

Submitter: Cynthia Mateos
On Behalf Of: Mapleton Commercial Area Owners Assoc Inc.
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3910

Good afternoon Chari Golden, Vice Chair Nash and members of the committee. My name is Cynthia Mateos. I am from Mapleton and I am the president of the Mapleton Commercial Area Owners Association (MCAOA) also known as Mapleton Sewer. We manage the sewer service for a small percentage of the community, mainly the business sector and a few residents, to total 19 combined. The Association was established in 1987.

I am in support of HB3910.

The water table is high here. The sewer system was set up to protect the Siuslaw river from direct discharge of gray water and leaching from the soil along the river bank. Without the services of MCAOA the businesses would have to close.

The treatment biofield was designed for growth. However it is currently only being used at 1/3 of it's potential. No one seems to know why the main line was not put in for the full length of Riverview Ave, the road at which it was installed. It starts only half way. But our records show that in 1992, it was realized that the few businesses and residents were not going to be able to sustain the system financially for very long, due to the closing of 2 of the community's lumber mills. The potential of growth went away. There are not enough customers.

Merging the the Mapleton Water District is the only option the community has for it's survival. The Mapleton Food Share and Resources, Maple Lane RV Park Affordable Housing and Marina, Port of Siuslaw public dock and restroom, the Chevron gas station, Randy's Market, Frank's Bar and Restaurant, The Alpha Bit Cafe and Gift Shop, Mimi's Coffee Shop, and 8 residents are all on the system. There are 3 businesses that are currently empty, but paying.

With DEQ permit requirements increasing, the cost of chemicals, lab testing and site testing contractors (those are just some of our daily expenses) increasing, the financial burden falls on the businesses and residents. We have had to replace crucial components of our system this last year, depleting our account.

Merging with Mapleton Water District is the only way to gain access to funding needed to maintain the system that is nearly 40 years old.

I ask the committee to pass this bill for the survival of our community, our home.

Thank you,
Cynthia Mateos
MCAOA President