

To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water

From: Jordan Wheeler, City of Sandy

Date: February 2, 2023

Re: Please Support HB 2813

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Chair Helm and Members of the Committee,

The City of Sandy respectfully asks that the committee support HB 2813, which requires the Oregon Health Authority to ensure that communities in this state have access to safe drinking water by establishing a grant program to provide grants to water suppliers to protect, restore or enhance sources of drinking water.

Sandy is one of the fastest growing cities in Oregon, but our drinking water infrastructure is aging, deteriorating, and unable to meet our community's future needs.

Sandy's drinking water is provided through three sources: two primary local sources (Alder Creek and Brownell Springs), and a backup connection to Portland Water Bureau's Bull Run source (through a purchase agreement).

We are seeking funding to repair and upgrade our primary local water source infrastructure to ensure sustainable supply for the future, and to construct a new backup transmission line to access Portland's new treatment plant, allowing us to meet Federal treatment requirements and increase system resiliency amid increasing natural hazards.

Our city understands the need for HB 2813. It is vital that we work to protect, restore, and enhance water supply throughout the state of Oregon.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding the City of Sandy's water system projects and the challenges our city is working to address.