



City of Eagle Point

February 26, 2019

Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development
Senator James Manning, Jr. (Co-Chair)
Representative David Gomberg (Co-Chair)
Senator Jeff Golden
Senator Bill Hansell
Representative Paul Evans
Representative Gary Leif
Representative Rachel Prusak
Representative Duane Stark

900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: 2019-2021 Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF)

Honorable Members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development:

On behalf of the City of Eagle Point, I am communicating our strong support for the Governor's Regional Solutions Program and the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF), part of Business Oregon's budget. The City of Eagle Point was recently awarded a grant for \$200,000 from the RIF to assist with the rebuild of the community's Butte Creek Mill, originally constructed in 1872. The mill burned down on Christmas day, 2015.

The Butte Creek Mill is currently being reconstructed with the help of private fund raising. The RIF grant is an important piece of the Butte Creek Mill rebuild. When seeking funding for a multi-million dollar project, each funder is essential. This project will be self-sustaining as a small business employer and will not just drive economic activity, but preserve an important part of community history.

We appreciate the work of the Regional Solutions Team in Southern Oregon and are very thankful for their help in partnering with the City of Eagle Point, the Butte Creek Mill Foundation, and the private sector to help restore this important tourist attraction. The RIF helps assist with local projects based on regional priorities. In short, the RIF provides funds to rural projects that really need the money.

Very truly yours,

Ruth Jenks
Mayor