



KATE BROWN  
Governor

February 15, 2017

Honorable Steve Shaffer  
Honorable Michael Weimar  
Gilliam County  
221 S. Oregon Street  
Condon, OR 97823

Kim Farrar  
Executive Director  
Pioneer Community Development Corp.  
135 S. Main Street  
Condon, OR 97823

Dear Judge Shaffer, Commissioner Weimar, and Ms. Farrar:

I am pleased to receive the request for the Gilliam County Attainable Housing effort to be designated an Oregon Solutions project. After reviewing the assessment conducted by Oregon Solutions staff, I feel this project supports Oregon's Sustainable Community Objectives. Therefore, I am designating it an Oregon Solutions project and selecting Ms. K'Lynn Lane, Executive Director of the Condon Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Julius Courtney, board member of the non-profit Pioneer Community Development Corporation, as co-conveners.

The co-conveners will lead a team of stakeholders and community members to work collaboratively to collect and analyze data, develop housing strategies, solicit public feedback, and identify implementation tools. The aim is to improve the existing housing stock and also to increase new construction starts in Gilliam County.

Many rural communities in Oregon face housing challenges. Hopefully, your success will provide a roadmap for other rural communities in Oregon to follow. I expect this project team will explore a variety of strategies, including some form of a public-private partnership.

This project is a positive opportunity to move forward together. Success will depend on the connection and active collaboration among non-profit, private sector, and public sector representatives on the ground in Gilliam County. Please keep my office updated on this effort and thank you for your work and enthusiasm thus far.

Sincerely,

Governor Kate Brown

cc: K'Lynn Lane, co-convener  
Julius Courtney, co-convener  
Steve Greenwood, Oregon Solutions Director

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