

414 E First Street · P.O. Box 970 · Newberg, OR 97132

January 19, 2021

Mr. Alan Thompson Oregon Department of Transportation 355 Capitol Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Re:

Newberg-Dundee Bypass Trail - Phase 1

Dear Mr. Thompson,

The City of Newberg supports the Chehalem Park and Recreation District application for the 2021 Oregon Communities Paths grant. This approximately 7,300 lineal foot multiuse path between the intersection of S Industrial Parkway/Highway 219 and the intersection of S River Street/E Fourteenth Street is part of the larger five and one-half mile Newberg-Dundee Bypass Bicycle Facility identified in the Newberg Dundee Bypass Tier 2 Final Environmental Impact Statement (April 2012), Chehalem Heritage Trail Strategic Plan (April 2020), and the Newberg Transportation System Plan (December 2016) as project CH07.

Additionally the multiuse path would in part be located within the Riverfront Master Plan area adopted in September 2019 where 339 new residential units, up to 1.5M square feet of industrial and commercial development are envisioned, along with 164 acres of existing and prosed new park and open space areas. The trail would furthermore connect to an esplanade identified in the Riverfront Master Plan along the top of the bluff overlooking the Willamette River for recreational purposes.

The proposed multiuse path would serve as both a commuting route for south Newberg residents to industrial employment along the Highway 219/ Springbrook Road corridors and retail employment along the Highway 99W corridor, as well a recreation route for south and east Newberg residents linking park and open space areas. The multiuse path will also provide connections between educational facilities of Portland Community College and the Newberg School District.

This segment of the Newberg-Dundee Bypass trail is critical in filling in a gap for what has already been constructed. As part of the Phase 1 Newberg Dundee Bypass construction segments of the trail were constructed between E Wynooski Street and S River Street along E Eleventh Street. Another segment was constructed along S College Street and E Weatherly Way. Finally a segment was constructed along Springbrook Road between Highway 219 and Highway 99W. The multiuse path proposed in the grant

fills in a missing gap that will connect the existing trail segments already constructed and creates a 2.5 mile multiuse path trail system.

The City of Newberg is pleased to offer our support for the Chehalem Park and Recreation District 2021 Oregon Communities Paths grant for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass Trail - Phase 1 grant and look forward to working with Chehalem Park and Recreation District to identify matching funds.

Sincerely,

Rick Rogers Mayor