

JANELLE S. BYNUM
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 39



COMMUNITIES
Happy Valley
North Clackamas
Damascus
Milwaukie
Oregon City

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 12, 2023

Co-Chair Steiner
Co-Chair Sanchez
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for Happy Valley Library Expansion Funding Request

Dear Co-Chairs Steiner and Sanchez,

As legislators who represent the Happy Valley community, we wish to express our collective support for the Happy Valley Library Expansion funding request. The Library is a regional hub for literacy, cultural, and community programming.

The City of Happy Valley has a population of more than 26,000 neighbors. While Happy Valley Library is managed by the City, the Library serves a community of more than 62,000, most of whom do not live in the City. Notably, the City can only collect funds from City residents, not the other 36,000 people who depend on the Library for vital services. **The City is providing \$7 million in local funds and is seeking**

\$4 million in State funding to cover expansion costs associated with non-resident library users.

To meet the needs of one of Oregon's *fastest growing* and *most diverse* communities – and the unincorporated areas that we serve – the City of Happy Valley is preparing to construct a 10,000 square-foot expansion to the existing Library building. Improvements will enable the City to provide a 300-person community room, community kitchen, and quiet study rooms – creating a welcoming place for

Thank you for considering this \$4 million investment in our community to augment our local \$7 million match. As legislators, we understand the difficult task in determining which projects to fund. We appreciate your leadership in supporting meaningful capital projects throughout the State.

Sincerely,

Representative Janelle Bynum

Senator Mark Meek

Representative Hoa Nguyen

Senator Kayse Jama