

February 19, 2026

Re: Support for Columbia River Health Expansion

Dear Senators Merkley and Wyden:

I am writing to express strong support for Columbia River Health's federal funding request for its capital expansion project.

Boardman continues to experience sustained population and economic growth, driven by regional industrial development and housing expansion. Healthcare infrastructure has not kept pace with this growth, and Columbia River Health remains the primary provider of outpatient healthcare services in our community, serving more than 3,500 patients annually.

The proposed expansion - including enhanced primary care capacity, space for dental services, and on-site pharmacy- represents critical community infrastructure. Columbia River Health has committed \$700,500 of its own capital toward this effort, and a recent feasibility study showed strong community financial support, reflecting substantial local investment and long-term sustainability. Strengthening access to local healthcare supports workforce stability, reduces strain on regional emergency departments, and ensures residents can access care close to home.

The City of Boardman recognizes this project as a priority investment in public health and economic vitality and respectfully urges your support of this Community Initiated Project request.

Sincerely,



Brandon Hammond  
City Manager  
City of Boardman