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Ways & Means Committee  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Ways and Means Capital Projects - City of Warrenton \$8 million Wastewater Treatment Plant

Co-Chairs Lieber & Sanchez, Members of the Committee:

The City of Seaside wishes to formally express its support for the City of Warrenton's capital request for \$8 million to ensure the completion of their new Wastewater Treatment Plant. Warrenton has secured funds totaling \$22.5 million, including a GO bond and capital reserves. Both Seaside and Warrenton are leaders in regional housing development, yet our cities face significant challenges in achieving our shared county-wide housing development goals. Warrenton possesses the largest housing development potential, with over 450 housing units awaiting improved sewer treatment capacity.

Clatsop County's housing availability rates are among the worst in the state, with Warrenton's rate at a mere 0.2%. Clatsop County also has the highest rate of homelessness per capita in the state.

Additionally, the impact of tourism on Warrenton's economy is substantial. Warrenton hosts numerous campsites, including Fort Stevens, one of the largest campgrounds in the nation with 485 campsites. The Astoria/Warrenton/Seaside KOA Resort, located across from Fort Stevens, offers 329 campsites and cabins, while Kampers West, situated nearby, provides 162 campsites. The need for septage and blackwater dumping county-wide is significant, and currently, no city accepts septage for unincorporated

residents due to treatment capacity limitations. Most cities have also closed their RV dump stations for this reason.

The completion of Warrenton's wastewater treatment facility is pivotal for building more housing on the north coast and enabling our partner city to manage the impacts of tourism. Therefore, I respectfully request your favorable consideration of Warrenton's \$8 million capital request.

Sincerely,

*Steve Wright*

Steve Wright  
City of Seaside Mayor