

# Utilities

## Introduction

The Utilities Element provides an inventory of existing utilities, current capacities, and identifies future needs to accommodate for the expected population growth. Many public and private agencies are involved in the regulation, coordination, production, delivery, and supply of utility services. The utilities discussed in this element include electrical, telecommunication, water, and natural gas (which is currently not provided in the city).

The inventory presented in this element provides information useful to the planning process. Please refer to the Capital Facilities Element for information on the City's domestic water, sanitary sewer, and stormwater facilities.





# Utilities Inventory

---

## CITY PROVIDED UTILITIES

The City's domestic water, sanitary sewer, and stormwater facilities are referenced and inventoried in the Capital Facilities Element.

## ELECTRICAL

All public electric power in the planning area is provided by the Chelan County Public Utility District #1 (PUD), a special purpose public agency that is governed by an elected board of commissioners. The PUD, as a public utility, provides electrical service in its service area, which includes parts of Okanogan and Kittitas counties in addition to Chelan County. The Chelan County PUD offers various rebates for residential and commercial customers to promote energy efficiency and weatherization efforts. They have also been working to develop a Wildfire Mitigation Program to protect communities and increase the resiliency of the electrical grid.

The PUD has been working with the city and community since 2015 to construct a new substation and associated transmission lines to serve the Leavenworth area and increase capacity. Construction of a new substation at North Road/Chumstick Highway is currently underway with anticipated completion in 2026. The PUD is also working to rebuild the Leavenworth Substation (near the Chelan PUD office in Leavenworth) by installing a second transformer adjacent to the existing one, with anticipated completion in 2027.

This plan adopts the Chelan County PUD's 50-year plan, Imagine 2075<sup>1</sup>, and the 2025 Integrated Resource Plan<sup>2</sup>.

### **CHELAN COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITIES DISTRICT (PUD)**

Leavenworth Office

Phone: 509-548-7761

Email: [customerhelp@chelanpud.org](mailto:customerhelp@chelanpud.org)

Address: 222 Chumstick Highway, Leavenworth, WA 98826

## TELECOMMUNICATION, TV, CABLE, AND INTERNET

Frontier and LocalTel provide many services within Leavenworth and its planning area. Charter provides Spectrum TV™, internet and phone services within Leavenworth and its planning area and holds a franchise agreement

---

<sup>1</sup> Imagine 2075, <https://www.chelanpud.org/about-us/imagine-2075>

<sup>2</sup> Integrated Resource Plan (2025), <https://www.chelanpud.org/environment/operating-responsibly/integrated-resource-plan>

with the City of Leavenworth. The city is also served by providers such as Verizon, T-Mobile, and AT&T for cellular and telephone service. Cellular and optical fiber technologies are transforming the way service is delivered in Chelan County. Like electricity, the provision of telecommunication services is driven by the needs of its customers. As the city and county grow, telecommunication facilities will be upgraded to ensure adequate service levels. It is also feasible that facilities are upgraded as technology advances.

## WATER

The Icicle Irrigation District (IID) was formed as an official irrigation district in 1917. The Icicle Irrigation District is made up of approximately 39 miles of canals, pipelines, flumes, and tunnels. The Peshastin Irrigation District (PID) serves about 3,700 acres along the west side of the Wenatchee River, from just south of the Leavenworth siphon to just west of the City of Cashmere. The two districts are under the same management and are collectively known as the Icicle/Peshastin Irrigation District (IPID), which together serve 8,000 acres of farmland.

The Icicle and Peshastin Irrigation District (IPID) and the City of Leavenworth are also members of the [Icicle Strategy](#), a working group that was established to find collaborative solutions to water supply problems in the watershed.

### ICICLE/PESHASTIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Phone: 509-782-2561

Email: [iid.pid@nwi.net](mailto:iid.pid@nwi.net)

Address: PO Box 371, 5594 Wescott Cashmere, WA 98815-0371


## NATURAL GAS

The City is not served by natural gas; however, individuals may install and use propane systems with a city building permit.



# Goals and Policies

---

Goals and policies with a mountain icon  contribute to the Climate Resilience Element.

## **Goal UT 1. Provide public utilities in a manner that is compatible with the natural environment and ensures the orderly development of land.**

**Policy UT 1.1.** Require effective and timely coordination of all public and private utility trenching activities including:

- ◆ Encourage Chelan County, Washington State Department of Transportation, and the City of Leavenworth to coordinate their roadway projects with planned utility expansions, improvements, or extensions where shared sites or rights-of-way may be appropriate.
- ◆ Encourage coordinated planning among Chelan County, the PUD, the City of Leavenworth, irrigation districts, and other utility purveyors for utility expansions, extensions, and improvements, with an emphasis on the efficient use of shared sites and rights-of-way.
- ◆ Encourage the consolidation of utility and communication facilities where feasible.

**Policy UT 1.2.** Coordinate the review of utility permit applications with the review of the related project permit, and, when feasible, approve utility permits concurrently with project permit approval.

**Policy UT 1.3.** Consider development requirements that reduce cost of placing and maintaining utilities, such as alternative methods to open cut trenching like directional drilling and/or boring.

**Policy UT 1.4.** Consider reducing or waiving connection fees for affordable housing, including those owned or developed by, or on behalf of, a nonprofit organization, public development authority, housing authority, or a local agency that provides emergency shelter or emergency housing.

**Policy UT 1.5.** Require the placement of cellular communication facilities in a manner that minimizes the adverse impacts on adjacent land uses. Encourage the use of stealth or screening measures to reduce visual clutter.

**Policy UT 1.6.** Encourage conservation and use of cost-effective alternative energy sources for new and remodeling construction activities.


---


**Goal UT 2. Ensure cooperation and collaboration between the city and utility providers to develop vegetation management plans and policies for utility corridors.**


**Policy UT 2.1.** Coordinate with the Chelan County PUD to educate the public on how to avoid potential conflicts between vegetation and utility infrastructure through campaigns like “Right Tree, Right Place”.


**Policy UT 2.2.** Coordinate with the Chelan County PUD to reduce potential conflicts between utility infrastructure and critical areas, such as through the consideration of alternate utility routes, coordinated vegetation management activities, and/or long-term vegetation management plans.

---

 **Goal UT 3. Ensure that energy infrastructure – including generation and transmission – is able to accommodate renewable energy opportunities and can withstand and recover quickly from the impacts of extreme weather events and other natural hazards worsened by climate change.**


 **Policy UT 3.1.** Work with energy utilities to improve the safety and reliability of infrastructure vulnerable to climate change.


 **Policy UT 3.2.** Continue to work with Chelan County PUD to increase the resiliency of the electric grid and reduce the risk of wildfires through maintenance, upgrades, and vegetation management, among other methods.

 **Policy UT 3.3.** Require all new and existing transmission lines, electrical distribution, and communication lines to be installed underground, where feasible.

---

 **Goal UT 4. Encourage renewable energy, conservation, and energy-efficient technologies and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.**

 **Policy UT 4.1.** Encourage the retrofit of existing buildings for energy efficiency, where feasible.

 **Policy UT 4.2.** Require all publicly owned buildings to be powered completely by renewable energy, where feasible.

- ▲ **Policy UT 4.3.** Support the development, use, and integration of renewable energy systems, energy conservation measures, and energy-efficient technologies within public utility systems to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

▲ **Goal UT 5. Collaborate with the Icicle Irrigation District to sustainably manage water resources, increase the resilience of water resources to climate-exacerbated natural hazards, and protect water quality.**

- ▲ **Policy UT 5.1.** Manage water resources sustainably in the face of climate change through plant selection, landscape management, use of low-flow water fixtures, and wastewater reuse.
- ▲ **Policy UT 5.2.** Encourage the adoption of sustainable agriculture waste-management practices to reduce emissions and water contamination.

**SEE ALSO:**

Additional utilities-related policies can be found in Land Use Policies 1.4 and 1.5, and additional policies related to the sustainable water management can be found in the Capital Facilities Element.

