

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund



City of Vader

Lewis County takeover brings improvements

In 2010, this small city in southern Lewis County was facing an insurmountable crisis. The city had experienced 17 system-wide water outages over the past two years as a result of water main breaks they didn't have the funds to fix.



Photo Courtesy Lewis County Public Works

Lewis County Road operations staff replaced this section of broken segment of transite water main in Vader on Dec. 9, 2011.

To become eligible for financial aid, the city voluntarily transferred the ownership of their antiquated water system to Lewis County through a state-brokered receivership agreement in 2010.

At the time, Vader's water system was losing nearly half of its treated water through brittle transite pipes and service line leaks. There were 22 main breaks and treatment violations from 2006 to 2009 forced residents to boil their water to make it safe to drink.

Lewis County acquired a \$714,675 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan and \$613,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds to help finance improvements for Vader.

The project included replacing about 6,000 feet of brittle 2- to 6-inch water lines with new 4- to 8-inch mains. It also included installing valves to isolate critical lines and at existing hydrants, placing hydrants at critical areas, installing approximately 245 service meters with automation technology, and building a bypass at the water treatment plant to discharge raw water directly to the backwash basins during high-turbidity events.

Project benefits

The improvements solved a number of public health concerns, and provided residents with a safe and reliable supply of drinking water. Replacing service meters will enable Lewis County to reduce non-revenue water losses. The project is expected to be complete by April 2015.

Lewis County: Vader Water System Upgrades	
Funding Source	Amount
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund	\$714,675
Community Development Block Grant	\$613,000
Total budgeted to date	\$1,334,822
50% loan subsidy saved the city \$357,337.	

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