

COMMISSIONERS RECORD 48
FRANKLIN COUNTY
Commissioners' Proceeding for February 26, 2007

The Honorable Board of Franklin County Commissioners met on the above date. Present for the meeting were Neva J. Corkrum, Chair Pro Tem; and Rick Miller, Member; and Mary Withers, Clerk to the Board. Bob Koch, Chairman, and Fred Bowen, County Administrator, were on vacation.

LOBBYIST

Lobbyist Jim Potts spoke with the Board on speaker phone about current legislative issues.

PUBLIC WORKS

Engineer Tim Fife met with the Board.

R-170 Landslide

The Board reviewed proposed letters to legislators asking for funding.

Juniper Dunes

The Board reviewed proposed letters to legislators asking for funding.

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move that we accept the letters and send them regarding R-170 landslide road replacement to Senator Maria Cantwell, Senator Patty Murray and Representative Doc Hastings. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 1)

Motion – Mr. Miller: I make a motion that we send letters to Representative Doc Hastings and Senator Patty Murray and Senator Maria Cantwell regarding Juniper Dunes Access Phase I. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 2)

Klamath Road

Mr. Fife said the work is beginning on a paving project on Klamath Road. Mr. Miller has been asked to have a fog line put on the road. Mr. Fife said the county does have a policy about fog lines being in place. They cost about eight times as much as center lines. He does not think it is needed on Klamath Road.

MINUTES

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move that we approve the minutes of the meeting of February 21, 2007, and allow Mr. Koch to sign the minutes. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 2:0 vote in favor.

VOUCHERS/WARRANTS

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Motion – Mr. Miller: I make a motion that we accept the payroll vouchers totaling \$611,146.09:

Salary Clearing payroll warrants 42442 through 42532 for \$171,335.86; warrants 42533 through 42543 for \$202,205.49; and Direct Deposit for \$237,604.74. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 2:0 vote in favor.

The cover sheet also includes the following amounts:

Emergency Management payroll warrants 8564 through 8574 for \$3478.92; warrants 8575 through 8583 for \$4000.31; and Direct Deposit for \$6410.58; for a total amount of \$13,889.81; and

Irrigation payroll warrants 12390 through 12403 for \$6411.34; and warrants 12404 through 12411 for \$2979.42; for a total amount of \$9390.76.

(Exhibit 3)

WSU EXTENSION OFFICE

WSU Extension Director Kay Hendrickson and Extension Agent Dr. Phil Petersen met with the Board.

New Agent

Ms. Hendrickson introduced Dr. Phil Petersen as the new county agent.

Washington State University (WSU) Agreement

Ms. Hendrickson asked the Board to approve the contract between Franklin County and WSU. It has been reviewed by Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Verhulp. Ms. Hendrickson hopes that for coming years, only the Appendix A will need to be approved unless the Board wants to redo the entire contract each year.

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move that we sign the Interagency Agreement between Washington State University and Franklin County effective January 1, 2007, through December 31, 2007. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 2:0 vote in favor. This is Resolution 2007-086.

Promising Models funding possibility

The Gates Foundation has asked the Extension Office to present a proposal. The proposal will need to include some county funding for computer maintenance.

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Ms. Hendrickson has talked to Information Services Director Kevin Scott about the needs. Mrs. Corkrum asked Ms. Hendrickson to talk with County Administrator Fred Bowen also.

Early Childhood Program

The early childhood caregivers program will begin in March with 30 childcare providers participating, three of whom do not read or write either English or Spanish.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources Director Rosie H. Rumsey met with the Board.

Human Resources Assistant

Eleven of the 71 applicants were interviewed for the Human Resources Assistant position. Lisa Schumacher will be starting on March 1. The Classification Review Committee reviewed and approved the request to start at Grade 33 Step 8.

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move that we approve Lisa Schumacher at Step 8, Grade 33, as approved by the Classification Review Committee. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 4)

Insurance

Ms. Rumsey will be scheduling a meeting of the Insurance Committee soon. She said Washington Counties Insurance Fund (WCIF) now has a composite rate. Mrs. Corkrum is opposed at this time to changing from the current way the county handles insurance for employees who do not insure dependents.

Recessed at 10:06 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:23 a.m.

GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA (GWMA)

Paul Stoker met with the Board.

Current Legislation

The Board told Mr. Stoker that they have received a suggestion to send letters of support for state GWMA funding to the state legislators. Mr. Stoker said the Board has already done that in essence but it can be done again if they would like to. The previous

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letter was sent to legislators from five legislative districts. He will be meeting with legislators again this week.

GWMA Federal Funding Request

Mr. Stoker asked for approval of a letter requesting \$1.25 million of Federal funds. The first \$650,000 would be used for all the work we're doing on nitrates. Mr. Stoker named the programs. The second \$650,000 is to augment the \$1.5 million that is coming from the state to finish the mapping of the aquifers. We are asking each County Commission in Adams, Franklin, Grant, and Lincoln Counties to sign letters to 11 legislators. They will be sent off by Friday of this week.

Motion – Mr. Miller: I move that we approve the letter requesting \$1.25 million for the year 2008 for the Columbia Basin Ground Water Management Area to Federal legislators. Second by Mrs. Corkrum. 2:0 vote in favor. (Exhibit 5)

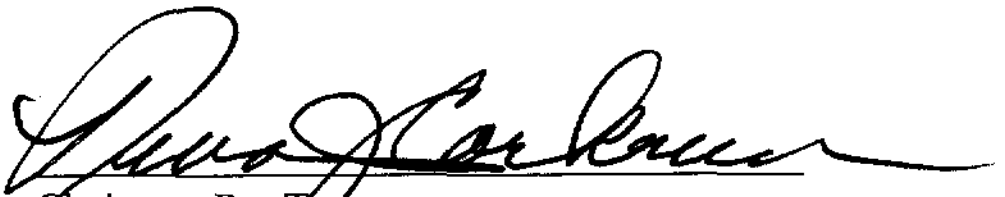
Adjourned at 10:52 a.m.


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There being no further business, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned until February 28, 2007.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

absent
Chairman


Chairman Pro Tem


Member

Attest:


Clerk to the Board

Approved and signed March 5, 2007.

February 26, 2007

Neva J. Corkrum
District 1

Robert E. Koch
District 2

Rick Miller
District 3



Fred H. Bowen
County Administrator

Rosie H. Rumsey
Human Resources Director

Patricia L. Shults
Executive Secretary

February 26, 2007

Board of County Commissioners
FRANKLIN COUNTY

The Honorable Patty Murray
United States Senate
173 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: R-170 LANDSLIDE ROAD REPLACEMENT

Dear Senator Murray:

Please consider this as our formal request for FY 2008 appropriation for our R-170 Road Replacement Project. This project is Franklin County's highest priority transportation project. This project would construct a new route to replace that portion of R-170 Road that has remained closed since a massive landslide closed this rural major collector arterial on May 13, 2006.

We are requesting \$2 million in FY 2008 Transportation bill, specifically the Transportation, Community and System Preservation Program to fund the construction. We anticipate that construction would commence in February 2008. These funds would be combined with State and Local funds to complete this project.

We have attached the Washington State Department of Transportation application that provides additional details about this project. We have been working closely with Shawn Bills of your Central Washington Office in developing this project.

Your support is instrumental in seeing this project completed. We look forward to working with you in the coming year. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ABSENT
Robert E. Koch, Chairman

Neva J. Corkrum
Neva J. Corkrum, Chairman Pro Tem

Rick Miller
Rick Miller, Member

Enclosure

cc: Engineer Tim Fife

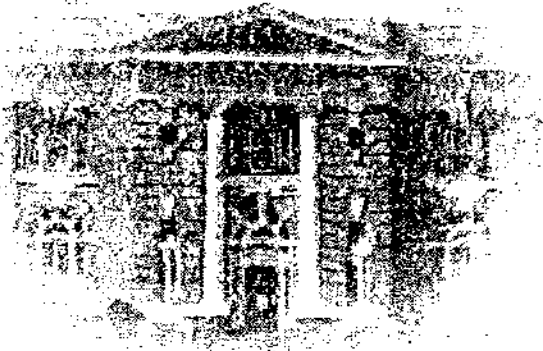
File/LB

February 26, 2007

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Fred H. Bowen
County Administrator

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Human Resources Director

Patricia L. Shults
Executive Secretary

February 26, 2007

Board of County Commissioners
FRANKLIN COUNTY

The Honorable Doc Hastings
4th District Representative
1214 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

R-170 LANDSLIDE ROAD REPLACEMENT

Dear Representative Hastings:

Please consider this as our formal request for FY 2008 appropriation for our R-170 Road Replacement Project. This project is Franklin County's highest priority transportation project. This project would construct a new route to replace that portion of R-170 Road that has remained closed since a massive landslide closed this rural major collector arterial on May 13, 2006.

We are requesting \$2 million in FY 2008 Transportation bill, specifically the Transportation, Community and System Preservation Program to fund the construction. We anticipate that construction would commence in February 2008. These funds would be combined with State and Local funds to complete this project.

We have attached the Washington State Department of Transportation application that provides additional details about this project. We have been working closely with Barb Lisk of your Pasco Office in developing this project.

Your support is instrumental in seeing this project completed. We look forward to working with you in the coming year. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
ABSENT

Robert E. Koch, Chairman

Neva J. Corkrum, Chairman Pro Tem

Rick Miller, Member

Enclosure

cc: Engineer Tim Fife

File/LB

February 26, 2007

Neva J. Corkrum
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Robert E. Koch
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Fred H. Bowen
County Administrator

Rosie H. Rumsey
Human Resources Director

Patricia L. Shults
Executive Secretary

February 26, 2007

Board of County Commissioners
FRANKLIN COUNTY

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senate
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: R-170 LANDSLIDE ROAD REPLACEMENT

Dear Senator Cantwell:

Please consider this as our formal request for FY 2008 appropriation for our R-170 Road Replacement Project. This project is Franklin County's highest priority transportation project. This project would construct a new route to replace that portion of R-170 Road that has remained closed since a massive landslide closed this rural major collector arterial on May 13, 2006.

We are requesting \$2 million in FY 2008 Transportation bill, specifically the Transportation, Community and System Preservation Program to fund the construction. We anticipate that construction would commence in February 2008. These funds would be combined with State and Local funds to complete this project.

We have attached your appropriation request form as well as the Washington State Department of Transportation application that provides additional details about this project. We have been working closely with Kristin Eby of your Central Washington Office in developing this project.

Your support is instrumental in seeing this project completed. We look forward to working with you in the coming year. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ABSENT

Robert E. Koch, Chairman

Neva J. Corkrum, Chairman Pro Tem

Rick Miller, Member

Enclosure

cc: Engineer Tim Fife

File/LB



U.S. SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL WASHINGTON

T.202.224.3441

F.202.228.0514

<http://cantwell.senate.gov>

FY2008 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM FOR THE OFFICE OF SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL ONE REQUEST PER FORM

The appropriations process is intensely competitive on a national level; completion of an application *does not* guarantee funding. In past years, the Appropriations Subcommittees have set deadlines in March and April; therefore **the deadline to submit request applications to our office is Friday, February 23, 2007**. Attach separate sheets or materials as needed. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Ann Hultman at 202.224.3441, or via e-mail at RuthAnn_Hultman@cantwell.senate.gov. If you are seeking HUD EDI or EPA STAG grants, please contact Ruth Ann for the specific form.

Date of submission: February 26, 2007

Project name: R-170 Landslide Road Replacement

Sponsor/Organization completing application: Franklin County, Washington
(Include department, office, division, etc.)

Sponsor contact information:

(Include any Washington, DC representatives. Please include address, phone number(s) and e-mail address(es))

Tim Fife, P.E.

Franklin County Public Works

3416 Stearman Ave

Pasco, WA 99301

(509) 545-3514

tfife@co.franklin.wa.us

Sponsor partner(s): The Governor of the State of Washington has provided funding for preliminary engineering and right-of-way aquisition.

Appropriations Subcommittee/bill: FY2008 Transportation Appropriation

Federal Department/Agency: Federal Highway Administration

Agency Subdivision, program, account, activity, etc. through which this project would be funded:

(Please be as specific as possible; e.g. "Department: USDA; Agency: U.S. Forest Service; Program: Land and Water Conservation Fund")

**Federal Highway Administration, Title 1, Federal Aid Highways, Section 1117:
Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program**

Amount requested by sponsor for project in FY2008: \$2,000,000

President's FY2008 budget request: Unknown

(Please indicate if requested amount is included in FY2008 budget request to Congress)

Prior year(s) funding history: None

(Please indicate from which account the funding was allocated)

Sources and amounts of state, local or private matching funds (if any):

Franklin County Road Fund \$ 500,000

State of WA Rural Arterial Program \$2,000,000

Relevant federal project authorization bill (if any): None

(Example: PL 106-123, section 456)

Bill/Report language requested (if any): None

County or Counties it affected by project: Franklin County

(Use statewide if affects the entire state)

Current status of project described in this application: Design and Location of the replacement route is currently ongoing. Anticipate the completion of design and the right-of-way acquisition by December 2007.

Background/justification for support of requested amount: See attached project application.

What other organizations, in the state, Washington D.C., or nationally, might be expected to support this application? Unknown

Other Comments/Misc. Information?

Cantwell Staff Contact(s): Kristin Eby, Central Washington Office
(State Offices/Washington, D.C.)

Attachments if any: Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program Grant Application.

Department of Defense Requests Only

(If you are unsure of this information, you can find it at:
<http://www.dod.mil/comptroller/defbudget/fy2007/index.html>)

Program Element (PE) Number: (For Research Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) only)

Line Number: (For Procurement and RDT&E only)

BA: (For Military Personnel and Operation and Maintenance only)

Sub-activity Group: (Operation and Maintenance only)

TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNITY, AND SYSTEM PRESERVATION PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

PART A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Fiscal Year:	2007
Project Title:	R-170 Landslide Road Replacement
Project Location (City/County, State):	Franklin County, Washington
GRANTEE CONTACT INFORMATION	
Grantee Contact Name:	Tim Fife, PE
Agency:	Franklin County Public Works
Mailing Address (Street/P.O. Box):	3416 Stearman Ave
City, State, Zip code:	Pasco, WA 99301
Phone:	509-545-3514
Fax:	509-545-2133
E-Mail:	tfife@co.franklin.wa.us
STATE DOT CONTACT INFORMATION	
State Contact Person:	Larry Ehl
Phone:	360-705-7024
Fax:	360-705-6803
E-Mail:	ehl@wsdot.wa.gov
FHWA DIVISION OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION	
Division Contact Person:	Holly Bell
Phone:	360-753-9480
Fax:	360-753-9889
E-Mail:	Holly.bell@fhwa.dot.gov
CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION	
Congress Member:	Doc Hastings
Congressional District No.:	4 th District
TCSP Program Funds:	\$2,000,000
Matching Funds/In-kind Services Source: County Road Funds	\$500,000
Matching Funds/In-kind Services Source: State RAPP	\$2,000,000
Total TCSP-Related Project Costs:	\$4,500,000

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE DIVISION OFFICE				
State Administered?		Yes		No
Division Administered?		Yes		No
Date grant application approved by FHWA Division Office				

Part B. Project Abstract

Briefly describe the how the TCSP Program funds will be used for the project.

TCSP funds will be used to partially fund the construction cost to replace R-170 Road that has been closed since the massive landslide that occurred May 13, 2006. R-170 is a major north-south "farm to market " corridor that is vital to the efficient movement of products and people through Franklin County. It is not practical to restore the existing route due to the continued threat of additional landslides and the extraordinary maintenance costs associated with replacing the road in its current location. Franklin County has received emergent funding from the State of Washington to complete the Design, Location, and Right of Way acquisition so that this project can proceed immediately upon the receipt of construction funding.

Part C. Project Narrative

Describe the project and the expected results, including project goals and timeframe.

Background

On May 13, 2006 a massive landslide covered over a quarter of a mile of Franklin County Road R-170 with up to 50 feet of soil and debris. The road has been closed since the slide and traffic has been forced to detour onto local access roads to the east that were never constructed to accommodate R-170's traffic.

R-170 is a rural major collective arterial. It is a major north-south "farm to market" corridor that is vital to Franklin County as well as an east-west connection to State Route 17. Trucks accounted for a significant portion of the 1100 vehicles that utilized this section of R-170 per day.

History

Numerous slides have occurred along this portion of R-170 since the introduction of irrigation on



the plateau above R-170 through the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Columbia Basin Project. None have been as massive and devastating as the May 13, 2006 slide. After an earlier landslide in 1978, a USBR geologist accurately predicted the magnitude and effect of this May 13, 2006 slide event in a report to the Bureau. The geological formation directly above R-170

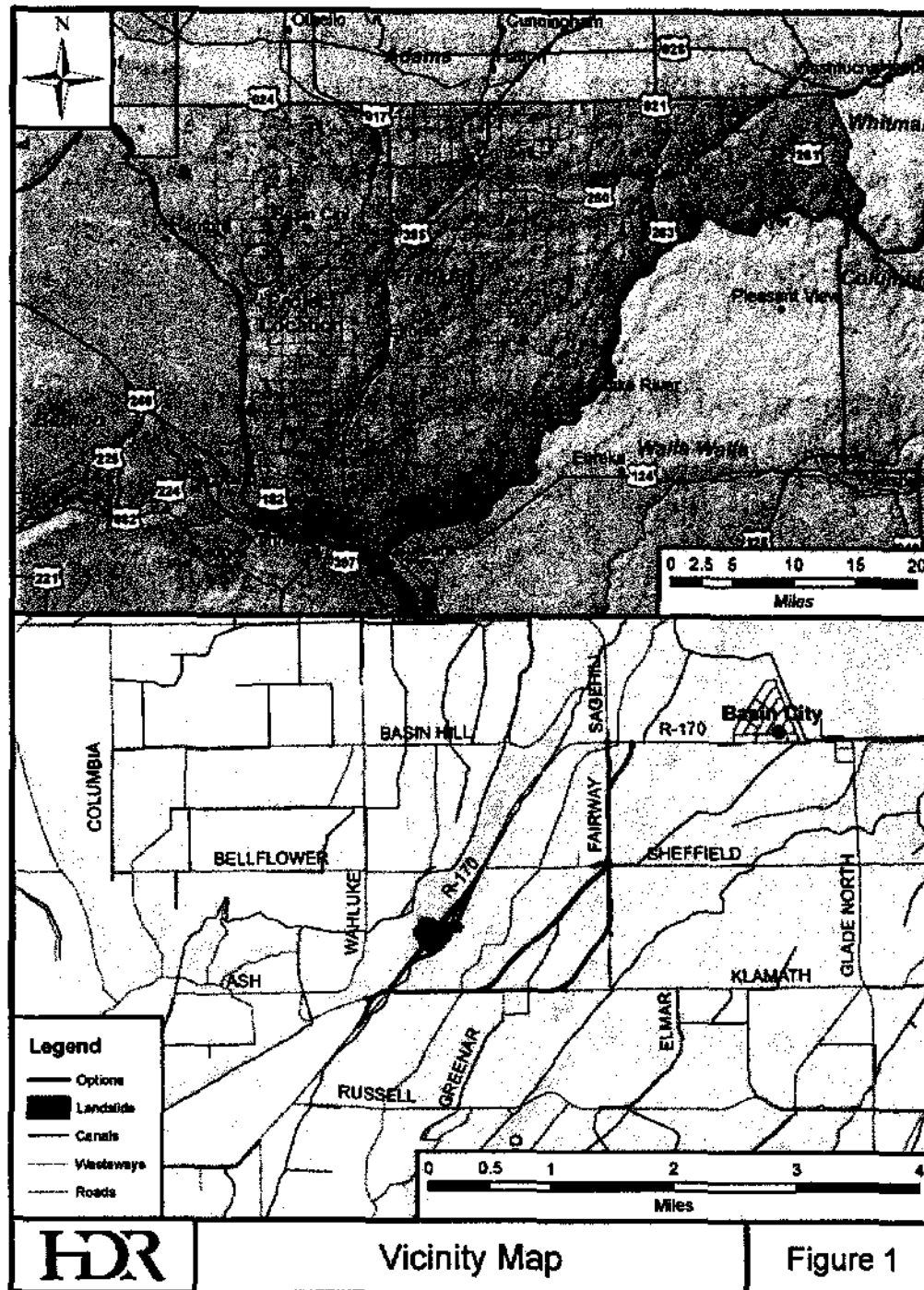
was relatively stable until the construction of the Columbia Basin Project in the 1950s. The groundwater table has slowly risen from irrigation canal leakage and now the whole formation is unstable.

To Date

- Immediately after the landslide, R-170 was closed, the Franklin County Commissioners declared a "state of emergency".
- An engineering consultant and landslide expert were hired to prepare a report to evaluate the safety and provide preliminary alternatives.
- Using this preliminary report, Franklin County was successful in receiving \$800,000 in Federal STP emergent funds from the Governor Gregoire that the State of Washington has set aside for such emergencies.
- The Federal STP funds were intended and are currently funding the design and location process, preliminary engineering, and right-of-way acquisition for the reconstruction of a

replacement route for R-170. No construction funding is currently allocated or available for said replacement.

- Franklin County and the engineering consultant are working with local property owners determining the best location.



Next Steps

Franklin County anticipates:

- Selecting a preferred replacement route in the Spring 2007.
- Right-of-way acquisition beginning in Summer 2007.
- Design complete and ready to construct by the end of 2007.
- Preliminary estimates of construction are approximately \$4,500,000.

Federal Interest

When the Federal Government first undertook the Columbia Basin Project, no one could envision all of the problems that would occur due to the introduction of irrigation upon arid lands. The Federal government did, however, anticipate that it would, from time to time, have groundwater problems in areas that would affect farmer's ability to raise a crop. Therefore, they provided funds to install shallow underdrains

to lower groundwater levels and make the ground farmable again.

No one anticipated the slide that occurred on May 13, 2006 at the inception of the Columbia Basin Project. However, after a number of slides over many years, the major slide that USBR geologists predicted with amazing accuracy in 1978 finally occurred. Even with prior knowledge that a major landslide was immanent; the USBR did nothing to prevent it from happening. It is probable that landslides will continue to occur along this escarpment. For the safety of the public, the most reasonable solution is to relocate the road away from the now-unstable hillside at considerable expense.

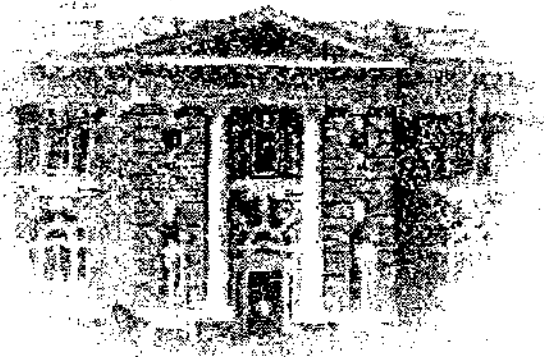
Franklin County believes that the Federal Government has the majority of the responsibility for the slide that occurred May 13, 2006. Franklin County and Washington State have already contributed substantial resources in determining a solution to this man-made disaster. We request that the Federal Government assume their responsibility and fund the construction of the replacement route.

February 26, 2007

Neva J. Corkrum
District 1

Robert E. Koch
District 2

Rick Miller
District 3



Fred H. Bowen
County Administrator

Rosie H. Rumsey
Human Resources Director

Patricia L. Shults
Executive Secretary

Board of County Commissioners
FRANKLIN COUNTY

February 26, 2007

The Honorable Doc Hastings
4th District Representative
1214 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Juniper Dunes Wilderness Access Phase 1

Dear Representative Hastings:

Please consider this as our formal request for FY 2008 appropriation for our Juniper Dunes Wilderness Access Phase 1 Project. This project would design and construct the first phase of the public access route into the Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area. The current access into the Juniper Dunes is via a private road. Access is by permission only.

We are requesting \$500,000 in FY 2008 Transportation bill, specifically the Public Lands Highways Discretionary Program to fund this project. We anticipate that construction would commence in 2008.

We have attached the Washington State Department of Transportation application that provides additional details about this project. We have been working closely with Barb Lisk of your Pasco office in developing this project.

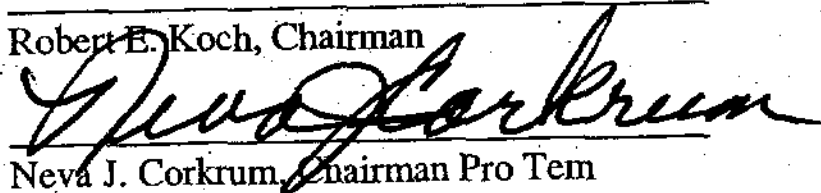
Your support is instrumental in seeing this project completed. We look forward to working with you in the coming year. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ABSENT

Robert E. Koch, Chairman


Neva J. Corkrum, Chairman Pro Tem


Rick Miller, Member

Rick Miller, Member

Enclosure

cc: Engineer Tim Fife

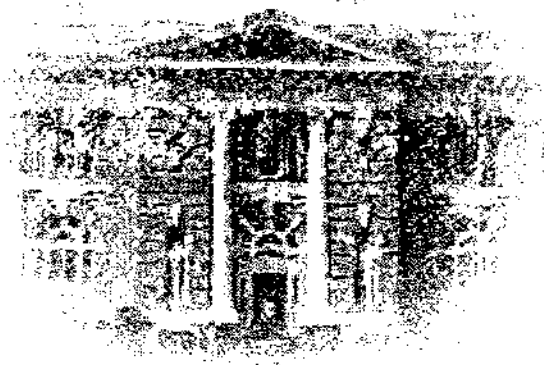
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February 26, 2007

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Board of County Commissioners
FRANKLIN COUNTY

February 26, 2007

The Honorable Patty Murray
United States Senate
173 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Juniper Dunes Wilderness Access Phase 1

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Your support is instrumental in seeing this project completed. We look forward to working with you in the coming year. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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Robert E. Koch, Chairman

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Rick Miller, Member

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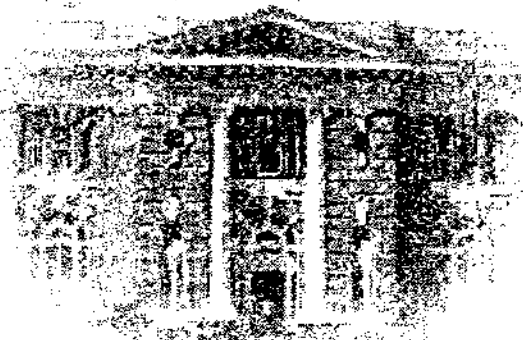
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February 26, 2007

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senate
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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Dear Senator Cantwell:

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Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

ABSENT

Robert E. Koch, Chairman


Neva J. Corkrum, Chairman Pro Tem


Rick Miller, Member

Enclosure



U.S. SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL WASHINGTON

T.202.224.3441

F.202.228.0514

<http://cantwell.senate.gov>

FY2008 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM FOR THE OFFICE OF SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL ONE REQUEST PER FORM

The appropriations process is intensely competitive on a national level; completion of an application *does not* guarantee funding. In past years, the Appropriations Subcommittees have set deadlines in March and April; therefore the **deadline to submit request applications to our office is Friday, February 23, 2007**. Attach separate sheets or materials as needed. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Ann Hultman at 202.224.3441, or via e-mail at RuthAnn_Hultman@cantwell.senate.gov. If you are seeking HUD EDI or EPA STAG grants, please contact Ruth Ann for the specific form.

Date of submission: February 26, 2007

Project name: Juniper Dunes Wilderness Access Phase 1

Sponsor/Organization completing application: Franklin County, Washington
(Include department, office, division, etc.)

Sponsor contact information:

(Include any Washington, DC representatives. Please include address, phone number(s) and e-mail address(es))

Tim Fife, P.E.

Franklin County Public Works

3416 Stearman Ave

Pasco, WA 99301

(509) 545-3514

tfife@co.franklin.wa.us

Sponsor partner(s): None

Appropriations Subcommittee/bill: FY2008 Transportation Appropriation

Federal Department/Agency: Federal Highway Administration

Agency Subdivision, program, account, activity, etc. through which this project would be funded:

(Please be as specific as possible; e.g. "Department: USDA; Agency: U.S. Forest Service; Program: Land and Water Conservation Fund")

Federal Highway Administration, Title 1, Federal Aid Highways, Section 1101(a)(9)(D):
Public Lands Discretionary

Amount requested by sponsor for project in FY2008: \$500,000

President's FY2008 budget request: Unknown

(Please indicate if requested amount is included in FY2008 budget request to Congress)

Prior year(s) funding history: None

(Please indicate from which account the funding was allocated)

Sources and amounts of state, local or private matching funds (if any): None

Relevant federal project authorization bill (if any): None

(Example: PL 106-123, section 456)

Bill/Report language requested (if any): None

County or Counties it affected by project: Franklin County

(Use statewide if affects the entire state)

Current status of project described in this application: Requested funding would begin phase 1 of this project

Background/justification for support of requested amount: See attached project application.

What other organizations, in the state, Washington D.C., or nationally, might be expected to support this application? USBR Bureau of Land Management have provided a letter of support for this project. (Letter attached)

Other Comments/Misc. Information?

Cantwell Staff Contact(s): Kristin Eby, Central Washington Office
(State Offices/Washington, D.C.)

Attachments if any: Public Land Highways Discretionary (PLHD) Program Grant Application.

Department of Defense Requests Only

(If you are unsure of this information, you can find it at:
<http://www.dod.mil/comptroller/defbudget/fy2007/index.html>)

Program Element (PE) Number: (For Research Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) only)

Line Number: (For Procurement and RDT&E only)

BA: (For Military Personnel and Operation and Maintenance only)

Sub-activity Group: (Operation and Maintenance only)

**PUBLIC LANDS HIGHWAYS DISCRETIONARY (PLHD) PROGRAM
FY 2007 PROJECT APPLICATION**

1. **State:** Washington
2. **County:** Franklin County
3. **U.S. Congressional District No.(s):** 4th District
4. **U.S. Congressional District Member's Name(s):** Doc Hastings
5. **Project Title:** Juniper Dunes Wilderness Access Phase 1
6. **Project Location:** Project is the first 1.17 miles of Peterson Road located in Sections 4,5,8, and 9 of T 9 N, R 31 EWM as shown on the attached map.
7. **Proposed Work:** Preliminary design, right of way acquisition, and construction of the first 1.17 miles of Peterson Road.
8. **Public Lands Category:** Peterson Road, currently private, is currently how the public is accessing the federally designated Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area. Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area includes almost 20,000 acres of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The Federal lands include the 7200 acres of wilderness area, 8600 acres Area of Critical Environmental Concern, and 4,000 acres open to off-road vehicles (ORV) use.
9. **Project Purpose & Benefits:** The Federal Government designated Juniper Dunes as Wilderness Area in 1984. The US Bureau Land Management (BLM) completed and adopted a management plan the Wilderness Area in 1986 recognizing that there was "No legal access to the Juniper Dunes Wilderness" and that they were currently working on a solution. BLM is still currently working on a solution. The public has been trespassing by utilizing a private road, Peterson Road, to access the Juniper Dunes. While the public has been using Peterson Road for 20+ years, no public funds have been spent helping the private parties maintain Peterson Road. Adjacent property owners have closed Peterson Road 3 times since the Wilderness Area was designated. The road was just closed to the public by a disgruntled property owner up until about 2 month ago. This project would be the 1st of several phases to provide legal public access to the Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area. Franklin County would design, acquire R/W, and construct the first 1.17 miles of Peterson Road and ultimately maintain it once it is constructed. The adjacent property owners are

2/12/2007

frustrated with the public's use of the road without public rights or funding. They are in favor of the road becoming public.

The Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area has become a very popular recreation area for ORV, hiking, horseback riding, nature study, camping, hunting, and photography. This area has been underutilized because of the access concerns.

10. **Planning and Coordination:** This project is consistent with Franklin County Comprehensive Plan and Benton Franklin Council of Governments Regional Plan. Coordination has occurred with the Bureau of Land Management (Letter attached).
11. **Current and Future Traffic:** Although there are no detailed traffic counts have been conducted, BLM visitor use counts on weekend visitation during peak seasons have exceeded 250 ORV users per day alone. Even more will utilize this area once the road is improved. Currently there is approximately 210 Vehicles a day just from the local traffic accessing approximately 40 residences plus the traffic from those utilizing the road to access the Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area.
12. **Project Administration:** The project will be administered by Franklin County
13. **Amount of Federal PLHD Funds Requested:** Although the entire project is estimated to be approximately \$2,000,000, Franklin County is only requesting \$500,000 for Phase 1.
14. **Commitment of Other Funds:** Franklin County is willing to commit any additional funds that may become necessary to complete this project.
15. **Previous PLHD Funding:** None
16. **Future Funding Needs:** Three additional phases will be necessary to complete public access to the Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area.
 - Phase 2: FY-2009
 - Phase 3: FY-2010
 - Phase 4: FY-2011
17. **Project Schedule:** Preliminary Engineering(PE), Environmental permitting will commence immediately upon the approval of funding in 2007. We anticipate that PE and Right-of-Way(R/W) will be completed within a year and construction beginning immediately after acquisition of R/W. We do not anticipate any delays on delivering this project.

2/12/2007



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Spokane District Office
1103 N. Fancher
Spokane Valley, Washington 99212-1275

IN REPLY REFER TO:
8360 (135)

February 12, 2007

Rick Capka, FHWA Administrator
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington D.C. 20550

Dear Mr. Capka:

This will serve to certify the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) support for Franklin County's proposed Juniper Dunes Wilderness / Juniper Forest access project under the Public Lands Highway Discretionary (PLHD) Program and to encourage the Federal Highway Administration's consideration of the County's application.

The BLM manages about 20,000 acres of public land in the Juniper Forest area (including the Juniper Dunes Wilderness) in Franklin County northeast of the Tri-Cities. Because there is no legal public access to this area, the public—for the most part—gets into the area via a private road, Peterson Road. Access to the area has been contingent on the willingness of adjacent landowners to permit the public to cross their property to reach the BLM lands.

The Juniper Forest and Juniper Dunes Wilderness areas are popular recreational places for many people throughout eastern Washington. Residents of the Tri-Cities area have extensively used this area since the early 1960s for various recreational activities including camping, hiking, horseback riding, nature studies, and off-highway vehicle use. During 2004, visitation was estimated to be 15,000 people. The many years of intensive use combined with the inability of local government to help fund maintenance, have caused the road to deteriorate to the point of becoming unsafe for travel and very difficult for local traffic, public school transportation or emergency service vehicles to navigate.

Over the years, BLM has met with Franklin County officials, user groups and adjacent landowners to identify concerns and to discuss possible solutions. Many discussions among the parties involved have revealed that the most viable solution to obtaining permanent access to the Juniper Dunes Wilderness and Juniper Forest area is to provide the funding needed to maintain Peterson Road as a public county road. It would reduce the negative impacts to adjacent landowners, allow Franklin County to maintain a safe roadway for local residents and provide the infrastructure necessary for the American tax payers to recreate on thousands of acres of public land.

BLM strongly supports funding this project. We encourage FHWA to give Franklin County's application for funding its utmost consideration. It would present an outstanding opportunity for us to work with Franklin County to provide legal access to public land that is very important, not only to the local community, but the eastern Washington region as well. Please feel free to contact me at (509) 536-1263 if you have further questions or concerns with regard to this matter.

Sincerely,



Kevin R. Devitt, Field Manager
Border Resource Area

February 26, 2007

RECEIVED

FEB 21 2007

FRANKLIN COUNTY
PLID

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST 4-WHEEL-DRIVE ASSOCIATION
OREGON – WASHINGTON – IDAHO**

February 20, 2007

Rick Capka
FHWA Administrator
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington D.C. 20550

Dear Administrator Capka,

This letter is in support of the grant request for Juniper Dunes Wilderness access phase 1, to acquire right of way and start paving Peterson Road to the Juniper Dunes Wilderness Area.

This project is long overdue. The area was established over 20 years ago. This private road has been closed several times due to landowner problems. It is the best access route to the Juniper Dunes area for recreation and enjoyment of this public land.

I sincerely hope that this grant will be approved as recreation is being squeezed into smaller areas and all parties concerned need this access road.

Bureau of Land Management says to "*discover your public lands*" this is hard to do when access is posted private road – keep out.

Thank you for your consideration of this grant request.

Sincerely,


Earl P. Nettnin,
Region 4 Director
Pacific Northwest 4-Wheel Drive Association

CC: Doc Hastings, 4th District House of Representatives
✓ Tim Fife, Public Works Director/Franklin County


February 26, 2007

Franklin County Commissioners:

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer by RCW 42.24.080, expense reimbursement claims certified by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been sent to the board members.

Action: As of this date, 02/26/2007 ,
move that the following warrants be approved for payment.

FUND	WARRANT	AMOUNT
Salary Clearing Payroll:		
	42442-42532	171,335.86
	42533-42543	202,205.49
	Direct Deposit	<u>237,604.74</u>
	Total	<u>\$611,146.09</u>

In the amount of \$ **611,146.09** . The motion was seconded by 
and passed by a vote of 2 to 0 .

Emergency Mgmt Payroll:

8564-8574	\$3,478.92
8575-8583	4,000.31
Direct Deposit	<u>6,410.58</u>
Total	<u>\$13,889.81</u>

Irrigation Payroll:

12390-12403	\$6,411.34
12404-12411	\$2,979.42
Direct Deposit	<u>0.00</u>
Total	<u>\$9,390.76</u>

CHANGE OF STATUSPlease enter the following change(s) as of: 03/01/2007Name LISA SCHUMACHEREmployee payroll # SCH Social Security # _____

	FROM	TO
Job Title		Human Resources Assistant
Dept # & Title		001-000-680
Budget Line Item #		511.00.10.0100
Grade - Step / Hourly Rate		G33 S 8 at 50% Mo - \$1,332 at 50% Semi - \$666

REASON FOR CHANGE:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hired | <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Full Time | <input type="checkbox"/> Length of Service Increase |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Full Time | <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Increase |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular Part Time | <input type="checkbox"/> Re-evaluation of Existing Job |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Part Time | <input type="checkbox"/> Resignation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal | <input type="checkbox"/> Retirement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rehire | <input type="checkbox"/> Layoff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promotion | <input type="checkbox"/> Discharge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Demotion | |

☐ Leave of Absence to: _____ Date _____

☐ Family Leave

☐ L&I Leave

Other reason or explanation: _____

Non-Bargaining position; 20 hours per week with pro-rated benefits at 50%Authorized by: *WJC* Approved by: *Frank Malli*Reviewed by Human Resources Department: *B* 2/26/2008
Initial /Date

ORIGINAL-HUMAN RESOURCES YELLOW-PAYROLL WORKSHEET PINK-DEPT HEAD GOLD-EMPLOYEE

Revised 8/2006 ☐ Verify Wage ☐ Computer Entries ☐ Log ☐ New File ☐ Term Process

\$15.37



*Columbia Basin Ground Water Management Area
of Adams, Franklin, Grant and Lincoln Counties*

449 E. Cedar Blvd., Othello, Washington 99344
Phone: 509-488-3409 E-mail: cbgwma@televar.com

March 1, 2007

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senate
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Subject: \$1,250,000 FY 2008 request of the Columbia Basin Ground Water Management Area

Dear Senator Cantwell:

We wish to thank you for your support of the grassroots planning and implementation efforts of the Columbia Basin Ground Water Management Area over the past several years. With your assistance, we have made significant strides toward identifying and solving our nitrate contamination issue as well as identifying and mapping our 8,000 square mile aquifer system. Over 90% of the 175,000 residents derive their drinking water from this ground water resource. Dryland and irrigated agriculture dominate the economy with over 4.0 million farm acres generating \$1.6 billion annually, about 30% of the states' total agricultural production. Studies confirm that 35% of shallow wells exceed the federal drinking water standard for nitrate, raising concerns about our ground water.

As stewards of this area, we place considerable value on the region's ground water quality and quantity, and readily acknowledge that our social and economic survival is dependent on the wise management of this precious resource. Attached is a short description of the two major areas the GWMA needs to implement to address groundwater issues in the Columbia Basin. Completing this phase of **Nitrate Concentration Implementation** and finishing the remaining **Stratigraphy Mapping** have become vital and essential high priorities to the citizens of this region.

The GWMA's Secondary Database Monitoring Project has begun to isolate nitrate concentrations and the potential nitrate water recharge sources in this region. It is urgent and critical that we complete the monitoring and evaluation project soon so we can develop solutions for nitrate contamination. The Stratigraphic Mapping Project has created a new understanding of our aquifer system and its declining water levels. It is essential to complete the stratigraphic mapping to discover the origin, pathway and source of aquifer recharge in the Columbia Basin. We are also seeking state matching funds to complete these two projects, and to update and improve ground water information and distribution to local, state and federal decision makers.

Columbia Basin GWMA Request Letter
March 1, 2007
Page 2

The communities in our four counties are required to comply with strict federal and state water quality regulations. Ground water problems in the Columbia Basin persist. We are a place of non-point pollution, which requires local involvement and participation for programs to be developed and implemented. The GWMA has led local efforts to address nitrates and has become a valuable resource for coordination and information on numerous critical ground water issues. Given the water quality and quantity problems facing the Columbia Basin, we believe funding the GWMA -- a regional, community based effort -- is cost effective and essential if our communities are going to meet these regional challenges to our ground water resources.


We, the Boards of County Commissioners for Adams, Franklin, Grant and Lincoln counties, rank this funding request as a very high priority and view these projects as critical steps in understanding our water supply and planning our future needs.

We would appreciate your continuing support of GWMA's activities and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

LEAD AGENCY FOR THE COLUMBIA BASIN GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT AREA

Roger Hartwig, Chair
Adams County Board of Commissioners



Neva J. Corkrum, Chair Pro-Tem
Franklin County Board of Commissioners

LeRoy Allison, Chair
Grant County Board of Commissioners

Dennis Bly, Chair
Lincoln County Board of Commissioners

Enclosure: 2008 Schedule of GWMA Projects

GWMA 2007 Appropriation Request Congressional Contact list

Carol – we need all eleven letters to the state's Congressional delegation signed and sent to the following addresses, with the original always sent to the Washington D.C. address.

Mail letter to Senator Cantwell to three places:

The Honorable Maria Cantwell

U.S. Senate
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Office of U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell
Thomas S. Foley Courthouse Bldg.
W. 920 Riverside, Suite 697
Spokane, WA 99201
Attention: Katie Kirking

Office of U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell
825 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 204
Richland, WA 99352
Attention: Kristin Eby

Mail letter to Senator Murray to two places:

The Honorable Patty Murray

U.S. Senate
173 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Office of U.S. Senator Patty Murray
601 West Main Avenue, Suite 1213
Spokane, WA 99201
Attention: Judy Olson

Mail letter to Congressman Dicks to two places:

The Honorable Norm Dicks, Chair

House Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies
Room B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6023

The Honorable Norm Dicks, Chair

U.S. House of Representatives
2467 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Mail letter to Congressman Hastings to two places:**The Honorable Richard Hastings**

U.S. House of Representatives
1323 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-4704

Office of U.S. Representative Richard Hastings
2715 St. Andrews Loop, Suite D
Pasco, WA 99301
Attention: Barb Lisk

Mail to the single address below for all other Congressional offices:**The Honorable Cathy McMorris-Rodgers**

U.S. House of Representatives
1708 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen

U.S. House of Representatives
107 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Dave Reichert

U.S. House of Representatives
1223 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jim McDermott

U.S. House of Representatives
1035 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Brian Baird

U.S. House of Representatives
1421 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adam Smith

1717 Pacific Avenue, Suite 2135
Tacoma, WA 98402

The Honorable Jay Inslee

U.S. House of Representatives
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-4701