

July 8, 2019

Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Office of the Secretary of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: Cottage Grove Main Street Revitalization Project -BUILD Transportation Discretionary Grant application

Dear Review Team,

The Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council (CFWWC) would like to express our sincere support for the Cottage Grove Main Street Revitalization Project being submitted by the City of Cottage Grove (City). CFWWC offices are located in the heart of downtown Cottage Grove. Form a business standpoint this grant will help us better operate and improve the visibility and attractiveness of our operations. From our mission standpoint this grant request will allow the City to incorporate the use of green approaches in design and construction to improve the long-term environmental performance of the street and the uses along it.

This application is both timely and relevant to work being completed in the Coast Fork Watershed. Improving stormwater runoff is essential for water quality. As one of the two headwaters of the Willamette River the effects of our efforts will be felt basin wide. Protecting and enhancing water quality is a key factor for CFWWC in prioritizing future projects. Increased water quality through the reduction of sediment and contaminant sheet-flow through low impact development techniques and increased vegetation in the City will have both ecological and economic advantages. Incorporating efforts outlined in this application will help CFWWC to increase impact on a more regional scale and will build upon current joint projects between the City and CFWWC restoring habitat along the river.

The City of Cottage Grove has a long and celebrated track record for completing a variety of projects. I have full confidence in their ability to make this project a great success, and look forward to fully participating when the project is funded. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to speak further.

Sincerely,

Amanda Gilbert Executive Director

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