

Senator Chuck Riley, Chair
Oregon Senate Committee on Business and General Government

RE: Testimony for HB 3099A Public Hearing on May 14, 2019

Honorable Chuck Riley and Members of the Committee,

My name is Glen Sachet. I'm a resident of Happy Valley and still in the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District and I'm writing to ask for your **support** of House Bill 3099.

By way of background, I have lived in Happy Valley for a little over two years. Prior to that, I lived in unincorporated Clackamas County for 29 years as a resident of the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District. I voted in support to form the District and every single levy since its formation. I also voted in support of every single Metro measure, every school, fire, police, water, surface water and sewer bond measure or levy since moving here in 1988. I am also a member of the Happy Valley Parks Advisory Committee. In addition, I have 37 years professional experience with the US Forest Service developing and administering permits, agreements and grants.

As a member of the Parks Advisory Committee and professional grant and agreement administrator, I expect the parties to perform. Specifically, in this case, the NCPRD agreed to deliver four products to the City of Happy Valley. They didn't perform, nor was there any intention to perform, and were ruled by the Circuit Court to have breached the agreement.

Last year at this time, Happy Valley residents overwhelmingly voted for a tax levy to pay for our own Happy Valley Parks and Recreation District. I believe the City will meet their commitments and we will get what we are paying for.

House Bill 3099 is critical because it provides a path for the people to vote on who provides the services they are paying for. If a City votes to enter a Special District, then they should be able to vote to leave it. House Bill 3099 provides more accountability of local government to the people. Without it, we are trapped in a District with no reasonable way out, and with a partner with no reasonable expectation of meeting their commitments. This bill would provide an open and public process where the city residents will have an opportunity to vote on the decision to withdraw.

Finally, there is a fundamental principle of partnerships at play. Administrative partnerships don't last indefinitely. Even when there is an established time frame, the needs, objectives and performance can change. When this happens, there must be a clear and equitable process to exit the formal partnership. This is Partnerships 101 and should be instituted by law.

Thank you,

Sincerely,
Glen Sachet