



**Testimony by Wilsonville Mayor Tim Knapp  
in Support of SB 131:  
Establishing The Task Force on the Willamette Falls  
Navigation Canal and Locks**

For Public Hearing Scheduled on Feb. 18, 2015, Before the  
Senate Committee on Business and Transportation

**To Chair Beyer, Vice-Chair Girod, and Members of the Committee:**

The City of Wilsonville supports SB 131 to establish the Task Force on the Willamette Falls Navigation Canal and Locks in order to study issues relating to repair, reopening and operation of the canal and locks. The City is appreciative of the efforts of Senators Devlin and Olsen and Representatives Barton, Davis, Kennemer, Parrish and Read for their sponsorship of this proposed legislation.

On November 3, 2014, the Wilsonville City Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2496, “Resolution in Support of Reopening the Willamette Falls Locks,” attached. The resolution specially called for creation of a State Task Force to work with the Corps of Engineers to develop a plan for sustainable operations of the Willamette Falls Locks.

The City of Wilsonville has vested interests in re-opening and operation of the Locks that impact the recreational, tourism and commercial economy of the community and the region.

Closure has placed a severe hardship on commercial, recreational and tribal river users, including Wilsonville-based recreationalists and businesses such as Wilsonville Concrete, Inc., and Marine Industrial Construction, LLC, which have used the Willamette Falls Locks for 127 years for transporting aggregate, logs and other goods and conducting dredging and towing operations and has 15–30 jobs that could be impacted if the Locks are not reopened on a permanent basis.

The City of Wilsonville respectfully urges a DO PASS vote on SB 131. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tim Knapp".

Tim Knapp, Mayor  
City of Wilsonville