



April 19, 2019

Representative Paul Holvey, Co-Chair
Senator Fred Girod, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE,
Room H-178
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-Chairs:

This letter is written in support of the \$13 million water and waste water treatment infrastructure funding request for The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

The closures of both Kah-Nee-Ta and the Warm Springs Forest Product Enterprises have devastated a community that is already 70 % below the federal poverty level.

Recent, Oregon Public Broadcasting stories on a potential Environmental Protection Agency shutdown of the water treatment plant highlight the absolutely critical water situation in Warm Springs. Band aide federal funding of \$447,000 from Housing and Urban Development, as well as, \$385,000 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs will provide grant funding to patch immediate needs but will not solve the long-term crisis.

Few state priorities could be more important, that providing drinkable water and working sewers. We encourage the Subcommittee to include water and waste water treatment funding from the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs in HB 5030.

Sincerely,

Daniel Bonham
State Representative, House District 59

Cliff Bentz
State Senator, Senate District 30



Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Oregon
Office of the Chief Operations Officer
PO Box 455
Warm Springs, OR 97761
Phone: 541-553-3212
Fax: 541-553-2236

April 19, 2019

Senator Cliff Bentz
900 Court Street NE, S-403
Salem, Oregon 97301
Email: Sen.CliffBentz@oregonlegislature.gov

Representative Daniel Bonham
900 Court Street NE, H-483
Salem, Oregon 97301
Email: Rep.DanielBonham@oregonlegislature.gov

Dear Senator Bentz and Representative Bonham,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit an infrastructure needs statement on behalf of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs for consideration in the Ways and Means Capital Construction Subcommittee meeting scheduled for April 19, 2019.

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs ("Tribe") has been challenged for decades with aging water and sewer systems which are major barriers to economic and community growth, housing development, and job creation on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. While there has been progress to address major deficiencies at the Warm Springs Water Treatment Plant and the Warm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant, large capital infrastructure investments are needed in order for the Tribe to have strong utility foundation to build upon.

Critical infrastructure needs include:

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|---|---------------------|
| <i>Downtown Public Works Infrastructure Project</i> | <i>\$3,780,500</i> |
| <i>Business/Industrial Park Public Works Infrastructure Project</i> | <i>\$1,419,144</i> |
| <i>Warm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant Update</i> | <i>\$1,300,020</i> |
| <i>Water Meter Project</i> | <i>\$2,500,000</i> |
| <i>Water Distribution Project</i> | <i>\$4,000,050</i> |
| TOTAL | \$12,999,714 |

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information on any of the projects listed below. I can be reached by email at alyssa.macy@wstribes.org or by phone at 541-553-3212.

Sincerely,


Alyssa Macy
Chief Operations Officer



Downtown Public Works Infrastructure Project – \$3,780,500

The largest population center on the reservation is the community of Warm Springs, located off of Highway 26. The downtown campus area has been a focus for economic development but existing water and sewer infrastructure is old and deteriorating. This infrastructure was originally constructed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Proposed development in this area would require removal and replacement of the existing sewer mains and services and water mains and services, requiring approximately 8,600 lineal feet of new 8-inch sewer main, 30 sewer service connections, 12,700 lineal feet of 8-inch water main, and 30 water connections. The BIA has not made any progress on providing funding to the Tribes to replace this infrastructure, thus preventing the Tribe from developing an area that is highly marketable, located off a major highway, and ripe for development.

A detailed budget that breaks down the construction cost is available by request and was scoped in 2012. Figures have been adjusted for inflation.

Business/Industrial Park Public Works Infrastructure Project - \$1,419,144

The industrial park along Holliday Street is not currently served by a public sewage system. Although this area is served by the Warm Springs Water Treatment Plant, the individual buildings located in the area are all dependent on septic tank/drain fields for sewage treatment and disposal. The Tribe recognizes that continued development and expansion of the industrial park cannot occur without having a sewage collection system that is tied into the Warm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Tribe has identified 15 existing septic systems, distribution boxes and drain field lines of various sizes in the 30 acre industrial park area. This project would remove these septic systems including the concrete septic tanks, distribution boxes and drain fields, thus restoring land to its original state and making additional acreage available for potential development. Additionally, the project would install sewage lines in the Industrial Park which would connect existing facilities to the Warm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant.

A detailed budget that breaks down the construction cost is available by request and was scoped in 2018.

Warm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant Update \$1,300,020

The Wastewater Treatment Plant, located on Victory Lane, recently received funding from Indian Health Service (HIS) to support needed improvements to the facility. The total cost of improvements that were scoped by is \$2,581,000 and the Tribe has a required \$335,000 match. There are an additional number of improvements that need to be made to the facility that will ensure that the facility can adequately manage increased volume from the industrial park and the downtown campus area.

A detailed budget that breaks down the construction cost is available by request and was scoped in 2012. Figures have been adjusted for inflation.

Water Meter Project - \$ 2,500,000

A Drinking Water Metering System Preliminary Engineering Report was completed July 2017 which focused on the Tribes effort to develop a drinking water metering system, water metering installation program, and a utility billing system. The Tribe currently does not have the ability to determinate water usage or leakage within the system. The current use of water is estimated to



be higher than what Bend uses on a daily basis. Installation of water meters is also a key component for the Tribe to implement so that it to be prepared for the development of a new water treatment plant currently planned to start construction in 2022 (estimated cost \$31 - \$40 million). This project would install water meters on 1,298 service connections in the primary community of Warm Springs at a cost of approximately \$2,500,000. Meters have already been installed in the Simnasho/Schoolie Flats area (81) and Sidwalter (38).

Water Distribution Project – \$4,000,050

In September and November 2018, the Tribe experienced successive breaks to a 14-inch steel pipe that crosses Shitike Creek. The November break resulted in an interruption of water service to a large portion of the community, including the health clinic, child care facilities, Warm Springs K-8 Academy, an assisted living facility, and the Tribal Administration building. The Tribe had to issue a week-long boil water notice for most of the system. The Tribe requested assistance from the IHS to assist with the preliminary engineering for a redundant water main crossing at Shitike Creek to improve the reliability of the water distribution system. The soil borings, site investigations, and geotechnical analysis is currently underway and initial estimates to install a redundant line are approximately \$2,500,000.

Numerous vaults located in the community of Warm Springs are failing and as a result, water pressure in the system is high. The Tribe believe that the breaks along Shitike Creek were tied to the continued, intense water pressure in the system. Four vaults are in critical need of replacement at an estimated cost of \$1,500,000.

The community of Warm Springs is highly susceptible to wildfire and in recent years these fires have traveled into the community of Warm Springs. Twenty-seven fire hydrants throughout the community of Warm Springs are in need of replacement to ensure adequate fire protection for homes and business. The estimated cost to replace the fire hydrants is \$50,000.

