

Good evening, Co-Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members of the Committee, my name is Darla Linker, with the City of Stanfield.

The City of Stanfield is a small, fast-growing community off of Interstate 84 with a population of just over 2100 residents. The population is forecasted to increase to over 3300 by 2044. The city has confirmed 455 new lots associated with approved or tentatively approved subdivisions. These growing numbers indicate that there is a substantial interest in growth in the area, which may exceed those projections.

With that being said, the concern I bring to you tonight is the aging infrastructure. The wastewater treatment facility has been rehabilitated and expanded multiple times. The existing process units' range in age from 16 to 72 years old. Aside from structural and mechanical deficiencies identified, the city does not currently have capacity to adequately manage recycled water during wet years. This issue is only exacerbated with growth.

In the Wastewater Master Plan, it states and I quote, "being at or near capacity, it is evident that growth is a major driver of the need for replacing the existing wastewater treatment facility."

The cost associated with this project is \$23 million. Numbers of that size are way out of reach for the City of Stanfield on our own. Without the help of legislative funding, we may have to deny future development and that would be detrimental to our community.

In closing, I urge you to support this vital legislative funding. This investment will not only address immediate needs but also create long-term benefits for our community. Your support is crucial to ensuring a brighter future for us all.

Thank you for your time and consideration and allowing me the opportunity to speak to you tonight.