From: eballenger@juno.com

To: <u>SENR Exhibits</u>

Subject: opposed to Whisnant bill prohibiting the construction of a pedestrian bridge.

Date: Saturday, May 06, 2017 9:17:49 PM

Dear Senate Committee Members,

I am wriiting to you today as a homeowner with a house in the neighborhool that backs up on the Deschutes River Trail. My address is 19927 Windflower Way, you can google map it, and as you will see, it is on a heavily used section of the trail. We can see people running and walking the trail from the house acroos the street and have never had any issues or problems with any one. My husband and I believe strongly that public lands should be enjoyed by everyone and it benefits whole communities when it is available. A connector bridge is badly needed and provide more pedestrian-friendly access for our communities to enjoy.

While in the summer months the trail does become busy, we have found that for the majority of the time, it is used mostly by our neighbors and we have developed many close friendships with our neighbors because of that.

The homeowners who are fighting this bridge and trail connector are afraid. However, I can say from experience that they have no need to be.

If you have any further questions or would like to speak to us in person, my husband and I are available to answer any question you might have.

Sincerely,

Liz Ballenger and Jason Ramsdell 19927 Windflower Way Bend, OR 97702