

Submitter: Tracy Christopher

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2527

RE: Support for Funding Water and Sewer Improvements at the Union County Fairgrounds

As both a resident of Union County and an employee of a local business that works directly with the Union County Fairgrounds, I am writing to express my strong support for the appropriation of funds from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for distribution to the Union County Fair Association. This funding is critical for much-needed water and sewer improvements at the Union County Fairgrounds.

The fairgrounds serve as a vital hub for our community, hosting a wide range of events, educational presentations, and activities that benefit individuals of all ages. Local businesses and organizations regularly utilize the facilities for educational trainings, company gatherings, award presentations, even livestock events and we have seen firsthand the impact that well-maintained infrastructure has on the success of these events. The fairgrounds also play a crucial role in supporting 4-H and FFA programs, providing local youth with opportunities to develop leadership, responsibility, and agricultural skills that are foundational to our region's economy and culture.

Unfortunately, the aging water and sewer systems have posed increasing challenges, affecting not only the efficiency and safety of these events but also the long-term viability of the fairgrounds. Investing in these critical infrastructure improvements will ensure that this essential community resource remains functional and sustainable for future generations.

I urge you to support this funding request to ensure the continued success of the Union County Fairgrounds as a cornerstone of our community. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you require further information on how these improvements will benefit local residents and businesses alike.