



PO Box 1920 • Corvallis OR 97339 • 541-758-2609 • www.linnbentonfoodshare.org
...dedicated to eliminating hunger in Linn and Benton Counties

May 5, 2023

To: Joint Subcommittee On Capital Construction

RE: HB 5030

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

My name is Ryan McCambridge, Director of Linn-Benton Food Share. We provide millions of pounds of food every year to our local community through a network of 68 partner agencies. These include food pantries (serving 14,000 individuals per month), meal sites (24,000 meals per month), gleaning groups and supplemental agencies (23,000 meals per month).

Our regional food bank network is requesting \$22M for one-time infrastructure investments into our regional food banks across the state. This request will help strengthen our statewide distribution network and support Oregonians facing hunger. Funds will allow us to meet increased needs and strengthen our statewide network, ensuring food remains available to all who need it.

Linn-Benton Food Share would use our portion of these funds to support fresh food distribution to end hunger and strengthen communities in Linn and Benton Counties. We would also purchase three delivery vehicles and make upgrades to our freezers and coolers. Additionally, funds would be used for the design and construction of a new, food-focused community center in Albany. This center would serve the entire community, from seniors to youth; a place where community services could be centrally accessed as well as providing a welcoming public space for all.

We are mindful as we make this request that food banking alone is not a permanent solution to hunger. We are encouraged that the legislature is also taking action to address the reasons why so many people seek emergency food.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Ryan McCambridge
Director



*Linn Benton Food Share is a department of Community Services Consortium
and a member of the Oregon Food Bank network*

