

CITY OF MOSIER
small enough to make a difference

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TRANSMITTAL TESTIMONY FOR PUBLIC HEARING 4/17/21

To: Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Date: April 16, 2021
From: City of Mosier City Council / Mayor Arlene Burns
Re: Testimony for Public Hearing 4/17/21, 1 – 3 p.m.

Please find the attached two projects as the City of Mosier's testimony and case for appropriations as you consider priorities for the state's \$2.6 billion in funds from the American Rescue Plan Act.

We're happy to provide additional information as needed. Thank you!

Mayor Arlene Burns
City of Mosier
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541.399.6780



MOSIER CENTER

CITY HALL | COMMUNITY CENTER | FIRE STATION

A 'net zero' facility to support regional safety & economic vitality in the heart of the Gorge



Regional Fire & EMS Support Mosier is a small but growing and increasingly diverse community that supports The Dalles & Hood River as well as other communities in the region via Mutual Aid agreements. Mosier Fire also regularly assists accidents along I-84, at rest stops and within Memaloose State Park. This facility will provide much needed space for ongoing fire and medical training. It is also slated to be the first certified net zero fire station in the country.

After a 2016 oil train derailment, 2018 Memaloose I & II fires and 2020 Mosier Creek, Dry Creek and Seven Mile fires, the City of Mosier and Mosier Fire District have recognized a dire need for community resilience. We are now more determined than ever to build the "Mosier Center" with state of the art emergency and public services.



Ability to serve as 'Command Central' for Emergencies

Mosier Fire has hosted several conflagrations in the last decade including the Microwave Fire in 2011, the Oil Train Derailment in 2016, and subsequent Memaloose fires in 2018 and the catastrophic Mosier Creek fires in 2020. With growing fire dangers in the area we are likely to host more in the coming decades. The location is also a key communications check point in local emergency plans.

COST: \$6.5 Million
FUNDS REQUEST:
\$750,000 State
\$650,000 Federal
MATCH FUNDS:
\$5.15 Million
CONSTRUCTION:
2024



Regional Tourism / Economic Development

Located on the Historic Hwy, the new center will provide information, restrooms & services for the 2 million tourists who travel through the Gorge each year. These numbers grow each year and doubled after the Eagle Creek Fire pushing hikers and bikers East to our area.



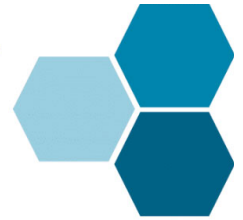
History Museum / Community Gathering Space for Wider Valley & Regional Partners

Mosier is the civic and social hub for over 2000 residents and many community organizations in the wider Mosier valley. The new building will include a home for the Mosier Valley Historical Society's collection of photos and artifacts as well as visitor center, meeting spaces and kitchen use.

Food Pantry & Emergency Shelter Especially after Covid-19 economic impacts, food insecurity is an issue in the Gorge and 98% of the region's food is shipped in by truck. These facilities provide the public with a **Resiliency Hub** in case I-84 is closed off for an extended period.

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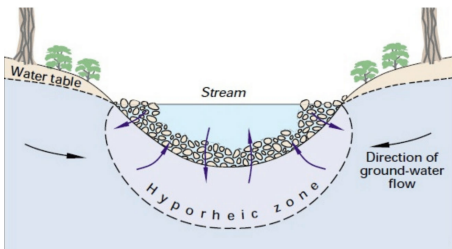
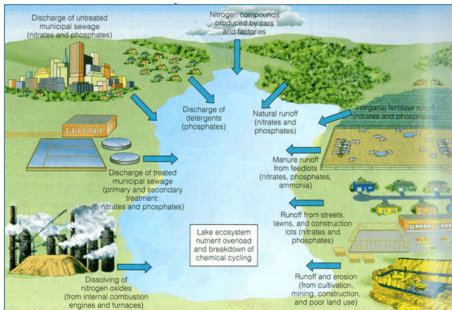
Proposed Indirect Discharge of Effluent to Columbia River



MOSIER WWTP UPDATE

SUSTAINABLE WETLAND DISCHARGE AND SOLIDS HANDLING

Use of natural habitat to reduce nutrient pollution and carbon footprint of wastewater treatment plant



PROBLEM: The City of Mosier's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) currently utilizes a damaged outfall pipe that sends secondary treatment water directly to the Columbia River in a shallow, kiteboarding, swimming and windsurfing recreation area. The State may require the City to replace the outfall in the future to meet new more stringent regulatory standards. In addition, it is increasingly difficult and expensive to find appropriate disposal sites for WWTP biosolids as required by the State for nutrient management and reuse. The treatment plant currently cannot remove nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen. Nutrient treatment is expected to be required by regulation in the near future.

SOLUTION: New Tertiary Treatment Outfall and WWTP Treatment Improvements - In 2020, the City developed a WWTP Facilities Plan Update. This Plan includes the following objectives:

- Reduction of nutrient pollution through innovative treatment
- Elimination of substandard and hazardous outfall pipe with a tertiary wetland treatment system.
- Reduction of the plant's carbon footprint by installing energy efficient equipment.
- Replacement of aging and outdated equipment
- Reduction of solids produced at the treatment plant to eliminate tanker transportation needs and the cost to land apply biosolids.

COST: \$2.5 Million
FUNDS REQUEST: \$2.5 Million
CONSTRUCTION: 2024

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