



City of Oakridge  
48318 E 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
PO Box 1410  
Oakridge, Oregon 97463  
Phone: 541-782-2258 FAX 541-782-1081

---

**Date: May 7, 2025**

**Testimony to the Oregon Legislature**

**Subject: Support for the Lane County Coalition of Recreation, Arts, and Athletics (CoRAA)**

Dear Senator Girod, Representative Nosse,

As the Mayor of Oakridge, I am writing to express my strong support for the Lane County Coalition of Recreation, Arts, and Athletics (CoRAA).

The City of Oakridge, like many rural communities, faces challenges in providing accessible recreational, cultural, and health services. CoRAA's work is essential in helping us meet those challenges and revitalize critical community infrastructure.

In particular, CoRAA has been instrumental in advancing the rehabilitation of the Willamette Activity Center (WAC)—a cornerstone of Oakridge's social, recreational, and emergency services prior to its closure. Restoring the WAC will not only bring back essential social services but will also provide a much-needed medical clinic and serve as an emergency operations hub for the region.

While we recognize that the Legislature faces difficult budget choices this session, I respectfully urge you to support CoRAA's funding request. The coalition's projects offer clear, measurable benefits:

- **Preventative health improvements** (physical and mental)
- **Significant economic development impact**
- **Enhanced quality of life for both urban and rural Lane County residents**

CoRAA's member organizations have already raised \$21 million in local and private support and are seeking \$6.34 million in state funding to *complete* seven vital capital projects across Lane County.

On behalf of the City of Oakridge and our residents, I thank you for your service to the people of Oregon and for your consideration of this important investment in the health, vitality, and resilience of our communities.

Sincerely,

Rear Admiral, USN (ret)  
Mayor, City of Oakridge