



ASHLAND FIRE & RESCUE

Marshall Rasor, Interim Fire Chief

March 27, 2025

Oregon House Speaker Julie Fahey
Oregon Senate President Rob Wagner

RE: Capital Construction Request – Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (EC SO 911)

Dear Speaker Fahey and President Wagner,

On behalf of the City of Ashland and Ashland Fire & Rescue, I would like to express our strong support for HB 3870, which identifies four Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (EC SO) Capital projects. The passage of HB 3870 would greatly benefit Ashland Fire & Rescue, as well as the citizens of Ashland and Jackson County.

Ashland Fire & Rescue is currently the ambulance provider for Jackson County Ambulance Service Area #3, in addition to serving as the Fire Response for the City of Ashland and its surrounding areas. In a time where we see a steady rise in 911 calls, having reliable communication is imperative.

The Capital projects that have been identified will not only bolster EC SO's communication capabilities and reliability but also implement software programs to improve resource deployment efficiency and correct sizing alarm responses, thereby helping to manage the ever-growing call demands placed on both the EMS and Fire Service.

I would impress upon you to strongly support HB 3870. With your support, you are ensuring that the vital funding for EC SO's communications infrastructure, crucial for the safety of our citizens and First Responders, is secured. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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