

**May 8th, 2025**

**Oregon Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301**

**Dear Co-Chairs and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee,**

**On behalf of the City of Weston, I respectfully submit this letter in support of a much-needed Capital Construction funding request for crucial bridge infrastructure repairs. These are essential for the health and safety of our residents, along with any visitors to our community. This project reflects the critical needs in our transportation network.**

**We are a satellite hub in the surrounding area, and we are part of the transportation corridor that connects us at a mile off Highway 11, and it intersects at the north entrance to town with 204, as well as a connection to Highway 337 off Bannister Road.**

**Our city's main bridge near the north entrance to town, on Water Street, is located on the School Bus Corridor. The City is purposefully requesting funds to support the replacement of the aging and deteriorating bridge at the North End of Water Street. This bridge is used heavily as a main transportation corridor, not only that, but it also serves as the primary bus route connecting students with the Weston Middle School and then facilitating the transportation from Weston to the local Elementary and High Schools in Athena. This improvement is essential for student safety, transportation reliability, and long-term road access and durability.**

**If this bridge is not replaced soon and is allowed to further degrade and it incurs further weight restrictions; the reductions to the availability for Medical and Fire Services to the North End and at the two food processing plants as well as area homes on the Northside of the community will have additional time in the response times for services. As the Emergency Responders and equipment could be required to go around out by way of Bannister Road and reenter to service the North Section of the community and the mountain families, thereby easily adding 15 minutes at minimum to all response times for people and structures located in those areas.**

**Sincerely,  
Bill Boyd**