

Chief Administrative Officer Jan Fritz

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 16, 2024

Senator Fred Girod, Co-Chair Representative Paul Holvey, Co-Chair Members of the Committee

Subject: Marion County Supports Funding for Pacific Station

Dear Members of Joint Committee on Ways & Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction:

The Marion County Board of Commissioners writes to express our support for Catholic Community Services' Pacific Station affordable housing complex. This vital project will provide much-needed housing for low-income families in our community, particularly those with larger families and individuals with disabilities.

Pacific Station's commitment to providing 3 and 4-bedroom units, as well as specialized ADA units, demonstrates a dedication to meeting the diverse needs of our community. By ensuring that all families served are identified as low income and receiving Oregon Health Plan benefits, Pacific Station will play a crucial role in addressing housing insecurity and promoting access to healthcare services for vulnerable populations.

Additionally, the location of Pacific Station in a well-developed, historic Salem neighborhood with easy access to public transportation, social services, and healthcare services further enhances its value to our community. The provision of wraparound services will not only help resident families build social and emotional support networks but also contribute to improving overall health outcomes.

Marion County Health and Human Services has also contributed funding support for this project and has a commitment to lease 6 of the 12 units for the Our Place project. Furthermore, we applaud the Fostering Hope Initiative program of Catholic Community Services for utilizing the remaining 6 units at Pacific Station for affordable, supported housing for families with complex needs.

Pacific Station represents a beacon of hope for families in need, offering access to affordable, supported housing and promoting healthy lifestyles for all residents. We encourage the Oregon Legislature to provide the necessary support and funding to ensure the successful completion of this important project.

Thank you for considering our support for Catholic Community Services' Pacific Station affordable housing complex.

Sincerely,

Kevin Cameron

Chair

Danielle Bethell

Commissioner

Colm Willis

Commissioner