



Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Oregon
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February 6, 2019

Chair Chuck Riley
Senate Business and General Governmental Committee
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room 453
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Riley,

I'm appreciative of the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 219 which is being considered today. This bill is about lottery funds and interest being transferred from the State Treasurer to the Oregon Business Development Department, which would then deposit these funds in the Regional Infrastructure Fund. The RIF is established to provide grants and loans to local governments and federally recognized Indian Tribes located in this state for infrastructure projects, including long-range planning, research and design. The grants and loans are to be allocated based on recommendations of regionally-based planning committees designated by the Department.

The Legislative Assembly finds that the use of lottery bond proceeds will create jobs, further economic development, and that integrated development of infrastructure will establish a foundation for expanding existing businesses and for developing and attracting new businesses. The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Indian Reservation of Oregon is in the process of assessing its aged water treatment and distribution systems, wastewater plant and systems, and the solid waste/landfill sites and their concerns in the near future. A "Strategic Infrastructure Improvement Plan" (SIIP) was completed in April 2014 in behalf of the Warm Springs Tribes, by professional consultants, commissioned to find factual information and provide their assessments and recommendations on future capital improvements to these aging infrastructure systems. The SIIP plan revealed what the physical condition of all aged infrastructure systems in operation at the Warm Springs Tribe. The consultants performed financial analysis and provided cost estimates of more than \$52 million to replace, rehabilitate or renovate existing areas and facilities.

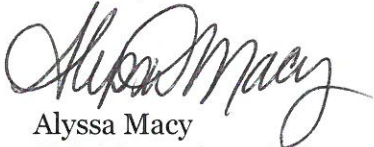
The Warm Springs Indian Tribes want to be in a competitive situation wherein the Tribes may submit grant applications to earn awards of funding to provide planning and construction dollars for upgrading and replacing aged infrastructure systems in a rural community of about 4,500 people, living on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation. The demands and needs for capital improvements to existing operating systems became more evident in 2018, when major and essential pumps and distribution piping network systems failed. We have been able in most cases to do a short term fix but these will need to be removed and replaced.



The Warm Springs Tribes were fortunate in 2018 to receive some emergency “Imminent Threats” grant funds from Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for emergency funds to keep water flowing to Reservation residents. It’s past time for performing the necessary and critical planning, development and construction activities to significantly upgrade all needed infrastructure systems for the next 40 years of service to the resident public. We, in leadership positions, strongly endorse and urge support to approve Senate Bill 219.

Your attention to this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Alyssa Macy
Chief Operations Officer

