

February 11, 2026

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Capital Construction Subcommittee
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SE Carlton Water Distribution System Improvements (City of Carlton)

Senator Girod, Representative Nosse, and Committee Members,

I am Montgomery Hurley, one of the owners of AKS Engineering and Forestry, LLC (AKS), and we support the City of Carlton's request for \$1.8 million to upsize and loop the SE water distribution system.

This upgrade is necessary to meet required fire flow—especially near Yamhill/Carlton Elementary School—and to improve reliability during peak demand and drought.

Adequate fire flow and reliable water service are foundational requirements for housing approvals and financing. Carlton has identified this infrastructure as necessary to support development of nearly 80 workforce-priced homes within the Urban Growth Boundary.

State partnership would help unlock housing supply while ensuring the community can serve existing residents safely.

The total project cost is \$2.52 million, and the City has committed \$720,000 in local match.

The project can be phased or scaled based on funding, prioritizing segments that deliver the most immediate fire-flow and reliability gains—an approach that can align construction with housing delivery timelines.

We respectfully request your support for this investment in safe infrastructure that enables workforce housing and community resilience.

AKS is a business that specializes in civil engineering, structural engineering, traffic engineering, mechanical/electrical/plumbing engineering, geotechnical engineering, land surveying, land use planning, landscape architecture, natural resources, forestry / forest engineering, GIS, consulting arborist, water resources, and construction management.

AKS provides these services to a broad range of clients including public and private agencies and clients such as cities, counties, ports, energy developers, and utility districts, as well as residential developers, commercial developers, high tech and industrial companies, and forestry companies.

AKS has worked on many projects in Carlton providing vital infrastructure for businesses and residences. We have worked hard to help make Carlton a great town.

In addition to the projects we have worked on in town, AKS has donated money to the Yamhill Carlton Together Cares (YCTC) (501c3 that runs the youth sports in the community), the Yamhill Carlton Boosters Club (a group that helps fund Yamhill Carlton School District sports and activities), and the Yamhill Carlton School District.

In addition to the financial donations we have made to these groups, I personally coached youth football and baseball teams for 12 years in the community (much of my coaching was on the fields in Carlton). My wife, brother, and sister in law have also coached sports teams for many years in the community, and they have been on the boards of YCTC and the Boosters Club.

Both of my boys went to Carlton Elementary School, and they both graduated from Yamhill Carlton High School over the past few years. Also, my niece and nephews went to Carlton Elementary School.

As you can see, my company and I are very vested in the community.

This project is very important to our Community.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M B Hurley', with a checkmark at the end.

Montgomery B. Hurley, PE, PLS, Principal

Both personally and for AKS Engineering and Forestry, LLC