



**Board of Commissioners**

Office: (541) 766-6800

Fax: (541) 766-6893

4500 SW Research Way  
Corvallis, OR 97333

[bentoncountyor.gov](http://bentoncountyor.gov)

April 4, 2025

House Committee on Housing and Homelessness

900 Court St. NE.

Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for House Bill 3939-1

Chair Marsh; Co-Vice Chairs Andersen and Breese-Iverson; and Members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness:

On behalf of Benton County, we urge your support for House 3939-1 that includes a \$4.0 million fund appropriation for the City of Adair Village Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project. This project aligns with the County's 2040 Thriving Community Initiative, particularly the core value of creating vibrant, safe, and livable communities that promote creativity, forward-thinking, a sense of place, and high quality of life.

Adair Village is a growing community in Benton County that is in urgent need of wastewater infrastructure upgrades to support future development and address existing capacity constraints. The city's current wastewater treatment plant is outdated and nearing the end of its functional life. As a result, the system is unable to accommodate new housing developments, which are crucial to alleviating the region's severe housing shortage. Adair Village is seeking funding to help support an estimate \$12 million for the construction of the new wastewater treatment plant.

By securing funding for this project, both Adair Village and Benton County will be in position to create positive community and economic outcomes that include:

- Developing critical housing units that begins to address Benton County's growing housing crisis, and effectively help advance the Governor's statewide housing goals.
- Promoting sustainable growth by allowing the community to expand without compromising environmental quality.

- Supporting modernization of aging infrastructure that will more effectively support current residents and future generations.

As it relates to the growing housing crisis, Adair Village has already made a significant contribution to this issue by expanding its Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) to help facilitate the addition of 200 housing units. By successfully securing funding for this project, the city has the potential to move forward on up to 800 additional housing units and make significant progress in supporting the countywide effort of increasing safe, livable, and affordable housing for its community.

Adair Village has the full support of the Benton County Board of Commissioners in completing the work of this essential project.

Sincerely,

BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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Nancy Wyse, Chair



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Pat Malone, Vice Chair



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Gabe Shepherd, Commissioner