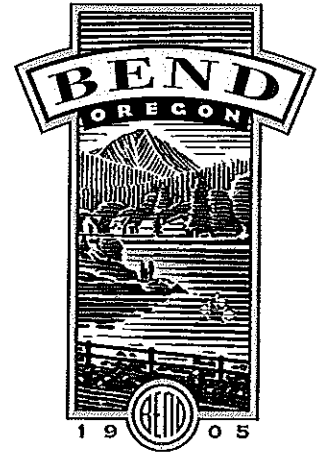


April 10, 2015

Senator Chris Edwards, Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and  
Natural Resources  
Oregon State Legislature  
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: SUPPORT Senate Bill 266 -7

Dear Chair Edwards, and Committee Members:



710 NW WALL STREET  
PO BOX 431  
BEND, OR 97701  
[541] 388-5505 TEL  
[541] 385-6676 FAX  
BENDOREGON.GOV

The City of Bend supports the latest version of SB 266 -7 which we understand blends the best amendments and is supported by OWRD.

The City of Bend is required to provide an adequate, reliable, safe and cost effective water supply for its residents and visitors. Water management in Central Oregon is, however, a complex endeavor and will need additional support. Why?

- The surface waters in the Deschutes Basin are generally not available for new use;
- Since 2002, new groundwater use can only occur with "mitigation" approved by Oregon Water Resources Department;
- Water supply imbalances exist between agricultural use, instream resources, and the need for potable water supply; and
- Several critical stream reaches are in need of restoration.

JIM CLINTON  
*Mayor*

SALLY RUSSELL  
*Mayor Pro Tem*

VICTOR CHUDOWSKY  
*City Councilor*

DOUG KNIGHT  
*City Councilor*

NATHAN BODDIE  
*City Councilor*

CASEY ROATS  
*City Councilor*

BARB CAMPBELL  
*City Councilor*

ERIC KING  
*City Manager*

As an original member of the Policy Advisory Group of Oregon's recently adopted Integrated Water Resource Strategy, and currently serving on its SB 839 Governance Taskforce, it is clear that additional support from the state of Oregon will be required to maintain local "collaborative planning capacity" and we need OWRD to commit additional staff to assist in coordinating and supporting these regional, "basin level" efforts – both of which are absolutely critical for the ongoing success in meeting ALL future water supply needs, both instream and out-of-stream .

Thank you for this opportunity to express the City of Bend's support for SB 266.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patrick Griffiths".

Patrick Griffiths, City of Bend Water Resources Manager