

May 3, 2023

Co-Chairs Senator Girod and Representative Holvey
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Capital Construction
Salem, Oregon. 97301

RE: CREF Slate 2023-25

Dear Co-Chairs Girod, Holvey and Members of the Subcommittee:

On behalf of Josephine Community Library Foundation in Josephine County, we respectfully request your support of the Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon (CACO) 2023 Cultural Resources Economic Fund (CREF) slate of capital construction projects. The library foundation is proud to be included in this slate of 16 projects and believes that funding these projects will greatly benefit the people of Oregon.

Included in the slate is an allocation of \$424,603 toward the library's development of a new, two-story library building in the heart of downtown Grants Pass that will be a centralized space accessible to all residents, making the library a true community commons. This new library will more sufficiently meet the community's needs for information, literature, cultural enrichment, and community convening space. The new library will include a dedicated technology area, a children's area, a teen area, and a multipurpose meeting room. The new Grants Pass library will be a place where all can come together to learn, work, and play. The new library will also revitalize this section of downtown.

The new library will benefit the 25,467 county residents who have a library card and the 8,400+ visitors who check out 20,000 books and other materials each month. The new library will also benefit the 700 patrons who use the computers and 2,300 who access the library's Wi-Fi each month.

We applaud the thorough and professional process we went through with the Cultural Advocacy Coalition to be included in this slate of endorsed projects. We are honored to have been endorsed by Rep. Lily Morgan (District 3). Thank you for considering this slate and for all you do for the people of Oregon.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Stoltz, executive director