

Submitter: Susan Nolte
On Behalf Of: Future generations
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

As soon as I heard about the Salmonberry Trail, I volunteered to help clear brush along the railroad line behind the fire station. I think it is a wonderful idea to have a trail extending all the way to the coast. I hope someday, I can bike or hike from my home in Bethany near PCC, Rock Creek, safely, all the way to Banks and from there pick up the Salmonberry Trail. Communities on the coast and along the way could provide housing (rustic or upscale) for bikers and hikers and bring income to these areas that would not require extraction of forest resources but enhance the user experience. Hiking several months ago from Reehers Camp on the Gayles Creek Trail, I encountered a group of stakeholders in this project (forest service, several county representatives, private citizens) and I was struck by the level of interest and so thrilled that the concept could become reality. I have since been back to this area a dozen times exploring the abandoned railroad line and getting my hopes up. Please fund this initiative. I am a thirty year visitor to the Banks Vernonia trail in rain, snow, sleet, and hail and we need more trails like this and the Crown Zellerbach trail. I hope that I will see at least some part of the Salmonberry trail completed in my lifetime. I just can't see why we shouldn't fund this project. Please give your support.