



## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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January 16, 2020

Willamette Falls Locks Commission  
c/o Turner Odell, Oregon Solutions  
National Policy Consensus Center (NPCC)  
Portland State University  
PO Box 751  
Portland, OR 97207-0751

Dear Chair Axelrod and Willamette Falls Locks Commission,

We are submitting this letter to express Yamhill County's support for the continued effort to repair and reopen the Willamette Falls Locks, pending the passage of state legislation to create a new Willamette Falls Locks Authority that will be able to receive ownership of the Locks from the Army Corps of Engineers and repair the facility to long term operating status.

We see incredible potential to increase tourism around Willamette Falls in addition to areas of Yamhill County, to improve local economic redevelopment along the Willamette River, and to return the river to one navigable waterway. Yamhill County believes in and is committed to building strong infrastructure, growing a vibrant economy, and investing in our natural resources. It has always been our intent to build public trust through good government, and believe this effort achieves that end by establishing a public corporation to receive ownership of the Locks to meet the needs of the Willamette Valley including Yamhill County.

In addition, although the Willamette Falls Locks are in Clackamas County, they will support communities and economies beyond our borders. For this reason, we are a proud partner of the Willamette Falls Locks State Commission and a proud supporter of the work that is required to repair and reopen the Locks.

Sincerely,

Richard L. "Rick" Olson  
Commissioner

Accepted by Yamhill County  
Board of Commissioners on

1/16/20 by Board Order  
# 20-24