch is relined?
- **Alternative #4:** “Actually do maintenance up \$ amount. Patch it up-slow the seepage rate that way.”
- **Alternative #4:** There was a lot of emphasis on the number of additional properties that could be served if this water loss were stopped. Where are these additional 800 properties? And why should taxpayers foot the bill for their irrigation?
- **Alternative #4:** The project will do nothing to decrease water loss upstream.
- **Alternative #4:** “For now because a heap of BS is being used to observe the difference between #1 + 3 which for the H2O savings turns out to be 2% water savings the depth to which is being hidden makes me very suspicious that we are being intentionally mislead in order to push #1.
- **Alternative #3 or 4:** “Why do we want more water, just to sell it?”

## Long-term Maintenance/ Alternative #5

- **Alternative #4:** What about collaborating with other towns to maintain + repair larger sections of the canal?
- **Alternative #4:** Cheapest-MAINTAIN WHAT YOU NEGLECTED- DROUGHT CONTINUES + DEEPENS- may not have TID like we think. **Also lists Alternative #3 as second choice.**
- **Alternative #3-4 Hybrid:** “I’d prefer fixing this liner.”
- **No Alternative Selected:** “Alternative #5, reline the ditch and cover w/cement slabs. Cheaper, easily done, fewer tree loss etc.”
- **No Alternative Selected:** “Alternative #5, set aside City owned portion of ditch as Parkland, retain open flow, but enhance natural canopy to reduce evaporation & liner repair as is necessary.”

## Project Construction

- **Alternative #3:** How will my 5 pets and elderly father be able to live without a driveway w/ medical concerns?” **Also Listed Alternative #4 as second choice and Alternative #2 as third choice.**
- **Alternative #4:** Use polypropylene liner not concrete lining.”

## Supports Project

- **Alternative #1:** “As water rights becomes more scarce, we need to save what we can + Irrigation piping is increasing.” Pete Jorgensen, [gp.pete.jorg@gmail.com](mailto:gp.pete.jorg@gmail.com).
- **Alternative #1:** “Without a doubt”.

## Opposes Project

- **Alternative #3:** “Please listen to the citizens.”
- **Alternative #4:** “I strongly oppose the 1<sup>st</sup> two alternatives, there might be even more better alternative than these four.” **Also listed Alternative #3 as second choice.**
- **Alternative #4:** A public referendum should be necessary.”

## Need More Information

- **Alternative #3:** “Alternative #3 at this point. There are too many questions left unanswered.”
- **Alternative #3:** “We do need to rehab the liner. But another method of maintaining/rehab needs to be researched.”
- **Alternative #3:** Regarding not having all the answers until Council approves go ahead to final engineering-if it goes to that step can we still stop the implementation?”
- **Alternative #4:** “Wait-Do nothing until public more educated and informed.
- **No Alternative Selected:** “Don’t know. Need to see ROI scenario analysis.”

## Other Comments

- **No Alternative Selected:** “Firstly, I can see the need for logging in order to have defensive urban/forest interface-fire protection. I can see the need to eliminate seepage by installing an HDPE pipe and doing necessary elevation, but leave existing canal in place. TID outfall yearly put into Ashland Creek @ Lithia park, which contaminates Ashland Creek... City Public Works said it is necessary to run sewer plant in summer. So, take 1-2 million & put it into upgrading sewer plant building, settling ponds etc. 1 Million for my ideas on front side. -E.Coli contamination starts via cattle grazing & public use of Howard Prairie Reservoir!!!. No mention of this by Ashland Public Works. Ashland needs a homeless shelter more than this PORK. Where are your priorities???
- What’s the frequency of drownings accidents etc....?
- Why isn’t the money already contributed by citizens enough? (TAP)
- What is the cost to date of preliminary work and is it part of the cost or an addition?
- What about storm drainage and run off?
- Does the projected cost include landscaping (replacing current)?
- Concern for large old growth trees and landscaping. What about value of downed timber, lawsuits?