

Marion County Fire Volunteer Foundation

300 Cordon Rd NE
Salem, OR 97317



The Honorable Fred Girod and Rob Nosse Co-Chairs,
Capital Construction Subcommittee of Joint Ways & Means
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St NE Salem OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs,

I write in strong support of the request to Capital Construction for early funding of a joint-use fire station to be developed collaboratively by the Keizer Fire District and Marion County Fire District #1.

Marion County Fire District #1 traces its roots to 1939, when it was founded as the Four Corners Fire District and later expanded through a merger with the Brooks Rural Fire District in 1968. Today, the District serves the unincorporated communities of Middle Grove, Pratum, Macleay, Brooks, Clear Lake, Labish Center, and areas surrounding the Chemeketa Community College campus. While the District has evolved significantly over the decades, it remains deeply grounded in its tradition of volunteer service. A large, highly trained corps of professional volunteer firefighters continues to augment a dedicated career staff that provides 24-hour, year-round coverage. Together, these teams respond to more than 10,000 calls annually, including medical emergencies, structure and wildland fires, and traffic collisions.

The Marion County Volunteer Fire Foundation exists to support the volunteer firefighters of MCFD1, their families, and—most importantly—the residents they serve. In that role, we strongly endorse initiatives that promote interagency collaboration, operational efficiency, and responsible stewardship of public resources. Ensuring that the closest and most appropriate emergency resources are dispatched quickly—regardless of jurisdictional boundaries—saves lives and protects property.

A joint-use fire station represents a practical and forward-looking investment toward these goals. By co-locating resources and personnel, both districts will be better positioned to train together, respond seamlessly as mutual aid partners, and deliver faster, more coordinated emergency services to the public. This project will strengthen cooperation between career and volunteer firefighters alike and improve emergency response outcomes for the growing communities we collectively serve.

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Thank you for your consideration of this request to Capital Construction and for your continued commitment to public safety. Early funding will help move this long-needed project from planning to reality, to the benefit of residents throughout Marion County.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William Chapman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'W'.

William Chapman
President
Marion County Volunteer Fire Foundation
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