



Cal Mukumoto, Chair
Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, OR 97301

Cc: Governor Brown

June 15, 2020

Dear Chair Mukumoto and Commissioners,

The Oregon Trails Coalition is a coalition of broad-based, statewide trail interests dedicated to supporting, promoting, and advocating for the preservation, development, and stewardship of a statewide network of sustainable, world class trails that provide access to outdoor recreation and active transportation for all. We are a coalition of federal, state, and local agencies, trail user groups, outdoor industry partners, media professionals, and volunteer organizations. We span Oregon's urban and rural communities and represent all trail users from urban, multi-use paths to backcountry trails. We include hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, OHV riders, nordic skiers, paddlers, trail runners, mobility device users, and more. We know from the most recent Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan that 74% of Oregonians recreate on local trails, and trails are one of the highest investment priorities for the public. Additionally, trail based recreation is critical to Oregon's rural economies.

We are in challenging times. Covid-19 has impacted us all, and has had disproportionate health, economic, and social impacts on communities of color, older adults, and people with disabilities. This knowledge, coupled with the current national spotlight on the lack of safety of our Black community members in our public spaces, is a call to action to all of us. We cannot let current budget cuts widen existing disparities in health, safety, mobility, and economic prosperity.

We want to recognize and celebrate the leadership of OPRD and the Office of Outdoor Recreation over the last few months in coordinating a collaborative approach for Oregon's parks and public lands to respond appropriately to Covid-19. We also want to share our grief at the near term losses the agency is facing in staff, programs, and operations due to the severe decline in agency revenue from lottery and visitor fees. We know OPRD leadership has been faced with extraordinarily difficult decisions, and our thoughts are with both those who've lost jobs, and those who've lost valued team members.

As the Commission and OPRD face the current losses, and rebuilds in the future, we hope you will commit to the following.

Currently:

- Continue to house the Office of Outdoor Recreation within OPRD and maintain current staffing levels while long term cost-share agreements among multiple agencies and industry partners, and a long-term home for this work can be established.

- Focus internal efforts on equity, diversity, and inclusion, and remain committed to forwarding equity recommendations from the Governor’s Taskforce on the Outdoors.
- Continue OPRD’s commitment to completing and executing the Oregon Coast Trail Action Plan, and continue participating in other cross-agency signature trail partnerships such as the Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail and Salmonberry Trail.

As revenue is restored from lottery funds, user fees, or newly identified sources:

- Restore the Local Government Grant program.
- Restore key staff positions that support maintenance and improvement of trails on State Parks land.
- Restore staff positions in planning, coordination, and technical service roles that support the development and stewardship of our statewide trails system.

We, the undersigned, remain committed to partnering in the realization of our shared goals for a trails system that provides access to all Oregonians while preserving our ecosystems and cultural heritage for future generations.

Aaron Brown, transportation justice advocate
 Abby Pierce
 Adrian Jones
 Al LePage, Executive Director, National Coast Trail Association
 Alana Kambury, Director of Sales, The Suttle Lodge
 Alissa Lesperance
 Alix Lee
 Andrew Maeda, Director, Ontario Recreation District
 Andy Lee
 Annette Parsons, trail user and volunteer
 Barbara Kirchner
 Becky Wolf, equestrian trail rider and advocate
 Ben Lebwohl, VP of Sales Wildwood Playgrounds
 Ben McKinley
 Beth Heins, Portland
 Bianca Chevalier
 Blrte Ferguson
 Bob Dolin
 Bob Lessard, President, Northwest Trail Alliance
 Bob Parsons Senior Parks Maintenance 2

Brandi Ebner, Oregon Horse Council
 Brian Kraynik
 Bruce A Schroeder
 Bruce Parker
 Bruce Ronning, former ORTAC chair
 Bryan Stewart Parks Director Chehalem Parks and Recreation District
 Bryan Taylor Robinson AICP, A.AIA, LEED
 Calvin LeSueur, Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator, City of Canby
 Carlene Benson, OET, Pacific Northwest Endurance Rides
 Carol Birdie Crocker, Back Country Horsemen of Oregon
 Carol T. Hearne
 Casey Creighton, Basic Services Supervisor, Chehalem Park & Recreation District
 Cate Bendock, President, BCHO Sourdough Chapter
 Chrissy Anderson
 Christina Frank
 Christina Rehkla, Visit Corvallis
 Christine Anderson
 Christy Hey, Together Anywhere
 Dan Hilburn, Sunriver Hiking Club
 Dan Little, First Gentleman of Oregon
 Dan Youmans, Central Oregon Trail Alliance

Danielle MacBain - Director, Deschutes Trails Coalition
Daron Webb, Trailkeepers of Oregon
David Werner
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Deb Schoen
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Della M. Webb
Derek Sergison, PLA
Dimitrios Papadimitriou
Don Loving, Director, Chehalem Park & Recreation District
Donna Timmerman
Drew Honzel, Klamath Trails Alliance
Duane Miller, President Back Country Horsemren of Oregon
Elaine Keavney
Eli Boschetto, PCT: Oregon
Elijah j sky Evans
Ellen McClure
Elliott Crowder, Mountain Bike Oregon
Emma Maaranen, Board Member, Central Oregon Trails Alliance
Eric Adams
Eric Laitinen
Erinne Goodell
Ethan Gefroh
Forrest Tancer
Gabriel Tiller, Executive Director, Oregon Timber Trail Alliance
Gay Dolin - Owner, Namaste Ranch
Geoff Babb, Founder and Owner, The Onward Project
Georgena Moran
Hans U. Tschersich, Member of the Clackamas County PBA Committee
Heather Koch
Heidi Siegel
Henry Stroud, Bend Parks & Recreation District
Holly Low
Ilia Fiene
Jack LeRoy, Motorcycle Riders Association

Jack Newlevant, Metro volunteer
Jackie Humphreys
Jaime English
Jan Diamantine
Janine Salwasser, citizen
Jason Huber, Recreation Coordinator
Jeanne Sprague, Director, Lincoln City Parks & Recreation
Jeff Amaral Natural Resource Manager Bend Park and Recreation District
Jeff Parker, Northwest Youth Corps
Jeff Tryens, Oregon Trail Advocate, American Endurance Ride Conference
Jered Bogli
Jered Lane, Arborist
Jeremy Long
Jessica Zdeb
Jill Van Winkle, Trail Professional
Jim Thayer, Ex-ORTAC member
Jody Matz, Recreation Trails Planner, OPRD
John S. Sparks, Trailkeepers of Oregon
Josh Durham, Trailkeepers of Oregon
Joy Trevey-Lowell Pubic Lands Director Sourdough Chapter BCHO
Joy Rogalla
Judy Klein, Vice President Jackson County Horsemans Association
Juntu Oberg, Vice President, Northwest Trail Alliance
Kadee Mardula
Kandi Ho
Karen Emery, Director Corvallis Parks and Recreation Department
Karl MacNair
Kat Ricker, Oregon Trails Coalition, Chehalem Park & Recreation District
Katelyn Hale
Kathleen Worley, hiker and trail crew volunteer
Katie Dunham
Kay Gidley
Kelli Grover
Kelly Burke

Kelsey Price, Planning and Development
Admin Assistant BPRD
Ken Wright treasurer Yamhelas Westsider
Trail
Kim McCarrel, Oregon Equestrian Trails
Kimberlie Thomas
Kindra De'Arman, University of Oregon
Kit Dickey, Deschutes Trail Coalition
Kristi Foster, Executive Director, Tillamook
Estuaries Partnership
Kristina D F Graham
Kyle Wanner, Outdoor Recreation Planner,
BLM
Lanncce Colburn, Secretary, Blue Mt
Singletrack Club
Larry Weymouth, Corvallis resident
Larz Stewart
Lauralee Svendsgaard
Leslie Scheer
Leslye Wing, OET Member
Lisa D. Holmes, I Heart Pacific Northwest
Lisa Rogers, Board Member, Chehalem
Parks and Recreation District
Lizzie Keenan, Mt. Hood and the Columbia
River Gorge Regional Tourism Alliance
Lorna Christopherson
LuAnn De Young
Lucy Cohen
Lydia Ivanovic, Rural Tourism Coordinator,
Discover Klamath
Lynn Longan
Maegan Jossy
Mark & Gloria Uhart
Marla Batchelor
Marlene Massey, Access Benton County
Martin Peters, DO
Mary Stewart
Matt Benotsch
Megan Ramey, Founder of Bikabout.com
Michael Hemen
Michael Klein, Association Director, Oregon
Recreation & Park Association
Michael McGehee
Michelle Parkins

Mindy Montecucco, Chairperson, City of
Canby Bicycle and Pedestrian Citizen
Advisory Committee and Clackamas County
Pedestrian and Bicycle Citizen Advisory
Committee
Owen Rodabaugh, Treasurer, Northwest
Trail Alliance
Owen Wozniak, Conservationist and Local
Outdoor Recreation Guidebook Author
Chuck Solin, Past Chair ORTAC
Pat Jewett, blogger/manger of
allthingswalking.com
Paul Steenkolk
Peg Niewohner
Peter Schrappen, President, Big Tent
Outdoor Recreation Coalition
Peter Siderius, Board of Directors Chehalem
Parks and Recreation District
Rachel Edmonds
Rachel Hill, Oregon State Park Planner
Rachelle K Tanner
Randy Rasmussen, Director for Public Lands
& Recreation, Back Country Horsemen of
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Ray Atkinson
Rebecca R. Young
Renee Patrick, Oregon Natural Desert
Association
Robert Alan Ping
Robert Feiler, Chair, Land of Umpqua
Mountain Bike Riders
Rod Wojtanik
Rodney Sell, Director, Build Lebanon Trails
(BLT)
Russell Heinemann
Sarah Bodo
Sarah Garceau, Josephine County Parks
Director
Scott M Carlile
Sean Humphreys
Serena Dietrich
Skyler Archibald, Sunset Empire Park &
Recreation District, ORTAC Member



Sonya Margerum, Equestrian volunteer trail maintenance
Stacie Lyons-Rhor
Stacy Motschenbacher
Stanley G. Primozich, Vice President Friends of Yamhelas Westsider Trail
Stephanie Noll, Director, Oregon Trails Coalition
Stephen Hatfield, Oregon Trails Coalition board member
Stephen Kiesling, President, Gold Hill Whitewater Center
Steve Daggett
Steve Kruger, Trailkeepers of Oregon - Executive Director
Steven Blakesley
Steven Harloff, Board Member Friends of the Yamhelas Westsider Trail
Susan Schen
Susan Woodruff, Waldport City Councilor
Suzy Zurcher AERC Ride Manager
T A Canavello
Ted Remillard
Ted Schoenborn
Terrance Hawley, Silver Falls Youth Mountain Bike Team
Terry Campbell
Tim Bonnin
Tim Mitchell, Citizen/Architect/Hiker
Tori Middelstadt, Development & Industry Relations Manager, Willamette Valley Visitors Association
Travis Holman, Central Oregon Trail Alliance
Travis Williams, Willamette Riverkeeper
Veronica Hinkes, Board member, Friends of the Yamhelas Westsider Trail
Vickie Staffelbach
Wally Benson, member Pacific Northwest Endurance Rides
Wayne Wiebke President -- Friends of the Yamhelas Westsider Trail
Woody Keen, Central Oregon Trail Alliance