

To: ODOT staff

From: Chair Casey Kulla, Yamhill County Board of Commissioners

Date: January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Re: Community Pathways grant for Chehalem Parks and Recreation District trail, phase I

As you know, communities thrive when residents are healthy and have access to paths, trails and connections to nature. In our county, Chehalem Parks and Recreation District has the vision to build trails that connect people with nature and with neighboring communities (. Before you, you have a grant application that can do this: connect people with each other and with nature, building healthy people and planet, while leveraging the substantial investments in the Newberg Dundee bypass.

I wholeheartedly support this grant application, which will fund a significant first phase of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Trail. Your investment in this trail is also an investment in the redevelopment of the long-neglected Willamette River waterfront. How awesome is that?!

Thank you for your time and for considering multi-modal transportation options, which are ultimately about environmental justice and creating opportunities for recreation for marginalized communities.

Casey Kulla  
Chair, Yamhill County Board of Commissioners  
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