

Below, you will find an article on 2023 Capital Improvement (CI) Projects, including a summary on CI monies spent for the year.

## 2023 Capital Improvement Projects

In prior newsletters, we've highlighted the importance of infrastructure investments and capital improvement program (CIP) projects that are funded in part by capital surcharges, per the PUD's Asset Management Plan (AMP). Our staff strives to provide up-to-date information on these projects to help customers better understand the work needed to keep safe drinking water flowing. To help answer some of the most frequently-asked questions about replacements, the AMP, and the CIP, a list of this information has been compiled below for your review.

### What is an Asset Management Plan?

An Asset Management Plan (AMP) is a financial planning tool we use when water system components will reach the end of their life cycles. We predict costs which helps us determine how much we need to budget each year. Staff has created an AMP for each of the 276 water systems owned and operated by the PUD.

### What is a Capital Improvement?

A capital improvement is a permanent structural change, addition, or alteration to infrastructure that adds to the value of the infrastructure or prolongs its useful life.

### What is the Capital Surcharge? Why is it charged?

The Capital Surcharge is a financial tool used to help fund infrastructure replacements and capital improvements based on a water system's Asset Management Plan (AMP). Capital surcharges are used to help fund system replacements at the end of an asset's life cycle. The capital surcharge is paid by all PUD customers and infrastructure replacement costs are shared by all PUD customers. This means if your water system has a component failure, the cost is covered through your rates and capital surcharges.

### What capital projects or improvements does my system need?

As stated previously, the PUD has created an AMP for each of the PUD's 276 water systems. Based on a water system's AMP, we projected and budgeted several CIP projects for 2023. You can find the current year's Capital Budget on our website at [www.thurstonpud.org/our-rates.htm](http://www.thurstonpud.org/our-rates.htm).

Below is a summary of capital improvement projects that were completed through December 2023.

Asset Management Plan (AMP) Work Completed in 2023	
Description	Cost
Pumphouse	\$ 217,850
Treatment Replacement/Upgrades	\$ 32,742
Pressure Tanks	\$ 13,134
System Upgrades	\$ 95,959
Electrical Replacements	\$ 79,525
Service/Source Meters	\$ 58,606
Pump Replacements	\$ 94,178
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 591,995</b>

For more information on your specific water system and its AMP, please contact our office at (360) 357-8783, toll-free at (866) 357-8783, or via email at [PUDCustomerService@thurstonpud.org](mailto:PUDCustomerService@thurstonpud.org).



According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, replacing a clock-based irrigation controller with a WaterSense-labeled irrigation controller can reduce an average home's irrigation water use by up to 30 percent and can save an average home up to 15,000 gallons of water annually.

(Source: <https://www.epa.gov/watersense/statistics-and-facts>)