

Submitter: Karen SARNAKER
On Behalf Of: North Bounty Food Bank
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5701

To: The Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction

A new facility for the North County Food Bank is imperative for our rural coastal community that is out of the tsunami zone.

The North County Food Bank supports the needs of our lower income residents. They require a new distribution center to operate providing food and basic needs to our low income families. Many of those families are families with children.

It's hard to overstate how integrated North County Food Bank is with our community. Many of us volunteer to distribute food or unload trucks; others work at the Alder Creek Farm community garden to provide fresh produce. The Emergency Volunteer Corp of Nehalem Bay and others participate in local food drives, donate money, and sponsor or attend events that support the food bank. We are neighbors helping our neighbors.

Your allocation of funds to bring critical infrastructure elements, including water, sewer, and electricity, to the site will provide about 25 percent of the funds necessary for the project. NCFB has secured donations and grants to construct the rest. I believe this is a reasonable investment of state dollars that will provide returns for decades to come for the people of Tillamook County. The site has room for expansion, and the utilities will support future needs.

Please allocate funds for the North County Food Bank New Distribution Facility project.

Thank you.
Dr. Karen Sarnaker