

**VAL HOYLE**  
4<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, OREGON

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL  
RESOURCES

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 23, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
2007 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2024 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, I respectfully request funding for Willamette Activity Center Renovation Project, Oakridge, Oregon, in the amount of \$2,750,000 within the Committee's Community Project Funding Effort.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Oakridge, Oregon, located at 47674 School Street, Oakridge, OR 97463.

The Willamette Activity Center project in Oakridge, Oregon will rehabilitate the current facility that requires significant repair and upgrades and became uninhabitable in 2022. The facility was originally constructed in the 1940's as a school and has been used by the city to host critical community services organizations and community meetings. As a result, critical services are now staging in temporary locations throughout the City of Oakridge.

Funding the Willamette Activity Center renovation would ensure that the City of Oakridge can continue to offer wraparound critical services to community members in need, in a convenient location, and in a building that has long been a community hub. The total cost of the project is \$5 million, which includes redesigning and replacing the roof to prevent water intrusion, installing critical electrical upgrades, foundation improvements, insulation, conforming to ADA accessibility standards, seismic upgrades, energy efficient lighting, and better designing the interior to meet the needs of the relevant service providers.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a). Oakridge has a population of approximately 5,000. As specified in 7 CFR 3570.53, any Community Facilities project must serve a rural area (rural areas including cities, villages, townships and Federally Recognized Tribal lands with no more than 20,000 residents). In addition, this request is subject to cost share requirements specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Oakridge's population makes it eligible for up to 75% grant funding under 7 CFR 3570.63(b).

The Community Facilities Program is meant to ensure that rural areas have essential community infrastructure and the same basic quality of life and services as those in urban areas. The Willamette Activity Center Renovation Project is perfectly aligned with the intent of this program, since the facility will be the primary community gathering place and social services provider for an isolated, rural, low-income community.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Val T. Hoyle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "V".

Val T. Hoyle  
Member of Congress