

Hamre Jaime

From: Peggy Lee Combs <peggyleecombs@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 2:44 PM
To: HAGNR Exhibits
Subject: HB 4029 Deschutes River

Please do not support any bill which would prohibit a bridge or access to the river. The river trail system and access to it has been an important part of the development of this area. The river trails in public areas should remain open to the public with many areas to access the trail. It has always been planned to have the trail extend from Tumalo to Sunriver as much as possible. I don't know of any reason folks would want to change this now.

If homeowners can afford to own private property with river frontage, that's great. However, the only way to ensure that all folks would have access to the river and river trails is to continue the proper development of the river trail system and access to the river for all.

Citizens should not have to drive so far from their homes to access the river trails. Consequently, the river trail system and bridges are very necessary. In Central Oregon the Deschutes River and the trail system are an important part of the recreation and economy here.

There was a bridge long-planned for on the South Edge of town that would be a very important connection. It would allow hikers to access the West side of the river and national forest land. It would keep them on designated trails instead of marring the land. It would keep people from having to navigate traffic and find parking to access both sides of the river. This was a very important and long-planned connector. Other city funds were spent in anticipation getting ready for this last step. We do not want that to be all for nothing. Why the change in plans now?

Evidently at previous hearings nearly 80 percent of the populous wants this. I have a hunch that the few who do not want this just don't want it in their back yard. Please stick with the majority.

Thank you for allowing this input.

Sincerely,
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