

**To the care of:**  
Governor Tina Kotek



**From the desk of:**  
The House Committee on Emergency Management,  
General Government, & Veterans

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To the honorable Governor Kotek,

We hope this letter finds you well. Thank you for all the work you have done - and continue to do - to address the urgent crises facing our state. Today we are writing to you about a localized matter, one we believe urgently requires both your attention and support when it next arises before the State Legislature.

There are currently two Veterans' Homes in Oregon that provide qualifying veterans with long-term care, with one in The Dalles and one in Lebanon. In the 2011 Legislative Session, a third Veterans Home was authorized to be constructed in Roseburg; but in the 13 years since this project was authorized, construction has still not gotten underway.

In the 2011 Session, the legislature also authorized \$10.5 million in funding for Oregon's required match of 35%. Unfortunately, as a byproduct of the delays, inflationary costs with building and construction have more than tripled, and now the state's match is \$35 million dollars, with the federal match of \$65 million dollars.

The property for the Oregon Veterans' Home in Roseburg has been secured, on the VA campus and adjacent to the VA Hospital. The infrastructure, such as water, sewer, electrical and storm water has been built out in preparation for the future Oregon Veterans' Home facility. Douglas County and the City of Roseburg are committed to the project and there is a past agreement of deferral for SDC and permit fees. We - the members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, & Veterans - are also in firm support of this project and hope to see its delays immediately resolved for construction to begin in earnest.

The Oregon Veterans' Home in Roseburg would build a 154 bed-unit facility for one of our most vulnerable populations, supplying them with long term care, health care, memory care, and housing; as well as short term and rehabilitation care, freeing up needed hospital beds as well as residential beds in The Dalles and Lebanon Veterans' Homes. The facility will also provide rural communities with skilled, family wage jobs in support of their community neighbors. Completing facilities like this one is critical to continuing the progress we are making in addressing our state's housing crisis, by providing elderly Veterans with housing and critical wraparound services that they have earned through service to their country.

We would like to thank ODVA Director Daniels' commitment to establishing the third Oregon Veterans' Home in Roseburg, and hope you will join her in support. Our Veterans have been left waiting for help that Oregon promised them was coming, and it's time we deliver.

Please join us in supporting the investment to begin construction on the Oregon Veterans' Home in Roseburg.

Sincerely,

Members of the House Committee on Emergency Management,  
General Government, & Veterans

Rep. Dacia Grayber (HD-28), Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dacia J. Grayber", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rep. Rick Lewis (HD-18), Vice-Chair

Rep. Thuy Tran (HD-45), Vice-Chair

Rep. Charlie Conrad (HD-12)

Rep. Maxine Dexter (HD-33)

Rep. Paul Evans (HD-20)

Rep. James Hieb (HD-51)