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Clackamas County
www.clackamas.us

Mary Rumbaugh
Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners (BCC)
FROM: Mary Rumbaugh
RE: City of Sandy Transit Building Grant Support Letter
DATE: March 31, 2026

REQUEST: Board approval of a letter of support for the City of Sandy's new transit building grant application.

BACKGROUND: The City of Sandy is applying for competitive grant funding through the Oregon Department of Transportation to support the construction of a new Transit Maintenance Bay and Operations Building. This facility will provide critical infrastructure to support the operation, maintenance, and long-term sustainability of transit services operated by the City of Sandy on behalf of Clackamas County, including the Mt. Hood Express Service and the Village Shuttle Service.

Approval of this letter of support will demonstrate the County's commitment to regional collaboration and to maintaining and strengthening transit services that serve residents, employees, and visitors throughout Clackamas County.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the Board approve the letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Rumbaugh

Mary Rumbaugh

Director of Health, Housing & Human Services

Attachments:

#1: Draft Letter of Support

DRAFT Board of County Commissioners Letter

March 31, 2026

Oregon Department of Transportation
Rail and Public Transit Division

Dear Oregon Department of Transportation:

Clackamas County strongly supports grant funding to help the City of Sandy construct a new Transit Maintenance Bay and Operations Building. This project is a practical investment in regional connectivity, operational efficiency, and long-term taxpayer savings.

Due to current facility limitations, all maintenance for SAM and Mt. Hood Express vehicles must be outsourced at significantly higher cost. A dedicated maintenance and operations facility will allow the City to bring mechanical work in-house for City departments and Clackamas County's Mt. Hood Express service, creating a shared resource and reducing long-term expenses.

The City of Sandy has already committed \$300,000 for design and planning and secured \$900,000 in state funding for construction. Federal investment will allow the City to complete this critical project and ensure public resources are used efficiently.

Sandy's transit operations serve as a hub for transportation across several rural communities, including the mountain communities, Boring, Estacada, Eagle Creek, and Damascus. In partnership with Clackamas County, Sandy Transit also provides countywide medical transportation for seniors and people with disabilities. As part of the regional Vision Around the Mountain initiative, Sandy Transit and Mt. Hood Express provide essential connections for residents, workers, and visitors throughout the Mt. Hood region.

A modern operations and maintenance facility will ensure these services remain reliable while also supporting staff training, workforce development, and emergency preparedness.

Clackamas County strongly encourages support for this project, which will strengthen regional mobility, improve efficiency, and deliver long-term value for taxpayers. Thank you for supporting rural transportation and infrastructure.

Sincerely,

DRAFT

Craig Roberts, Chair

On Behalf of the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners