



Home of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge

City of Sherwood
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City Manager
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May 7, 2021

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
1100 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Lottery Bond Request – City of Sherwood

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Holvey, Vice-Chairs and Members of the Committee:

State Highway 99W divides the City of Sherwood in two; generally east and west of the highway. When the school district was choosing a new location for the high school, there was no parcels large enough within the then city limits to fit the new high school. As a result, the school district chose to purchase land for the new school in “Sherwood West” across state Highway 99W from town in an area that was added to the UGB by Metro in 2017, subsequently annexed into the city. Sherwood West is 1200 acres of land west and north of the current city boundaries and the area is planned for significant commercial, residential and industrial uses. It is essentially the future of Sherwood.

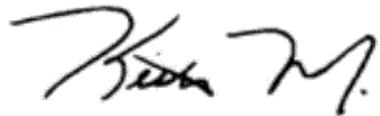
While the bridge will be used by students and their families, it will serve an even larger purpose to connect both sides of town together. Existing neighborhoods to the east of Highway 99W have an extensive pedestrian trail system and the Sherwood West area is envisioned to continue this trail network. Providing a safe bike/ped crossing over the increasingly busy state highway has been a major component of the city’s vision. It has always been intended that this bridge would be part of how Sherwood keeps its city safely connected as it continues to rapidly grow on either side of Hwy 99W.

The planned pedestrian bridge would be built at Sunset Blvd. and cross 6 lanes of Hwy 99W. The speed limit at this intersection on Hwy 99W is 45 mph. We consistently see drivers going 10 miles or more over the speed limit and running red lights at this intersection. This bridge will keep our residents safe, and we appreciate the state chipping in to cover the balance of the project to protect our residents from being hit on the state highway.

We estimate the total cost of the bridge to be \$11.5 million. To cover the majority of the project costs, we’ve been busy setting up a new urban renewal district in our town. With \$4 million in state funding for this project, we can entirely eliminate that hazard and provide a pedestrian friendly way to cross town to Sherwood West.

This request is not new, we were very pleased when legislature had allocated for \$2 million in funding in 2019 in lottery bonds, unfortunately those were not able to be sold and delivered. In 2020, the legislature included an additional \$2 million in the lottery bond bill that was not ultimately passed. The City of Sherwood would greatly appreciate the state allocating the total \$4 million it was poised to deliver the past couple sessions. Thank you for your consideration. Please reach out to the City of Sherwood if you would like any further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith M." or "Keith Mays".

Mayor Keith Mays
City of Sherwood