

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Support of South Hillsboro Fire Station 9

Good morning Chair Girod, Chair Nosse, and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Hai Pham and I am the State Representative for House District 36. I am here to testify in support of the Capital Construction request for South Hillsboro Fire Station 9.

This new station is critical to meeting the fire, rescue, and emergency medical needs of one of Oregon's fastest-growing communities. Over the past decade, Hillsboro has approved more than 3,000 new homes in South Hillsboro alone, with many more to come. Our public safety infrastructure must grow alongside our neighborhoods.

Beyond daily emergency services, Fire Station 9 is designed as a resilient, life-saving asset during disasters. It will serve as both a Department Operations Center and an Emergency Operations Center, enabling immediate post-earthquake occupancy and response with backup power, water, and fuel supplies to remain operational for at least three weeks. This investment will protect lives and speed community recovery when it matters most.

The \$5 million requested is a modest portion of the total \$20.9 million project cost, most of which is being funded by the City. Hillsboro faces an ongoing funding gap for fire engines, equipment, and personnel, and we have historically lacked access to state or federal funds for these essential services.

Thank you for your consideration, I respectfully urge the committee to support this important project in my district. It represents a vital investment in our community's safety, resilience, and long-term future.

Hai Pham, DMD

State Representative for HD 36