

RAQUEL MOORE-GREEN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE, District 19
South Salem, Turner, and Aumsville



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 6, 2021

Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for considering this testimonial request for the City of Turner and their need to have a safe and useful water system. This has been an ongoing issue for the past several sessions that I hope we will fully address it this session. Currently the City of Turner needs \$3M to completely resolve the issues that have resulted from a re-design of their water system.

The City of Salem and the City of Turner are part of the same water system derived from the North Santiam River. The City of Salem, with past funding from the legislature, is currently redesigning their water system to address the toxic blue-green algae water contamination issue. Salem's redesign directly impacts Turner's water system. These systems are inextricably tied together and their effort to address the toxic blue-green algae water contamination another design and hence delivery problem, has been created.

This design change decreases the water pressure in the City of Turner by 40% and prevents enough water flow for use in the event of a fire for many of its buildings. Unless Turner fixes this low water pressure problem development within the city will come to a standstill. The State Fire Marshall has determined that if not fixed the water flow for fighting fires will be insufficient.

The \$3M requested will allow the City of Turner to solve the issues from the redesign. The City will install a new upgraded main system from the post office to City Hall on Third Street and connect it to the city's existing mains along Chicago Street. Thus, creating an acceptable water pressure for fighting fires and meeting the standards set by the State Fire Marshall.

The City of Turner does not have the resources available to cover this expenditure. Since joining the legislature in 2019 I have worked with City Manager Sawyer to help meet the water needs of this small town. Today Senator Patterson and I are united in making the request to the state to provide an avenue for the needed funding to remedy this redesign issue. Our constituents in Turner deserve water that is safe to drink and is useable in the case of a fire.

The legislature included the funding for this project, as part of an allocation to the City of Salem, in the 2020 budget bill that ultimately did not pass. I ask for the \$3M for the City of Turner's water redesign be included in your budget this session. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Moore-Green".

Raquel Moore-Green
State Representative, District 19