

DAN JOHNSON Director

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUILDING

150 BEAVERCREEK ROAD OREGON CITY, OR 97045

MEMORANDUM

- TO: Board of County Commissioners Gary Schmidt, County Administrator
- FROM: Dan Johnson; Director, Transportation and Development
- DATE: November 1, 2022
- RE: Johnson Creek Watershed Counsel Support Request

REQUEST: Support from the Board to assist the Johnson Creek Watershed Counsel in their pursuit of grant funds for the construction of the Badger Creek at Rugg Road Culvert Replacement Project.

BACKGROUND: The Department of Transportation and Development (DTD) staff identified the need to replace two existing side-by-side culverts that convey Badger Creek under Rugg Road at mile point 1.38 in Damascus. This location is adjacent to the Springwater Corridor crossing of Rugg Road. The culverts are both corrugated metal, 36-inch diameter, and 52-feet long. Both culverts are in poor condition, rusted throughout, and the inlet ends have been crushed. In 2019, a project prospectus was created with the project funded entirely from County Road Funds.

This section of Badger Creek is known to support coho salmon, native winter steelhead, and cutthroat trout, among other essential aquatic species, and replacement of the existing culverts would trigger State of Oregon fish-passage guidelines. As a result, DTD proposes to replace the culverts with a single 10-foot diameter culvert, which matches the same configuration that the JCWC installed on the Springwater Corridor crossing of Badger Creek in 2016. This location is just 20-feet upstream of Rugg Road and Johnson Creek Watershed Council (JCWC) utilized Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) grant funds to construct the project. The estimated construction cost is \$321,480.

This project is one of a few high-priority fish-enhancement projects for JCWC. Upon learning of their eligibility to apply for a portion of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding that is intended to restore fish passage through barrier removal, the JCWC proposed the concept of replacing \$300,000 in County Road Funds with IIJA funds. In order to develop a very competitive IIJA grant application, the JCWC is partnering with three additional watershed councils on a total of ten fish enhancement projects, including this project, for approximately \$3.5 million, and all of the projects are within Clackamas County.

JCWC recently submitted the IIJA grant application and included this project. If IIJA funds are granted, the JCWC would manage the grant, solicit bids for construction, and coordinate construction of these projects. DTD would supply plans, specifications and permit approvals currently in progress, and would review construction submittals and provide inspection of the project's construction.

DTD is respectfully requesting support from the Board to assist the Johnson Creek Watershed Counsel in their pursuit of grant funds for the construction of the Badger Creek at Rugg Road Culvert Replacement Project. If the grant is accepted, an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County and JCWC will be brought before the Board at a future Business Meeting for formal approval.

