

Chair Lively and members of the House Committee on Economic Development

Good Afternoon!

My name is Tom Messenger. I live in Pacific City Oregon.

I am spearheading an effort to get Oregon Highway 6 ("OR 6") improved between Banks and Tillamook.

A broad base of support has been generated for our recommended changes. The list of supporters is attached which includes two members of this committee and five other legislators.

Two key recommended changes are improved cell service and installing a cam at the top of OR 6.

OR 6 has no cell service at all for 32 contiguous miles from just east of Tillamook to the Timber Junction except for infrequent minor service right at the top of the hill.

The existing cam for OR 6 is 11 miles west and a 1000 feet in elevation lower than the summit of OR 6.

HB 3061 will make it easier to address these problems.

But it will even better if two changes are made to the bill.

1. Allow the political subdivisions of the state of Oregon to lease or rent property for providing broadband access. This allows for more flexibility for the political subdivisions.
2. Allow the state of Oregon to sell, lease or rent property for providing broadband access. This allows for more flexibility for the state to assist in getting more broadband access in rural areas.

Thank You!

Support List for the Oregon Hwy 6 Improvements Proposal

Northwest Area Committee on Transportation
Oregon Trucking Association
Washington County Commissioners
Washington County Land Use and Transportation
Washington County Sheriff
Tillamook County Commissioners
Tillamook County Creamery Association
Hampton Lumber Company
Banks School District
Tillamook School District
Tillamook County Sheriff
Tillamook County Public Works
Tillamook People's Utility District
Col-Pac Economic Development District
Tillamook Economic Development Council
Tillamook Chamber of Commerce
Tillamook Coast (Visitors Association)
Tillamook Adventist Regional Medical Center
Washington County Visitors Association
Nestucca Valley Chamber of Commerce
Sen Betsy Johnson
Sen Arnie Roblan
Sen Chuck Riley
Rep David Gomberg
Rep Susan McClain
Rep Deborah Boone
Rep Mitch Greenlick
Rep Ken Helm
Rep Janeen Sollman
City of Tillamook
City of Banks
Tillamook County Commissioner Candidate Mary Faith Bell (elected)
Tillamook County Commissioner Candidate Adam Schwend
Pacific City Citizen Advisory Committee
Port of Tillamook Bay
Port of St Helens
Banks Chamber of Commerce
Forest Grove Chamber of Commerce
Gales Creek Chamber of Commerce