



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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Pioneering pathways to prosperity.

Co-Chair Sen. Fred Girod
Co-Chair Rep. Rod Nosse
Capital Construction Committee

Re: Testimony to Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction -
Mosier Center

On behalf of Wasco County Emergency Management Department, I am writing to express our strong support for Mosier's Capital Construction request for funding support for the Mosier Center, a critical public safety facility and economic hub for our community.

The Mosier Center is an investment in both the safety and long-term economic resilience of Mosier and the entire Columbia Gorge. The Gorge region, including Mosier, is no stranger to the devastating costs of wildfires. Over the past several years, we have witnessed first-hand the severe impacts that wildfires can have on local communities, including the destruction of property, loss of critical infrastructure, and the disruption of local businesses. It is more important than ever to invest in improved fire safety infrastructure.

The proposed Mosier Center will serve as a critical resource for enhancing fire preparedness, response capabilities, and community resilience. This facility will be utilized in the event of a fire emergency, serving as a refuge and resource center for affected residents.

The dual purpose of the community center first as shelter and basic needs during emergencies, also serves as a resource for both tourists and local businesses. By offering a dedicated space for visitor information and public meeting facilities, Mosier Center will serve as a central hub for those looking to explore the area and to learn about the rich history of Mosier. It will help bridge the gap between the influx of visitors and the small businesses that depend on their patronage.

We fully support the request for this important project and encourage you to prioritize its funding. The Mosier Center, with its fire station, will be an invaluable asset, strengthening both the safety and economic vitality of the Columbia Gorge region.

Sincerely,

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