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Clackamas County
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MEMORANDUM

To: Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners
From: Nancy Bush, Interim Director, Public & Government Affairs
RE: Kellogg Creek Bridge Replacement Project Letter of Support
Date: July 7, 2026

REQUEST: Approve a letter of support for an Oregon Department of Transportation grant proposal to fund the Kellogg Creek Bridge Replacement Project.

BACKGROUND: On June 2, the Federal Highway Administration issued a notice of funding opportunity under the Culvert Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) Competitive Grant Program. The program funds the replacement, removal, and repair of culverts or weirs that meaningfully improve or restore fish passage for anadromous fish, such as salmon. To date, Clackamas County has received one letter of support request from the North Clackamas Watersheds Council to advance the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Kellogg Creek Bridge Replacement Project.

Kellogg Creek Bridge Replacement Project Construction: ODOT seeks construction funding for the Kellogg Creek Bridge Replacement Project, which will provide volitional fish passage past the Kellogg Creek Weir and box culvert and replace the earthquake-vulnerable Highway 99E bridge that sits atop a weir built in 1848. The project will also restore lower Kellogg Creek by removing a thermal barrier, creating a 14-acre public natural area to increase flood attenuation, and providing a safe off-grade crossing of Highway 99E between downtown Milwaukie, OR, and the Willamette River and Milwaukie Bay Park's river access.

The total construction phase cost is \$73M. ODOT's grant request is \$55M. The project carries \$27M in match, including \$12M from Metro and the City of Milwaukie, state and private funds, and \$15M from NOAA to fund the full design. ODOT is the funding recipient and delivery agency. The City of Milwaukie, North Clackamas Watersheds Council and American Rivers are Leadership Partners. Clackamas WES is also a partner and sits on the Technical Advisory Committee.

The Clackamas County Department of Transportation and Development will also submit a proposal to the Culvert AOP Competitive Grant Program to replace six culverts along Hackett Creek in Rhododendron, opening 2.5 miles of stream for fish passage (including salmon) and addressing significant safety concerns at these culverts.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the letter of support as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Bush
Interim Director, Public & Government Affairs

ATTACHMENTS

#A: Draft Letter of Support
#B: Project Location Map

DRAFT Board of County Commissioners Letter

July 7, 2026

Sean Duffy
Secretary of Transportation
US Department of Transportation
12000 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Sean McMaster
Federal Highway Administrator
US Department of Transportation
12000 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Kellogg Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Dear Secretary Duffy and Administrator McMaster,

On behalf of Clackamas County, I write to express support for the Kellogg Creek Bridge Replacement Project under the Culvert Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) Program. Home to more than 430,000 neighbors, Clackamas is Oregon's third-most populous county. As our community continues to grow, investments in safe, reliable infrastructure are essential to support daily life and economic activity.

The Kellogg Creek Bridge is a crucial connection on Highway 99E, facilitating commuter and freight movement. Constructed in 1934, the bridge rests atop a box culvert and an historic weir. In addition to seismic and safety vulnerabilities, the structure has become a barrier to salmon and steelhead migration between spawning, rearing, and migratory habitats in the Willamette River System and the ocean.

Replacing the Kellogg Creek Bridge will enhance system resilience, restore critical fish migration routes, and stimulate economic growth in the surrounding area. The new bridge will better connect the Willamette River—a destination for fishing, recreation, and community events—with Milwaukie's expanding downtown commercial area.

We have invested staff time in the project through the project's Technical Advisory Committee. It is in the final design phase and ready for construction. Advancing the project into construction will benefit the region for years to come.

Sincerely,

DRAFT

Craig Roberts, Chair
On Behalf of the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners

Project Area

