



February 10, 2026

Subject: North Tillamook County Food Bank Infrastructure

To: Members of the Oregon Legislature Ways and Means Capital Construction Sub-committee

I am pleased to express my strong support for the North County Food Bank's request for state capital funding to complete site infrastructure improvements—specifically sewer, water, and electrical service—for a permanent food distribution facility in North Tillamook County.

North County Food Bank has served the Nehalem Bay region for more than 30 years and currently provides reliable food access to approximately 2,700 households annually. Rural food security is increasingly challenged by seasonal employment, limited transportation, rising housing costs, and aging infrastructure. Geographic isolation and limited grocery options make reliable, affordable food access more difficult for many rural households.

The requested funding is limited to essential site utilities and will fill the funding gap for a build-ready project. This project is shovel-ready and a priority for our community.

Investment in core infrastructure for food access aligns with the state's priorities for rural health, emergency preparedness, and efficient capital deployment. This project is a durable public investment with long-term benefit to the region.

I respectfully encourage approval of this request and appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Phil Chick

Mayor

City of Nehalem