



# City of Brookings

898 Elk Drive, Brookings, OR 97415

(541) 469-2163 Fax (541) 469-3650

[www.brookings.or.us](http://www.brookings.or.us)

**May 9, 2025**

**To: Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction**

**RE: Testimony in Support of Lottery Bond Appropriations for the Easy Street Water Line Replacement Project**

Dear Chairs Girod and Nosse and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the City of Brookings, I respectfully request your support for state Lottery Bond appropriations to fund the **Easy Street Water Line Replacement Project**, a high-priority infrastructure improvement identified in our Water Master Plan.

Brookings is a small coastal city of approximately 6,800 residents. Like many rural communities, we face serious challenges in financing aging infrastructure. The Easy Street water line is deteriorating and undersized, jeopardizing the reliability of service to nearby homes, schools, and emergency services. Replacing this critical line is essential for public safety, system resilience, and long-term sustainability.

Our funding capacity is severely constrained. The City has already maximized its use of Safe Drinking Water Revolving Funds and is currently managing a \$30 million USDA loan and grant-funded infrastructure project. That investment will expand our system to support 900 new housing units—an essential step in addressing our community's workforce housing shortage. However, it leaves little financial room for additional water line upgrades like Easy Street.

Federal funding for this specific project is unlikely, despite strong letters of support from our School District Superintendent, Fire Chief, Mayor, and City Manager, which I have included with this testimony

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued support of rural Oregon.

Sincerely,

**Wendy Giordano**

Grant/Project Manager

City of Brookings



## Brookings Harbor School District 17C

692 Easy St.  
Brookings, OR 97415

541 469-7443

Fax 541 469-6599

[www.brookings.k12.or.us](http://www.brookings.k12.or.us)

April 29, 2025

Congresswoman Val Hoyle  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Representative Hoyle,

As Superintendent of the Brookings-Harbor School District, I am pleased to offer my strong support for the City of Brookings' Easy Street Waterline Replacement project and to request your advocacy for federal funding assistance.

Two of our public schools—serving hundreds of local students, teachers, and staff—depend on the Easy Street corridor for daily access and essential services, including water. The current aging infrastructure creates a vulnerability not only for households and businesses but also for critical public facilities like our schools. Ensuring reliable water service is fundamental to maintaining safe and healthy learning environments.

In addition, the project will enhance fire protection and emergency preparedness for our schools and surrounding neighborhoods by improving water pressure and flow.

Completing this infrastructure upgrade will also allow for needed street improvements, improving safety and accessibility for school traffic and the entire community.

Thank you for your commitment to supporting strong, resilient rural communities. I urge your support for this important project.

Respectfully,

Helena Chirinian  
Superintendent



# City of Brookings



## **FIRE / RESCUE**

898 Elk Drive, Brookings, OR 97415

(541) 469-1141 Fax (541) 469-3650

TTY (800) 735-1232

**Fire Chief Jeffery Lee**

[jlee@brookings.or.us](mailto:jlee@brookings.or.us)

April 28, 2025

Congresswoman Val Hoyle  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

Re: Letter of Support for funding Easy Street Water Line Replacement

Dear Representative Hoyle,

On behalf of the Brookings Fire Department, I am writing to express my strong support for the City of Brookings' Easy Street Water Line Replacement project and respectfully request your consideration for federal funding assistance.

This project is critical to the safety and resilience of our community. The Easy Street corridor serves approximately 400 households—about 1,200 residents—and includes a combination of single-family homes, multifamily residences, small businesses, and two public schools. Replacing the aging and undersized water mains in this area will not only ensure reliable daily service but will also significantly enhance fire protection capabilities. Improved hydraulic connectivity and increased fire flow will strengthen emergency response efforts, benefiting not only Easy Street residents but the broader water distribution system serving nearly 7,000 Brookings residents.

The aging infrastructure poses a real risk to public safety and disaster preparedness. By investing in the Easy Street Water Line Replacement now, we will reduce the frequency of system failures, minimize service disruptions, and ensure we have the fire flow needed to protect homes, schools, and businesses during emergencies.

Thank you for your leadership and continued support for rural communities like ours. I urge you to support funding for this vital infrastructure project.

Sincerely,

Jeff Lee  
Fire Chief

**Your Safety Is Our Business**

**America's  
Wild Rivers  
Coast**  
101 MILES OF NATURE'S BEST



# City of Brookings

898 Elk Drive, Brookings, OR 97415  
(541) 469-1102 Fax (541) 469-3650 TTY (800) 735-1232  
[www.brookings.or.us](http://www.brookings.or.us)

City of Brookings  
898 Elk Dr.  
Brookings, OR 97415

April 30, 2025

The Honorable Val Hoyle  
1620 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Easy Street Water Line Replacement Project

Dear Representative Hoyle,

I am writing to express the City of Brookings' strong support for federal funding for the Easy Street Water Line Replacement Project, a crucial infrastructure initiative.

This project aims to replace aging and undersized water mains serving approximately 400 households, including about 1,200 residents, as well as local businesses and two public schools. The existing infrastructure has been prone to service disruptions and lacks adequate fire flow capacity, posing risks to public safety and daily operations.

Upgrading this segment will not only enhance water reliability and fire protection for the immediate area but will also bolster the overall resilience of our water distribution system. Completing this project will allow us to proceed with necessary street improvements in the corridor, enhancing safety and accessibility for all users.

We appreciate your continued advocacy for infrastructure investments in rural Oregon communities like ours. Your support in securing funding for this essential project would significantly contribute to the well-being and resilience of Brookings.

Respectfully,

Tim Rundel  
City Manager





# City of Brookings

898 Elk Drive, Brookings, OR 97415  
(541) 469-1102 Fax (541) 469-3650 TTY (800) 735-1232  
[www.brookings.or.us](http://www.brookings.or.us)

City of Brookings  
898 Elk Dr.  
Brookings, OR 97415

April 30, 2025

The Honorable Val Hoyle  
1620 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Easy Street Water Line Replacement Project

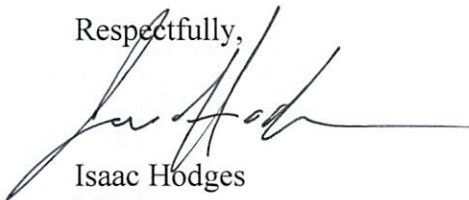
Dear Representative Hoyle,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the City of Brookings' Easy Street Water Line Replacement Project, and to ask for your help in securing federal funding to make it a reality. This project will directly benefit around 1,200 residents, including families, local businesses, and two public schools that depend on this corridor for daily access and water service. The existing lines are outdated and undersized, posing a growing risk to both service reliability and fire protection.

The Easy Street upgrade has long been identified as a high priority in our Water Master Plan due to its critical role in system performance and community safety. Upgrading this segment will not only improve service in the immediate neighborhood, it will strengthen the overall water system serving nearly 7,000 residents. It's also a necessary first step before we can make long-needed street improvements in the area.

Thank you for your leadership and continued support of communities like Brookings. We appreciate your consideration of this important investment.

Respectfully,



Isaac Hodges  
Mayor