



# Pacific Crest Trail Association

May 4, 2023

To: Oregon Joint Committee on Capital Construction:  
Re: Funding for Restroom/Shower Facility at PCT Trailhead in Cascade Locks

Dear Committee members,

The Port of Cascade Locks is seeking \$178,000 from the state to complete a much-needed restroom and shower facility at for trail users visiting Cascade Locks. The Pacific Crest Trail Association fully supports this funding and urges your support.

This facility will certainly serve the thousands of PCT thru-hikers who pause in Cascade Locks for respite and resupply. The town is a vital link for most of those long-distance hikers, and this investment in public facilities will serve them and the town. Furthermore, the development of biking trails in the area is ongoing and a facility of this nature will add to the draw.

The PCTA is a non-profit with 15,500 members and thousands of volunteers who maintain the trail under the supervision of a small staff in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service. In 2022, the PCTA **volunteers gave 67,503 hours** to the trail, valued at **\$2.02 million**. We raised **\$3.28 million in private donations** for a total contribution of **\$5.3 million**. Our 10-year contribution is **\$45.5 million**.

This facility will significantly improve to the recreation experience provided to uncountable numbers of local hikers, bicyclists, motorists, and others who come to see the beauty of the Columbia River Gorge. The PCT and other outdoor recreation opportunities are huge drivers of the economies of Columbia River Gorge communities. The National Scenic Area is one of Oregon's crown jewels and it should include modern personal hygiene facilities for recreation visitors.

Your support of this funding would be a huge step forward.

Sincerely,

Mark Larabee, Advocacy Director

