



April 24, 2021

Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street, NE, Room H-178
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Funding Request for Capital Projects from One Time Money

Dear Joint Committee Member,

The Clackamas County Fairgrounds and Event Center, CCFEC, is in desperate need of a Multi-purpose Building and an RV Park so we can offer protection from the elements for humans, livestock, equine and pets for any emergency in Clackamas County and throughout Oregon.

The Clackamas County Fairgrounds Livestock Barn was demolished in 2014. The loss of the Livestock Barn has impacted how CCFEC can serve its community in times of need. CCFEC has never had an RV Park. We can only provide "dry" camping and have limited spaces for electricity.

CCFEC has been called to be an emergency shelter for wildfires and flooding several times. During the Riverside Fire our Community, from Canby, Estacada, Colton, Molalla, Eagle Creek, Oregon City and other areas needed shelter for themselves and their animals. Our horse stalls and the riding arena were full of animals within a few hours. All other animals received were put outside in the elements.

Just last Friday, Clackamas County Disaster Management activated CCFEC to shelter animals and people for another large fire in our area. Calls immediately came. Luckily, the fire was controlled and the need for the evacuation center was called off.

The Multi-purpose Facility and RV Park would be very important to our community in a time of crisis. It will also be used for the 4H and FFA youth during the County Fair. It will generate much needed funds for our day-to-day operations because CCFEC is not supported by Clackamas County Funds. Staff are not County Employees. CCFEC will receive about \$330,000 from the hotel/motel tax.

Auctions, Water Bottles sales and private donations cannot raise the 8 Million needed to build the Livestock Barn and the RV Park. Please consider providing funds so our community will have adequate shelter for humans, livestock and pets in times of need.

Thank you for your consideration,

Laurie Bothwell, Executive Director

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