

“Investment in our growing City’s transportation infrastructure is not just about more efficient movement, it also helps facilitate economic activity, increases connectivity, improves safety, and enhances quality of life for our community. Thank you to Senators Merkley and Wyden and Congresswoman Chavez-DeRemer for supporting and championing the Bend Municipal Airport Air Traffic Control Tower and Hawthorne Avenue Pedestrian and Bicyclist Overcrossing projects to serve our community today and into the future,” **said Mayor Melanie Kebler, City of Bend.**

“Many thanks to Senators Merkley and Wyden and Congresswoman Chavez-DeRemer for their community project funding support of a federal contract air traffic control tower in Bend. This tower project is critical to enhancing safety at the Bend Airport and will significantly enhance economic development opportunities throughout the Bend community,” **said Tracy Williams, A.A.E., Airport Manager for the Bend Municipal Airport.**

“Transit is vital in the fight to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and we appreciate the support of Oregon senators Merkley and Wyden as together we look toward a cleaner air future for the Portland metro region,” **said TriMet General Manager Sam Desue Jr.** “TriMet’s goal of transitioning to a zero-emissions bus fleet by 2040 is not a milestone we can achieve alone. Our Columbia Operations Facility is the centerpiece of our transition efforts, and it takes leaders such as these senators, with their foresight, to help us move closer to that goal.”

"We commend Senator Merkley and Senator Wyden for their unwavering support of the affordable workforce housing project in the City of North Bend, a community in the midst of a severe housing crisis. The scarcity of rental housing has reached unprecedented levels, pushing prices to a premium and leaving many individuals and families without viable options. In recognizing this dire situation, Senator Merkley and Senator Wyden have demonstrated their unwavering commitment to addressing the pressing needs of our community. By championing this vital initiative, they are taking a crucial step towards alleviating the burden faced by hardworking individuals and families who are struggling to secure affordable housing. We deeply appreciate their leadership and unwavering dedication to ensuring that North Bend residents have access to safe, affordable rental housing. Their tireless advocacy for sustainable and accessible housing solutions is a testament to their understanding of the urgent need for immediate action. We are grateful for their partnership and stand united with them in their pursuit of a stronger, more inclusive community where every individual has the opportunity to find a place they can call home," **said North Bend Mayor Jessica M. Engelke.**

“The Hood River White Salmon Bridge Authority would like to recognize both Senator Merkley and Senator Wyden’s efforts in getting a \$4 million THUD bill passed through the US Senate. This money is associated with the building of our new bridge. We have had great support from both Senator’s in obtaining needed funding,” **said Mike Fox, co-chair of the HRWS Bridge Authority.**

“This project is vital to the health of our communities, so we’re thrilled to see this funding from the federal government,” **said Jacob Anderson, co-chair of the Hood River-White Salmon Bridge Authority.** “We want to thank Sen. Merkley, Sen. Wyden and the congressional

delegation from Washington and Oregon for prioritizing this project, and we look forward to working with them to secure more funding in the future.”

"This historic investment will put us closer to transforming a former marine terminal into a site for innovation in the housing construction and mass timber industries -- which will boost economic development throughout Oregon, with new jobs in mass timber and housing, a stronger workforce, and viable solutions to address the state's housing shortage. Coupled with additional state funding and the EDA *Build Back Better* grant we received as part of the Oregon Mass Timber Coalition, this demonstrates a deep commitment to strengthening our communities' economic health and well-being," **said Curtis Robinhold, Executive Director, Port of Portland.**

“Thank you to Senators Merkley and Wyden and Representative Chavez-Deremer for championing funds for the needed design work for the Highway 213 corridor in Oregon City. This project, once designed and completed, will improve safety, reduce congestion, and allow for future economic development opportunities in Oregon City and Clackamas County,” **said Oregon City Mayor Denyse McGriff.**

"We are grateful for Senator Merkley's support of this community initiated project that will provide an affordable place to call home for over 70 lower income households in Hood River. These federal investments will leverage many other resources to bring this development to fruition," **said Joel Madsen, Executive Director, Mid-Columbia Housing Authority and Columbia Cascade Housing Corporation.**

"Thank you to Senator Wyden, Senator Merkley, and Congressman Blumenauer for your advocacy for traffic safety funding for Portland. As our city continues to face record-high traffic fatalities, a growing maintenance backlog, and a historic budget deficit, we are very grateful for this influx of funds," **said Portland Bureau of Transportation Director Millicent Williams.** "This \$2.3 million investment will help us construct new traffic signals on SE 112th Avenue at two intersections in East Portland where a high number of crashes have occurred – SE Division Street and SE Holgate Boulevard."

“We are so grateful to Senators Wyden and Merkley for their leadership in combating Portland’s housing crisis. The Barbur Apartments will bring 149 affordable homes to Southwest Portland, with services focusing on immigrant and refugee communities,” **said Commissioner Rubio, Port of Portland.**

“We are so grateful to Senator Wyden, Senator Merkley, and Congresswoman Bonamici for their leadership in combating Portland’s housing crisis,” **said Portland City Commissioner Carmen Rubio.** “The Barbur Apartments will bring 149 affordable homes to Southwest Portland, with outreach and services targeted toward immigrant and refugee communities.”

“Thank you to Senators Merkley and Wyden and Congresswoman Bonamici for supporting our community’s vision of a thriving, walkable downtown. The funds the city received for our

Downtown Loop Project will make our city more economically vibrant and environmentally sustainable, while also creating more community space for our residents to live, shop, work, and play,” **said Mayor Beaty.**

“Senator Merkley and Senator Wyden's support has been instrumental in securing funding for the McKay/Yergen/Ehlen Safety Corridor project. As the first county designated safety corridor in Oregon, this initiative marks a significant step towards saving lives and improving traffic safety. Their support ensures that Marion County can continue to prioritize the well-being of our community members on the road. We are grateful for their advocacy and partnership in making our roads safer for everyone,” **said Marion county Commissioner Kevin Cameron.**

“Homeownership is a critical part of housing and financial stability for Oregonians, but is getting farther out of reach for too many. Senators Merkley and Wyden are continuing their championship for housing in our state, with this investment in Community Land Trust homes in Corvallis. DevNW is thrilled to be able to move forward with this project,” **said Emily Reiman, DevNW/Community LendingWorks CEO.**

“Bend-Redmond Habitat is incredibly grateful for the support of Senator Merkley and Senator Wyden. Working class families in Central Oregon are burdened by high rent costs that leave homeownership out of reach. At Habitat we are dedicated to changing lives through affordable homeownership. With these funds we will build 15 new homes to provide deserving families and individuals with a brighter future—with the pride, safety, educational attainment, and wealth building opportunities that go along with homeownership,” **said Scott Nordquist, Director of Grants Management.**

“Pendleton Children’s Center’s board of directors is extremely grateful for this funding, which will jump start our Phase 2 expansion into a second building adjacent to our existing child care and early education center. Our goal is to eventually enroll 150 infants, toddlers and preschoolers, providing high-quality care and helping those families—wile also stimulating economic and workforce development—in this region of Eastern Oregon. We thank Senators Wyden and Merkley for their support of this important community resource,” **said Kathryn B. Brown, Secretary-Treasurer, Pendleton Children’s Center.**

“Senators Merkley and Wyden have continued their long-term commitment to Oregon’s underserved communities, and for that POIC + RAHS is grateful. The Sunrise Learning Center adds to the investments our Senators have brought to the diverse Rockwood community, and will allow POIC to scale up services in education for vulnerable youth and families, multi-sector workforce development, and the on-going need for maintaining safe communities,” **said Joe McFerrin II, President/CEO of POIC + RAHS**

"I'm excited to share the enthusiastic backing from Senators Merkley and Wyden, as well as Congresswoman Hoyle, for the Mill Street Reconstruction. This thoroughfare serves as a lifeline for our community, granting access to numerous local parks, recreation spots, bus facilities, downtown establishments, and serving as a crucial link to the University of Oregon. Our collective efforts aim to bolster safety for all users, be it cyclists, drivers, or pedestrians, with a

special focus on enhancing ADA amenities. We're deeply grateful for the recognition of this vital need by our federal leaders, underscoring its significance as a top priority for the well-being of the Springfield community." **Said Springfield Mayor Sean VanGordon**

"The Port of Astoria would like to extend a huge thank you to our Congressional Delegation for prioritizing and championing infrastructure investment into the Astoria waterfront. Congresswoman Bonamici, Senator Wyden and Senator Merkley understand how important the commercial fishing and seafood industry is to our entire region. This Community Project Funding award for the rehabilitation of Pier 2 will support these industries in a way that is more environmentally friendly, safer, and more economically viable," **said Will Isom, Executive Director, Port of Astoria.**

"Thank you to Senators Merkley and Wyden for supporting Neighborhood House's Growing our Village capital project, launched to address the crisis of growing wealth inequity in our community. Funds will allow us to develop essential space and grow capacity for core Neighborhood House programs, including our Senior Center and Free Food Market. The new facility will make it possible for many more community members to access life-changing services for decades to come." **Said Chris Chiacchierini, Neighborhood House Executive Director**

"Ensuring we have safe resilient spaces for people to gather and shelter during emergency situations is essential for our community. THPRD is grateful for the leadership and support of Senators Merkley and Wyden, and Congresswoman Bonamici, for their efforts championing this community sheltering grant, that will enable THPRD to upgrade facilities so we can serve the public when they need us the most," **said Alfredo Moreno, Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board President.**

"Thank you to Senators Merkley and Wyden for supporting our solar for community assistance program. The City of Forest Grove operates its own municipal utilities and will be able to use all the funding to purchase the solar panels that will then be used to provide community assistance while simultaneously addressing climate goals," **said Mayor Malynda Wenzl, City of Forest Grove.**

"The City of Forest Grove, especially Forest Grove Light & Power, is very thankful for this exciting opportunity. With the revenue that will be generated by the project solely benefitting our struggling customers, this will make a tremendous difference as they try to meet their day-to-day needs. The project will also allow FGL&P to expand our carbon-free power portfolio as we strive to reduce our carbon footprint," **said Keith Hormann, City of Forest Grove, Light & Power Director.**

"The existing Tualatin-Valley (TV) Highway corridor presents several challenges and significant safety risks, particularly for vulnerable travelers. Pedestrian crossings are sparse, existing sidewalks are narrow and lacking accessibility features, and some portions of the highway don't even have a sidewalk. Thanks to Congresswoman Bonamici, Senator Wyden, and Senator

Merkley, this funding will be used to make TV Highway safer for everyone,” **said Mayor Malynda Wenzl, City of Forest Grove.**

“Washington County is the second most populous county in Oregon and there are currently no permanent emergency shelters serving individuals and couples in the entire county. Thank you to Congresswoman Bonamici for leading the charge to secure critical federal funding that will help make this project a reality, and to Senators Wyden and Merkley for their strong support. Once this project is built, it will provide desperately needed shelter infrastructure serving Hillsboro and the broader Washington County community and will serve as a gateway into housing stability for its most vulnerable residents,” **said Mayor Steve Callaway, City of Hillsboro.**

“Thank you to Senators Merkley and Wyden, and Representative Salinas for championing this allocation for the City of McMinnville’s historic Third Street Improvement Project. Rehabilitating our main street, increasing safety and accessibility for our residents and visitors alike and fixing critical infrastructure including an aged and diseased urban forest all while painting a picture of the future are all deliverables from this Federal investment,” **said Mayor Remy Drabkin, City of McMinnville.**

“Commercial Air Service has been a game changer for the Salem Municipal Airport and the central Willamette Valley,” **says Salem Mayor Chris Hoy.** “Thanks to the leadership of Senators Merkley and Wyden, the investment of nearly \$1 million has been crucial to the vision of bringing commercial air service back to Salem. Their leadership and support has had a tangible impact on our local economy, increased tourism, reduced traffic and congestion along I-5, and introduced the world to the beauty of the Willamette Valley.”

“Increasing transit opportunities on Mt Hood will require a lot of work, and this project is the first step to expand the vision around the mountain,” **said Commissioner Martha Schrader.** “Thank you to Representative Blumenauer for sponsoring this request, and for the support of Senator Wyden and Senator Merkley to advance this funding.”

“We are so fortunate in Oregon to have Congressional leaders who invest in the wellbeing of children and families facing the hardest things in life,” **said Terri Sorensen, Friends of the Children-National Chief Executive Officer.** “The National Center of Excellence for Paid Professional mentoring will be the hub of training and technical assistance for paid, professional mentors in Oregon and throughout the country. Thank you to Senators Merkley and Wyden, and Representative Blumenauer, for advancing our vision that every child who needs a Friend has one.”

“Thank you to our Congressional delegation, Senators Merkley and Wyden and Representative Blumenauer for choosing to support the Albina neighborhood, the home of Friends of the Children – Portland, as we develop the National Center of Excellence for Paid Professional Mentoring, that will allow Friends to walk alongside youth for generations to come,” **said Traci Rossi, Executive Director of Friends of the Children – Portland**

"Ella Curran Food Bank is thrilled and honored to hear this news. For 45-years the all-volunteer food bank has rented storefront space, having to relocate multiple times, as we provide food to those in need. These funds will be used to build a permanent, accessible, welcoming, food bank that will serve Monmouth/Independence and surrounding areas for decades to come, continuing our mission to end food insecurity," **said Patty Nevue, Coordinator, Volunteer, Ella Curran Food Bank.**

"The City of Sutherlin is very pleased with this news. Senators Merkley and Wyden have long supported initiatives that provide support services to those in great need and that help find homes for the homeless. This hard-to-find financial assistance will help make these services a reality in our city and provide a brighter future for many citizens. Thank you for your dedication to the least of those among us," **said Pat Lynch, City of Sutherlin Livability Services Director/Library Director.**

"The success of our project makes it possible for us to continue to provide services offered through our two main departments: UPLIFT youth and education services and BRIDGE community health & development. We envision a future where immigrants and refugees in the Portland Metro Area are no longer merely surviving—but thriving. In spite of numerous obstacles, AYCO is determined to be an enduring community hub for immigrants of the Pan-African Diaspora and beyond. We are so proud to have taken this next step in 2023 to strengthen our organization and greater community with a permanent place to call home: our Dream Center on 82nd Avenue in SE Portland. Senator Merkley and Senator Wyden understand our immigrant values and struggle in addition to their contribution to the everlasting economy to our state and country. Thank you," **said Jamal Dar, Executive Director of African Youth & Community Organization (AYCO).**

"Resources for Oregon's most vulnerable populations are hard to find, especially in rural areas. Tillamook County's first no-barrier navigation center will accommodate employment and housing support, life skills training, peer support, laundry, food preparation, and will be a daily drop-in center for people to safely rest in a welcoming space. With the support of Senators Merkley and Wyden, Representative Bonamici and Tillamook County Commissioner Skaar, we will finally make this vision a reality." – **Jeff Blackford, Executive Director, CARE Inc.**

"We are grateful for the commitment and support from Senators Merkley and Wyden and Representative Salinas, whose efforts have secured the necessary funding to realize the South Salem Transit Center and Mobility Hub. Their work will help us greatly improve our community members' lives through this public transportation project to meet our community's mobility needs," **said Board President, Maria Hinojos Pressey.**

"We greatly appreciate Senator Wyden, Senator Merkley, and Congressman Blumenauer's support in helping Portland Parks and Recreation improve lighting infrastructure in our parks," **said Portland City Commissioner Dan Ryan.** "Thanks to the efforts of our Congressional

delegation, some of our most important community spaces will continue to be safe, inviting places to gather and play.”

“Health and wellness of Indigenous people is more critical now than ever before due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. Opening the doors to a newly constructed Resident and Recreation Center will be a healing step forward for the Grand Ronde Tribe and its members. Having a space for our community to connect, heal, learn, and grow will ensure future generations thrive. Senators Merkley and Wyden as well as Representative Salinas are continuing their support for Indigenous people in our state with this investment in a Resident and Recreation Center in Grand Ronde,” **said Cheryle A. Kennedy, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Chairwoman.**

"Survivors of abuse in Oregon deserve to have all their needs met in a safe, trauma informed, and accessible place. The Family Peace Center of Washington County aims to unite all the victim and survivor service providers in the county in one location, becoming a holistic family trauma center. The advocacy and investment by Senators Merkley and Wyden, and Congresswoman Bonamici brings the resources our vision needs to begin construction on this new reality," **said Rachel Schutz, Executive Director of the Family Justice Center of Washington County.**

“The Oregon Wildlife Foundation appreciates and thanks Senator Merkley and Senator Wyden for their support of this important wildlife crossing project on I-5 in southern Oregon. This funding allows us to proceed with design and engineering for the fencing element of the wildlife overpass project that the Southern Oregon Wildlife Crossing Coalition and the Oregon Department of Transportation have been working on," **said Tim Greseth, Executive Director, Oregon Wildlife Foundation.**

“Travel Information Council is excited with this news! We are grateful to Senators Merkley and Wyden for supporting our partnership with the Oregon Historical Society, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs to tell Oregon Trail history from an indigenous, and place-based perspective that will educate thousands of travelers (at safety rest areas on I-84) annually,” **said Elizabeth Boxall, Executive Director, Travel Information Council.**