

Submitter: Rick Riker
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3939

RE: Amendment 1 to House Bill 3939

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Andersen, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, and Members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness,

- This letter is to strongly support the Amendment 1 to HB 3939 which includes the city's Redwood Highway Waterline Looping project.
- This project is shovel ready.
- The City has completed design drawings and specifications and is ready to bid the project.
- 100% of the funding provided will be spent on the construction of this critical water line. Most importantly,
- This water line allows for the development of approximately 1,614 housing units in the redwood area, 35% of Grants Pass' identified housing need for the next 20 years.

Background

- The Redwood Highway Waterline project arose after the completion of 2016 Water Distribution System Master Plan Update when it was identified that this area needed further study before improvements could be quantified or installed.
- Study conclusions determined installation of a large diameter transmission main as critical to the overall function of the water system in the area.
- Installs 9,700 feet of large diameter water line in the ODOT Right of Way
- Makes water available to over 186 acres of underdeveloped residential land that is already inside the Grants Pass Urban Growth Boundary and designated for medium to high density housing.
- This line provides potable water and fire service to over 2,000 currently connected residential and commercial properties.
- If the current single line fails, there would be no way to provide domestic water or fire service to thousands of residential customers, an elementary school and Rogue Community College.
- This project will be installed in partnership with ODOT who is allowing the line to be installed in the shoulder of Redwood Highway, greatly reducing the cost by alleviating the need to purchase additional ROW or easements for the project.