

Hamre Jaime

From: Kim Midanik <revkim213@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 2:56 PM
To: HAGNR Exhibits
Subject: House Bill 2049

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Dear House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources,

Respectfully, my husband and I join "72% of respondents to a BPRD survey that were **supportive** of completing a footbridge crossing on the south boundary of Bend, Oregon."*

House Bill 4029 seeks to **ban bridge construction** over the Deschutes River within certain portions of the Deschutes River Scenic Waterway, basically from the Central Oregon Irrigation District intake to a location upriver of Sunriver. **This bill would effectively thwart the Bend Park and Recreation District's (BPRD) long-range plan to build a pedestrian bridge that would connect recreational trail users on the east side of the river with public lands and trails on the west side, which extend to Sunriver.**

***Last year, 72% of respondents to a BPRD survey were supportive of completing a footbridge crossing on the south boundary of Bend.**

In our opinion, Bend's Park and Recreation District is a highly responsible and well-funded creator of beautiful parks and recreation areas in Bend. There is simply no reason why this bridge cannot be created in such a way that it both supports the ability of Bend residents and its many tourists to access trails on the west side of the Deschutes and the environment. The majority of people who live here and who visit are good stewards of the surrounding environment. That's why they come here--to enjoy the beauty and to care for it. They should not be penalized because of a fear the "few" might do damage.

We sincerely request that you vote NO on this destructive bill.

Thank you,
Kim and Bill Midanik
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