

May 11, 2025

Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction c/o Legislative Fiscal Office Oregon State Capitol 900 Court Street NE, Room H-178 Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Funding Request - \$550,000 for Fire Station and Emergency Operations Center

Dear Co-Chairs and Members of the Subcommittee,

On behalf of the Siletz Valley Fire District, I respectfully request \$550,000 in Capital Construction budget funding to support the development of a critically needed fire station and emergency operations center. The total estimated project cost is \$1.1 million. We have applied for federal funding through Congresswoman Val Hoyle's office and have received a positive indication of support for half of the project's cost.

This investment will significantly enhance our region's emergency response capabilities, improve public safety, and strengthen our ability to protect lives and property during fires, natural disasters, and other emergencies. The new facility will serve as a central hub for first responders, emergency personnel, and the public—replacing outdated infrastructure and expanding our capacity to meet the growing needs of the communities we serve.

During the severe weather event in January 2024, our fire station became one of the few functioning facilities due to its generator and communication capabilities, and it was transformed into a makeshift emergency operations center for the Fire District and the City of Siletz. However, we were unable to provide shelter for elderly residents due to inadequate space and resources. The storm left our district—including the City of Siletz, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians (CTSI), and the communities of Logsden and Blodgett—without power for over 72 hours. With CTSI's limited resources, the Fire District assumed primary responsibility for the well-being of the community.

In addition, our existing station, originally built in 1977, is no longer adequate to house modern fire apparatus or meet current safety and operational standards. We also lack sufficient space to decontaminate and store gear properly, which is essential for protecting our firefighters from harmful carcinogens.



This funding will enable us to relocate our apparatus and equipment and build a fully functional emergency operations center for the entire community. The upgraded station will also be able to shelter more than 50 citizens during emergencies and will be brought into full ADA compliance to ensure accessibility for all.

The project is shovel-ready and enjoys strong support from local stakeholders including the City of Siletz, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, and the communities of Logsden and Blodget. These funds will allow us to proceed with site preparation, construction, and equipment acquisition—building lasting resilience for our region.

We deeply appreciate your consideration of this request and your continued support for Oregon's public safety infrastructure. I would welcome the opportunity to provide additional details or answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

David Lapof, Fire Chief dlapof@siletzfire.com