

Members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Sandra Vancil

Bend, OR 97702

Dear Honorable Members,

I am writing to you today in opposition to House Bill 2027. This bill will ultimately stop the progress that the Bend Parks & Recreation District have been so diligently working on since our last Bond was approved and supported by 88% of the community. As many of you know, we here in Bend take pride in our parks, systems of trails and amenities and the availability of these facilities made to all residence and visitors alike.

The accessibility issue is of upmost important to me and my "Older Friends". As it is now, being on the east side of the Deschutes river, I must drive from the east side through and around old mill district to reach the National Forest and trail system on the west side. Taking additional time and creating unnecessary and numerous car trips are a few of the problems that this bridge would solve. Accessibility is Key!

In Summary, Passage of House Bill 2027 would prevent an entire community, not just a few, from even having the opportunity to participate in the extensive public engagement process that this project would require. Please vote No on 2027.

Thank you for time,

Sandra Vancil.