



JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD
Governor

April 2, 2012

Mike McArthur
Association of Oregon Counties
1201 Court St. NE, Suite 300
Salem, OR 97309

Tim Wood
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer St. NE, Suite C
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mr. McArthur & Director Wood:

It has come to my attention that you have requested the Cottonwood Canyon State Park interpretive/education center effort be designated as an Oregon Solutions project. After reviewing your letters and the assessment conducted by Oregon Solutions staff, I feel this project supports Oregon's Sustainable Community Objectives. By this letter I am designating this as an Oregon Solutions project and appointing **Mr. Mike McArthur and Ms. Laura Pryor** as the co-conveners who will lead a team of public, private and civic partners toward innovative solutions to address the objectives outlined in the project assessment.

The Oregon Solutions approach helps bring together partners in a neutral and collaborative way to address issues and opportunities. The proposed interpretive center will create opportunities for both conservation and cultural education. It will also allow for Oregonians and visitors to our state the opportunity to be able to learn more about the fascinating physical and cultural history of the John Day Basin while enjoying the phenomenal natural beauty of Sherman and Gilliam counties.

By integrating and leveraging investments, this project has the potential to strengthen the ties between the public, private and civic sectors and I anticipate the new interpretive/education center will be a great addition to Cottonwood Canyon State Park. Please keep me updated on this effort and thank you for your work and enthusiasm thus far.

Sincerely,

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor

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