



Sen. Betsy Johnson, Co-Chair
Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, Co-Chair
Rep. Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Ways & Means Committee
900 Court St NE, Room H-178
Salem, OR 97301

Monday, April 12, 2021

Co-Chairs Johnson, Rayfield and Steiner Hayward,

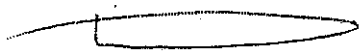
On the behalf of the City of Rainier, I would like to express my strong support for the City's request for \$90,000-\$120,000 in ARPA funds for Congressional District 1 for the Fox Creek feasibility study.

A portion of Fox Creek currently runs underneath a combination of public and private property, between Highway 30 and C Street here in Rainier. The culverts on either side of this portion are of differing sizes, and this has caused a series of issues pertaining to flooding. Additionally, it has complicated the ability of fish to pass from the Columbia River upstream to the portion of Fox Creek beyond C Street.

Fixing these problems has long been identified as a priority for the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). But in order to move forward with any work, that could potentially involve daylighting parts of the creek, there needs to be a solid plan moving forward.

ODFW has indicated a willingness to assist with the scoping work of the study and the City is happy to partner with that agency as part of this project. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,



W. Scott Jorgensen, Executive MPA
City Administrator