



City of Cascade Locks
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The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
911 NE 11th Ave., Suite 200
Portland, OR 97232

July 12, 2022

Dear Congressman:

Cascade Locks is soon to be included in Oregon's Third Congressional District. As a city of the Columbia River Gorge, we appreciate your efforts to support our recreation economy with your proposed bill. After reading the draft of your bill, the City Council finds it to be positive and comprehensive, with two omissions – the Hood River Bridge and the Bridge of the Gods. Recreation is vital to our communities, but we must also be able to reach those areas for recreation. The bridges are a vital infrastructure that facilitates the movement of goods and people throughout the National Scenic Area. Without these bridges we could not adequately service the visitors or the employees who work to serve those visitors.

Section 202 (2) could be enhanced by including an evaluation of the role those critical bridges play in linking trail systems in Oregon and Washington. It could also include an evaluation of the condition of those bridges and any needed maintenance or construction to keep them viable for the next century.

Section 301 (c)(2) could include an evaluation of the highway system and the bridges as evacuation routes and their ability to perform in the case of an emergency.

Section 501 (g) could include an evaluation of the conflict between motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Funding needed improvements could be included through modification of the restrictions in Title 23 of the United States Code involving toll revenues.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of all Oregonians and their opportunity to recreate in our beautiful region (and home!) This letter is being sent on behalf of and at the direction of the City Council of the City of Cascade Locks.

Respectfully Submitted,


Gordon Zimmerman
City Administrator

*Cascade Locks is where the Bridge of the Gods spans the Heart of the Gorge;
where mountain, wind, and water create the best sailing in the Northwest;
and where the "CL" on the license plate stands for Cascade Locks, the second largest city in Hood River County!
The City of Cascade Locks is an Equal Opportunity Provider.*