



# City of Glendale

124 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, P.O. Box 361  
Glendale OR 97442  
Phone (541) 832-2106  
Fax (541) 832-3221

SB 5531

My name is Dawn Russ, and I am the City Manager for the City of Glendale. Glendale is a rural city and was incorporated in 1901. We have a population of just under 1,000 and we are located three miles off Interstate 5.

I am writing today to ask you to please fund SB 5531. We have two projects there. One is for rehabilitation for our two reservoirs. Our reservoirs have been non-operational for many years. They are unusable. They need dredging, new piping, and new valves. This is very critical for our city as we have had issues in the past with being able to supply enough water for residents and fire. The worst scenario is if there was a drought and wildfire in our area, we would have to choose what to do because our current water supply would not be sufficient. We believe this is a matter of public health and safety and it is critical to provide water security and safety for our residents.

The second project is for road repaving. Part of that was to rehab the roads to our reservoirs and the rest for many of our streets that are riddled with potholes, cracks, dirt, and patches. The City of Glendale can only afford to repave with grants from ODOT, and we are in competition with cities up to a population of 5,000 for those grants.

Glendale is in a dire situation on many different fronts. In 2017 we had ransomware, and we did not pay. We lost everything. We had to hire an audit firm, our existing auditors became consultants, and we also had to hire a CPA. It cost the city \$570,000 to recover and get our audits back on track. That was the amount we had in our bank account at the time. As you know, we have no way of making that money back. We are currently struggling to even pay bills. We are an underserved community, our water and sewer only have 380 connections to cover the costs of the plants. We receive approximately \$160,000 in property tax and approximately \$150,000 in franchise and other fees. Our Sheriff contract is \$100,000 and our fire contract is \$45,000. That does not leave very much for payroll, insurance, permits, auditors, etc. The city cannot take on any more debt as we already have \$130,000 in loan payments a year.

The only time the city can do repairs or improvements is with grants. We need help. Having the reservoirs repaired would also be cost saving as the reservoirs

are gravity fed to the plant and it would save on electricity and provide water security and safety.

In conclusion, I thank you for your time and consideration. I humbly ask, the City of Glendale humbly asks that you please fund the rehabilitation of our reservoirs and roads. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Russ  
City Manager  
City of Glendale