



MEMORANDUM

To: Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners
From: Tonia Holowetzki, Director, Public & Government Affairs
RE: Letters of Support for External Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) Requests
Date: February 25, 2025

REQUEST: Approve 4 letters of support for Congressionally Directed Spending requests by community partners.

BACKGROUND: Congressional offices are beginning to solicit CDS proposals. Several community partners have reached out to Clackamas County to solicit letters in support of their respective proposals. To date, Clackamas County has received four support requests.

- **City of Tualatin | 65th & Borland Intersection Improvements Project.** The City of Tualatin seeks CDS funding for the construction phase of the 65th & Borland Intersection Improvements Project. The eastern side of 65th Ave is owned by Clackamas County and the western side is owned by Washington County. Construction includes the addition of a northbound right turn lane for traffic turning from 65th onto Borland and other improvements for traffic safety and more efficient use of the intersection area.
- **Hoodland Fire District #74 | Main Fire Station.** Hoodland Fire District #74 seeks CDS funding to supplement a May 2025 bond measure to design and build a new fire station. The facility will include a community and training room, triage area, drive-thru apparatus bays, private sleeping quarters, offices, and US Forest Service wildland fire operations integration—a first-of-its-kind, inter-agency collaboration. The new facility will be in a prime location and secured at no cost through an agreement with Clackamas County.
- **Oregon Institute of Technology | Accelerating Domestic Energy Dominance.** Oregon Tech seeks funding to develop leading-edge capabilities in research, education and training in hydrogen production, solar and solar thermal technologies, and emerging battery technology. The proposal also will advance technologies related to long-duration energy storage. The initiative will be located at Oregon Tech's Portland-Metro and Klamath Falls campuses.
- **Proud Ground | Community Land Trust.** The Housing Authority of Clackamas County (HACC) is preparing for the disposition of its 145-unit, scattered-site public housing portfolio. Proud Ground seeks CDS funding to implement a community land trust to acquire these scattered site homes and make any necessary repairs to make them mortgage-ready and permanently affordable for first-time homebuyers with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income. HACC will likely provide bridge financing for Proud Ground to acquire the homes, with specifics to be determined.

RECOMMENDATION: PGA recommends the Board approve the 4 attached letters of support for Congressionally Directed Spending requests by community partners.

Respectfully submitted,

Tonia Holowetzki, Director, Public & Government Affairs



PUBLIC & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS
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ATTACHMENTS

- #1: City of Tualatin 65th and Borland Letter of Support
- #2: Hoodland Fire District #74 Main Fire Station Letter of Support
- #3: Oregon Institute of Technology Accelerating Domestic Energy Dominance Letter of Support
- #4: Proud Ground Community Land Trust Letter of Support

Attachment #1

February 23, 2025

Senator Ron Wyden
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Jeff Merkley
531 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Representative Andrea Salinas
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Letter of Support for the City of Tualatin's 65th & Borland Intersection Improvements Project

Dear Senators Wyden and Merkley and Representative Salinas,

I am writing to you on behalf of Clackamas County to express our support of the City of Tualatin's Fiscal Year 2026 Community Initiated Project application for the construction of improvements at the 65th Avenue & Borland Road intersection.

This project is partially located in Clackamas County, and we are pleased that the City is making an effort to improve congestion, capacity, and overall safety. This intersection includes two important arterials in Tualatin, Washington County, and Clackamas County, and the project will greatly benefit the more than 30,000 people per day who use it. Borland Road and 65th Avenue provide connections to parks, schools, transit, and a nearby hospital in Tualatin. Additionally, the roads are key connections in the region's transportation network; they connect to the only bridge over I-205 and one of only three bridges over I-5 in Tualatin.

The intersection is used by many in Tualatin and across the region alike. We are very excited about the safety and capacity improvements that this project will provide.

Respectfully,

Craig Roberts, Chair
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners

Attachment #2

February 23, 2025

Senator Ron Wyden
221 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg
Washington, D.C., 20510

Senator Jeff Merkley
531 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Wyden and Merkley,

I am writing to offer my full support for the Hoodland Fire District's (HFD) request for Community Initiated Project funding to assist in their efforts to replace their Main Fire Station. The Hoodland Fire District has been an indispensable resource to the communities it serves, and this critical project will enhance the services that HFD provides to the rural residents along Highway 26, from east of Sandy to Mt. Hood.

As the only emergency service provider in the area, HFD protects not only the local community but also state, federal, and private assets along this vital corridor. The district's current facility, built in 1966, has become outdated and can no longer accommodate the current or future operational needs of the fire district. Despite numerous repairs, remodels, and additions over the years, the facility's location directly on Highway 26 presents operational challenges and safety concerns.

A new, modern fire station will enable HFD to continue providing exceptional services, including fire response, emergency triage, fire marshal inspections, vehicle incident response, and a wide range of community services such as fire safety classes and assistance with home safety. The proposed new station will also provide additional space for emergency response units, administrative offices, and a community training area, further expanding HFD's capacity to serve the needs of the community. The collaboration with the US Forest Service on wildland fire operations will also create a model for inter-agency cooperation in the region.

The communities served by HFD, including Marmot, Cherryville, Brightwood, Wemme, Welches, Zigzag, Rhododendron, and Government Camp, are largely rural and composed of residents with limited financial resources. Given these challenges, the district's ability to secure additional funding to complement the anticipated bond measure is crucial to making this project a reality. The support of the Community Initiated Project funding will go a long way in ensuring that the

fire district can continue to meet the growing needs of its residents and provide the high level of service they rely on.

I wholeheartedly support the Hoodland Fire District's request for funding and urge you to consider the important role HFD plays in protecting the lives, property, and well-being of the residents and visitors in this vital region of Oregon. Thank you for your time and consideration, and for your continued support of our rural communities.

Sincerely,

Craig Roberts, Chair
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners

DRAFT

Attachment #3

February 17, 2025

Senator Ron Wyden
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Jeff Merkley
531 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wyden and Senator Merkley,

Clackamas County writes in strong support of Oregon Tech's *Accelerating Domestic Energy Dominance* proposal to establish and foster advanced energy manufacturing capabilities. This proposal aligns with Clackamas County's economic development and workforce priorities and our shared interest in expanding domestic research and production in manufacturing.

This initiative, located at Oregon Tech's Portland-Metro and Klamath Falls campuses, will include development of leading-edge capabilities in research, education and training in the areas of hydrogen production, solar and solar thermal technologies, and emerging battery technology. The proposal also will advance technologies related to long-duration energy storage.

In addition to research and development, the proposed curriculum initiatives will bridge the gap between theory and practice and provide students with access to advanced equipment and capabilities to pave the way for breakthroughs in advanced energy manufacturing. Undergraduate and Graduate level certificate courses on advanced energy manufacturing will contribute to a skilled workforce in the renewable energy sector, impacting about 300 undergraduate and graduate students annually.

By fostering a workforce well-versed in the theoretical and practical aspects of energy manufacturing, Oregon Tech will play a pivotal role in advancing the field and ensuring that graduates are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to contribute effectively to the domestic energy supply.

Thank you for your consideration.

Craig Roberts, Chair
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners

Attachment #4

February 17, 2025

RE: Letter of Support for Proud Ground's FY26 Congressional Directed Spending Application

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

On behalf of Clackamas County, I am pleased to offer our strong support for Proud Ground's application for FY26 Congressional Directed Spending. Proud Ground's mission to create permanently affordable homeownership opportunities has had a lasting impact on our region and continues to address the critical housing challenges we face.

Clackamas County is experiencing significant housing affordability issues, and Proud Ground's community land trust model provides a sustainable solution. Their approach ensures that homeownership remains within reach for low- and moderate-income families, fostering long-term financial stability and stronger communities.

Proud Ground has been an invaluable partner in our collective efforts to increase affordable housing options in Clackamas County. Their work not only helps families achieve homeownership but also contributes to the economic resilience of our neighborhoods.

Congressional Directed Spending for Proud Ground will allow for expanded homeownership opportunities, benefiting many families in our community and enhancing our shared commitment to housing affordability.

We respectfully request your support for Proud Ground's application and appreciate your dedication to addressing the housing needs of our constituents.

Craig Roberts, Chair
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners