

Tillamook County



Land of Cheese, Trees and Ocean Breeze

Board of Commissioners
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February 27, 2019

Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development
Senator James Manning, Jr. (Co-Chair)
Representative David Gomberg (Co-Chair)
Senator Jeff Golden
Senator Bill Hansell
Representative Paul Evans
Representative Gary Leif
Representative Rachel Prusak
Representative Duane Stark

900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: 2019-2021 Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF)

Dear Members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development,

Please accept this letter as confirmation of our support for the Governor's Regional Solutions Program and one of its important tools, which is the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) within Business Oregon's budget.

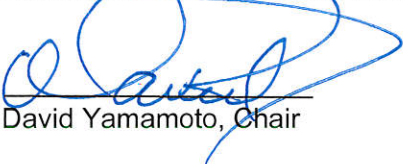
We recognize the importance of putting dollars on the ground with local authorities to support regional infrastructure priority projects. We have found a true benefit in the role of the Regional Solutions program in our community due to the program's ability to identify priorities, solve problems, and seize opportunities to get specific projects completed. In addition to the Regional Solutions Team helping with project coordination, technical assistance, streamlining, and facilitation, the RIF had a significant impact on one of our priority projects.

The North Coast Regional Solutions Team is working with Tillamook County to address limited emergency access for the unincorporated community of Neskowin, located in south Tillamook County. Oregon state fire code requires communities of over 29 residences to have two access roads. Neskowin has several hundred homes and only one access across a narrow bridge which is at risk of failing in a flood or emergency event.

A Regional Solutions investment of \$150,000 provided the final funding needed to complete preliminary design and engineering of a second access that will serve the community during an emergency. This support leveraged \$100,000 in contributions from residents of Neskowin and \$300,000 from Tillamook County to ensure advancement of this regionally significant project. Permitting is currently underway and the County is seeking funding for construction. The Regional Solutions Team and Regional Infrastructure Funding were instrumental in addressing our community resiliency objectives.

Respectfully,

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON


David Yamamoto, Chair


Bill Baertlein, Vice-Chair


Mary Faith Bell, Commissioner