

The Honorable Senator Fred Girod, Co-Chair

The Honorable Representative Rob Nosse, Co-Chair

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

Oregon State Legislature

Salem, OR 97301

Re: Letter of Support for the City of Sandy's \$14 Million Wastewater System Funding Request

Dear Senator Girod and Representative Nosse,

As the president of the Bull Run Community Association/CPO located to the north of the City of Sandy, I am writing to express my strong support for the City's request for \$14 million in funding to pursue critical wastewater infrastructure improvements.

These improvements are essential to lifting the current development moratorium due to DEQ and EPA requirements, supporting much-needed housing production, and protecting our region's water resources. Bull Run CA/CPO residents utilize Sandy's businesses, schools and other infrastructure on a daily basis. We have long expressed our concerns about the City of Sandy's wastewater treatment plans which have targeted the Sandy River for effluent discharge.

Sandy is one of the fastest-growing cities in Oregon, with projected demand for 2,424 additional housing units by 2043. However, the moratorium prevents the city from approving any new developments due to the lack of capacity in the wastewater system. This situation has forced the town's 5,000 utility customers to bear the burden of steep rate increases to fund necessary system upgrades which protects drinking water users further downstream who do not provide any financial contribution for this protection.

The \$14 million in assistance Sandy is requesting would pay for the design and engineering of a new wastewater pipeline to connect Sandy to the Gresham Wastewater Treatment Facility as well as funding required improvements in the current wastewater system. This would shift wastewater treatment and discharge from the current small tributary of the Clackamas River to the much larger the Columbia River.

Without this funding, the city will not be able to accommodate future growth. Investing in a regional wastewater solution through the Gresham facility will protect the Clackamas River watershed and other watersheds, like the Sandy River, which are at risk for wastewater discharge.

This funding request represents a necessary investment in housing, infrastructure, and environmental stewardship. I urge you to support this request and help the City of Sandy move forward with these essential improvements.

Sincerely,

Janet Davis, President of Bull Run Community Association/CPO