



MARION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

NICK HUNTER, SHERIFF

February 4, 2026

Representative Kevin Mannix
900 Court St. NE, H-384
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Mid-Willamette Valley Public Safety and Resilience Center

Representative Mannix,

I am writing this letter to express full support for Marion County Fire District #1 and the pursuance of the Mid-Willamette Valley Public Safety and Resilience Center. The conceptualization and projected resource consolidation would provide a significant operational lift to the Sheriff's Office by enhancing our ability to provide critical and timely public safety resources to the residents of Northwest Marion County.

The proposed building, located at the northwest end of the City of Keizer, immediately borders a large and geographically diverse unincorporated population. With available office space and resource storage at a secure facility, this would allow for increased visibility and decreased response times. Specifically, this location would provide storage capabilities and quick access for marine vessels responding to a highly utilized section of the Willamette River. This would further provide a hub location for DFR (Drone as First Responder), quickly allowing for assessment in water rescue, fires, vehicular crashes, etc., reducing location ambiguity, and ensuring the necessary resources are deployed in the fastest possible way to manage critical incidents while preserving human life.

The Marion County Sheriff's Office, through collaboration, foresees this resource being utilized for patrol, marine, CRASH, training, community engagement, community corrections, incident management, and a myriad of other operations. Many of these tasks are critical to public safety, and the ability to collaborate and consolidate from this singular location would be invaluable to safety, while enhancing the efficiency and efficacy of services in the area.

Thank you for your time and consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me if further information or discussion is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nick Hunter".

Nick Hunter, Marion County Sheriff