



Case Study Category: MPDW

Case Study Title: Asset Management Plan for Water Distribution Mains in Portland Water Bureau, Portland, Oregon

Utility Name: Portland Water Bureau

Case Study Abstract: This case study summarizes Portland Water Bureau's (PWB's) Asset Management Plan (AMP) for water distribution mains, which make up approximately 40% of the value of Portland's water system. Because mains are some of the longest lasting assets in the water system, only about 20% of PWB's annual budget is currently devoted to water main expansion, renewal, operation, and maintenance. The current emphasis on discretionary spending on distribution mains has gone into eliminating small, leaky mains from the system. Though smaller breaks are a more regular occurrence than large breaks, the consequences of large breaks can be extreme. Therefore, the AMP suggests that PWB should work to prevent large scale failures to the extent possible. A shift in spending towards risk analysis and proactive intervention will provide a greater overall benefit to the system than spending to replace relatively inconsequential small leaky mains.

Case Study Link: <http://waterid.org/content/asset-management-plan-water-distribution-mains-portland-water-bureau-portland-oregon>