

March 28, 2025  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: Request for \$6 million match for Columbia Memorial Hospital's FEMA BRIC grant.**

Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez and members of the Committee,

I am Mike Brosius, and I live in Astoria. I am also on the Columbia Memorial Hospital Foundation Board, but today I am coming to you as a concerned citizen. As you are aware, Columbia Memorial Hospital has been awarded a \$20 million grant from the federal government with this we need to raise \$6 million as a matching fund in order to get the full \$20 million. This will allow the new CMH facility to become a resiliency center for the community.

It is not a case of if but when we will be impacted by some sort of natural disaster. The potential natural disaster is way beyond an earthquake and tsunami. We could easily be impacted by severe fires and have had examples in the recent past of severe windstorms that have shut off the community for a week. It seems like a day doesn't go by where there isn't some natural disaster around the country. Having a facility such as the new CMH hospital being able to provide care as well as shelter, food, clothing to about 20% of our population would have a profound impact on our community during a natural disaster. This would help to protect our most vulnerable population by giving them a safe place to go in the case of a natural disaster.

In addition, placing this within the hospital provides easy access to the community at a relatively low cost since it would be added to the new construction vs having to retrofit or build a completely new facility for this purpose. In addition, by having it as part of the hospital we have access to some of the most dedicated, passionate, and well-trained health care providers in the country which will be essential to the recovery of the community.

I see this as an opportunity to showcase what can be done not only along the Oregon coast, the state of Oregon, the West Coast and the entire United States. This can provide a model of how to make a hospital an even more important part of any community by serving it in a variety of ways that are beyond what most people think of when they look at a hospital and its role in the community and the people they serve.

I thank you for your time and consideration in this very important ask

Mike Brosius

CMHF Board of Directors

Concerned Citizen