



May 2, 2023

Senator Steiner, Co-Chair
Representative Sanchez, Co-Chair
Senator Girod, Co-Vice Chair
Representative Gomberg, Co-Vice Chair
Representative Smith, Co-Vice Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Carlton Stormwater Infrastructure Project

Co-Chairs Steiner and Sanchez, Co-Vice Chairs Girod, Gomberg, and Smith and Members of the Committee,

I offer the following testimony in support of the requested \$3.04 million for City of Carlton's Stormwater Infrastructure Project.

Carlton is known for its historic downtown and has become the epicenter of the North Willamette Valley's farm and wine industries. With a total area of 0.88 square miles and a current population of 2,324, the City of Carlton has over thirty-five (35) wineries and tasting rooms that call Carlton home. Carlton was projected to have a population of 2,801 by the year 2033¹; however, with continuous rates of large and small development over the last 8 years to support the families attracted to our vibrant community, the City's growth rate will surpass these 2033 projections by 2025/26. Thirty-two (32) apartment units and fifty-three (53) single family homes are being built and finalized in 2023 alone and projected developments for late 2023/early 2024 include an additional one hundred (100) single family homes and a hotel.

The City of Carlton is committed to addressing its infrastructure to increase resiliency in times of emergency and plan for growth. Numerous infrastructure improvements have been completed, including replacement of its main transmission line (saving over 70,000 gallons of water per day) and upgrading its wastewater treatment plant to meet the demands and requirements of regulatory agencies. Following 52 years of deferred maintenance, the City is committed to replacing its failing infrastructure. However, because of decades of neglect, the citizens of Carlton have sustained substantial rate increases over the last 4 fiscal years to replace or repair our infrastructure prior to total failure and to meet regulatory requirements:

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • FY20 water 8.1%, wastewater 15% | Total Increase 23.10% |
| • FY21 water 7.1%, wastewater 15% | Total Increase 22.10% |
| • FY22 water 3.8%, wastewater 12% | Total Increase 15.80% |
| • FY23 water 4.3%, wastewater 6% | Total Increase 10.30% |
| • FY23 water 6%, wastewater 6% | Total Increase 12.00% |

¹ Carlton 2014 Water Master Plan used a 1.47% growth rate to project a city population of 2,801 by the year 2033



W. Main is the western gateway and is the only direct entry into the community from the west and is used heavily by trucks from farmers, loggers and other commercial activities. W. Grant Street is a conduit to the City's largest park and historic neighborhoods. Both streets have significant drainage issues and minimal storm drainage. Being able to provide a combined 2700' of storm drainage would significantly improve the operation and future development of these two critical transportation routes.

The importance of investment in these streets has been understood and supported by other agencies. The W. Main Revitalization Project has received \$100,000 in State ODOT SCA funding and \$1.5 million in federal funding to provide a better driving surface, repair some of the base failure causing rutting, and generally increase the effective capacity of the street. Sidewalks and ADA access will be improved.

The W. Main & W. Grant St Project has also received \$2.2 million in federal funding and \$112,500 from County ARPA grant funding to replace the 1920's clay and concrete sewer pipes. Because most of the sewer pipes are nearing 100-years old and the porous nature of the mortar joints, rainwater infiltrates the pipes overloading the treatment plant, producing as much as 2.5 million gallons of wastewater per day during heavy rainfall. With treatment plant capacity limited to 450,000 gallons per day, this is a public safety issue with impacts to the environment and potential sink holes.

Storm drainage improvements would occur simultaneously with other project work minimizing the disruption to the community and businesses providing a more complete infrastructure project. Adequate, stable infrastructure is essential in allowing the community to grow and businesses to thrive in Carlton, ensuring Carlton continues to be a healthy and prosperous community.

As proposed the Carlton Stormwater Infrastructure Project funding is exactly the essential investment opportunities Carlton needs to ensure our community remains, and continue to be, vibrant, healthy and prosperous contributor to the State of Oregon and Yamhill County - now and in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shannon Beaucaire", with a long, sweeping underline.

Shannon Beaucaire
City Manager