

Evans Valley Community Association (EVCA)

8205 E Evans Creek Rd

Rogue River, OR 97537

1/10/2026

To the Grant Committee,

Ford Foundation

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of the Evans Valley Community Association Board of Directors, we write in strong support of the Evans Valley Fire District #6 station expansion project, including the addition of a community meeting room.

Evans Valley is a rural and largely low-income community with very limited public gathering space. The need for a safe, accessible place to meet, train, and coordinate has been raised by residents, volunteers, and local organizations. Schools, wildfire advocates, nonprofit groups, and emergency preparedness efforts all face the same challenge: there is no limited, affordable indoor space to bring people together.

We know the community supports this project because the Fire District already serves as a central point of trust and engagement. Residents regularly participate in CPR, first aid, and wildfire preparedness classes, and during emergencies or power outages,

community members naturally look to the fire station for information and support. This project builds on the existing role the Fire District already plays in the valley.

The proposed community room would allow these activities to expand and reach more residents, while also providing a reliable, ADA-accessible space for nonprofit and civic use. With backup power at the station, the expanded facility would also improve the community's ability to support seniors, medically vulnerable residents, and families during extended outages or emergency events.

The EVCA Board represents a broad cross-section of Evans Valley residents, and we view this project as a clear reflection of local needs and priorities. It is a practical, long-term investment in community safety, preparedness, and connection.

For these reasons, the Evans Valley Community Association strongly supports the Evans Valley Fire District #6 station expansion and community room project and encourages your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,



Emily Sieger

President

Evans Valley Community Association

Board of Directors