



FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #57

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"Falls City School District provides well-rounded opportunities for students to become productive, positive citizens and life-long learners"

Art Houghtaling
*Superintendent
K-8Principal*

Micke Kidd
High School Principal

April 20, 2021

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE
Salem OR, 97301

RE: SB 5555, Financial Support for The Falls City Wastewater Facilities Project


Dear Legislative Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means:


On behalf of the Falls City School District #57, and in close partnership with the City of Falls City, it is my privilege to voice our support for the appropriation of moneys toward the Falls City Wastewater Facilities Project. The City's existing wastewater treatment plant is currently located on High School property and the drain field is located under the High School football field. It is critical for the health and safety of our students and staff that the existing facilities are removed, and that the City's wastewater effluent is rerouted to the new proposed lagoon system east of the City.

Of particular concern are the several saturation events that have occurred over the years causing raw effluent to rise to the drain field surface. The school has been forced to comply with costly DEQ remediation measures and suffer with our children and families the inherent risks of a system beyond its age of safe use. The dangerous proximity of the current system to our learning and athletic activities is a risk we cannot continue to endure.

It is our understanding that, despite the City's participation in the Community Development Block Grant program, USDA RD, and CWSRF loan program, customers will be faced with prohibitive utility costs which are necessary to finance the new treatment plant. It is because of this that we urge this committee to appropriate sufficient American Recover Act funds to push this project over the final financial hurdle and ensure the successful construction of this long-awaited wastewater treatment facility.

Sincerely,


Robert Young
Board Chair
Falls City School District


Art Houghtaling
Superintendent/K-8 Principal
Falls City School District
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The following has been designated to coordinate compliance with these legal requirements and may be contacted at the Falls City School District office for additional information and/or compliance issues, Title II Coordinator, Title IX Coordinator and Section 504 Coordinator: Director of Special Programs, 111 N Main St., Falls City, OR 97344, 503-787-3521.