

EVALUATING A COMMUNITY-WIDE DRINKING WATER SOLUTION

COMMUNITY-WIDE SOLUTION EVALUATION PROCESS

Property owners can always choose individual options that may workwo for them, such as installing in-home filtration or digging their wells deeper. But **a solution that works for every resident of West Glen needs to deliver clean drinking water at an affordable cost.** Willamette Partnership was asked to evaluate alternative options that do not require extending the City’s drinking water service.



HOW DID WE EVALUATE EACH SOLUTION?

Community-wide solutions must meet all four basic criteria to deliver clean affordable drinking water for West Glen residents.

CRITERIA

- Effective** – drinking water that meets EPA-accepted nitrate concentration standards
- Comprehensive** – clean water for all West Glen residents
- Permissible** – all permits or water rights can be obtained
- Affordable** – monthly drinking water costs are affordable for households earning Morrow County's median income

WHAT IS AFFORDABLE?

Every family has different budgets and incomes so what is affordable differs from home to home. The US EPA has found that total water costs (drinking water and wastewater) of 2.5% of household income is generally affordable for families. **Morrow County’s median household income is \$70,217 (2023 estimates) so water costs should be less than \$1,755 per year (\$146.25 per month) to be below the 2.5% affordability level.** However, an income survey of West Glen residents is needed to determine what is affordable for the community.