



THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor

April 27, 2007

The Honorable Betsy Johnson
Oregon State Senate
900 Court Street NE, S-314
Salem, OR 97301

The Honorable Mark Labhart
Tillamook County Board of Commissioners
Tillamook County Courthouse
201 Laurel Ave.
Tillamook, OR 97141

Dear Senator Johnson and Commissioner Labhart:

I have reviewed the Oregon Solutions assessment of the Tillamook Basin Flooding Reduction Project. The assessment report shows a broad level of citizen support for a collaborative approach to reduce future impacts from flooding in the Tillamook basin. By this letter I am designating this project as an Oregon Solutions project and appoint the two of you as co-conveners of this project.

The flooding issues in Tillamook County require a collaborative effort to focus energy and to leverage resources. Oregon Solutions can help to further develop federal, state and local government partnerships with the civic sector to accomplish projects on the ground. The assessment outlined a variety of potential projects to create consensus around flood reduction, including dredging, earth moving and other projects to mitigate flooding while considering habitat implications. While the assessment notes that there will be significant challenges, it also underscores the importance of moving forward and addressing this serious problem for the benefit of the entire community.

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It is my hope and desire that the results of this Oregon Solutions collaboration can be applied to other coastal areas that encounter flooding issues. I look forward to hearing about the progress of the Oregon Solutions effort.

Sincerely,



THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor

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c: Ray Naff, Governor's Economic Revitalization Team
Mark Ellsworth, Governor's Economic Revitalization Team
Commissioner Tim Josi
Commissioner Charles Huliman
Mayor Bob McPheeters
Greg Wolf, Oregon Solutions
Mike Carrier, Natural Resources Policy Director