

GROUNDWATER

The Willits City Council has approved the development of a Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) for the Little Lake Valley Groundwater Basin in order to secure previously-approved grant funding to bolster the City's water supply by improving groundwater production capacity. The preparation of a Groundwater Management Plan is required as part of the conditions of the half million-dollar Proposition 1 grant funding that the City will receive from California Department of Water Resources to construct the next phase of the groundwater project.

The Groundwater Management Plan will consider groundwater level monitoring and management needs; groundwater recharge areas, and policies and projects to facilitate protection against groundwater quality degradation, land subsidence, and changes in surface flow and water quality due to groundwater pumping. While the City will consider the entire groundwater basin in its planning process, the projects and recommendations presented in the Plan will only be proposed for areas within the City of Willits jurisdiction.

Stakeholder participation is essential in development of a groundwater management plan. Stakeholders are parties that may be affected by groundwater use and management measures, including agricultural entities, domestic well owners, public/private water districts, local agencies, resource agencies, environmental community representatives, tribes, and the public at large. These local stakeholders will help to define current and anticipated groundwater management issues and opportunities, goals and objectives. Two public workshops will be held to provide information and solicit input, with the first public workshop anticipated in Winter 2020, and the second workshop anticipated for Spring 2020.

Please continue to watch this page for updates regarding the plan development process, as well as a tool to sign up to receive email updates regarding plan development. For now, should you have additional questions or concerns regarding the planning process, please contact us at: engineering@cityofwillits.org.