

**TO:** Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction  
**FROM:** Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District (THPRD), Clean Water Services, the City of Tigard and Washington County  
**DATE:** May 7, 2021  
**RE:** HB 5534 & Fanno Creek Regional Trail Improvements

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We are writing today to support HB 5534 and the inclusion of \$2,100,000 for improvements to the Fanno Creek Regional Trail, which includes three separate projects to be completed over the biennium. These improvements require the coordination and efforts of multiple entities and this request is put forward by Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District (THPRD), Clean Water Services, the City of Tigard and Washington County.

THPRD is the parks provider for the City of Beaverton and surrounding areas and has provided respite to their 250,000 patrons throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. They have had record-breaking trail counts during much of the pandemic. Clearly, our community members see our trails system as a valuable way to take care of their physical and mental health throughout this unprecedented time. The Fanno Creek trail, specifically, continues from THPRD's service area into the City of Tigard, where it connects to the city's trail system. The creek is also part of the infrastructure maintained by Clean Water Services and crosses over roads owned and maintained by Washington County.

THPRD has worked with these jurisdictional partners to undertake the public process to determine the community need and support for this series of improvements. To make the trails and road crossing safe for all users, the improvements included in these requests are critical to meeting the community needs. Creating a safe, continuous recreation trail and mitigating the flooding that occurs in the area is a vital project to increased multi-modal and recreational opportunities in these areas. In addition, these projects will increase the overall accessibility of the trail by making it less prone to flooding and making the trail and crossing safer for all users, regardless of mode of travel or physical disability.

The Fanno Creek Regional Trail project includes three elements to address safety and access on the trail from Greenway Park and another element addressing the crossing under Scholls Ferry into the City of Tigard:

- **Scholls Ferry At-Grade Pedestrian Crossing:** This project proposes to build an at-grade, ADA-accessible, signalized crossing of the Fanno Creek Regional Trail as it passes from Beaverton to Tigard at Scholls Ferry Road. The project would substantially increase access to the Fanno Regional Trail by providing a safe, at-grade crossing to be used when high water renders the existing underpass useless. Public outreach and an engineering study have been completed.
- **Greenway Park Loop Trail:** The community-supported Greenway Park Concept Plan provides a long-term vision to guide how the 100-acre site is maintained and what amenities are installed or changed over time. It calls for a balance of recreational

opportunities and wildlife/water quality benefits, which includes an ADA accessible loop trail into beaver flooded areas.

- **Scholls Ferry Underpass Improvement:** Improvements to the existing undercrossing will help Fanno Creek Regional Trail users connect from Beaverton to Tigard by raising the path elevation to lessen flood water on the trail.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

