



Senator Bill Hansell

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, S-423
Salem, Oregon 97301

July 6, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Branden Pursinger
(503) 986-1729

Eastern Oregon Succeeds with Capital Construction Funds

Salem, OR – Today, the Oregon Legislature approved HB 5005, HB 5006, HB 5007, HB 5029, and HB 5030, which all passed out of Ways and Means late Friday night. These bills award over \$40 million to Eastern Oregon for a wide variety of Capital Construction projects, infrastructure improvements, and educational opportunities.

Sen. Bill Hansell (R-Athena) was involved in ensuring these projects were placed on the list and voted to support the District 29 projects that received funding. “I believe Eastern Oregon will make significant steps forward with these projects, both for economic development and also to better the quality of life for citizens in our region,” Hansell said.

Projects in District #29 that received funding:

- Blue Mountain Community College – Animal Science Education Center - \$3,331,350
- I-84 Pendleton to La Grande Highway Improvement - \$4,000,000
- Oregon Youth Authority for Camp River Bend - \$752,000
- Eastern Oregon University Hunt Hall Demolition and Site Restoration - \$2,985,000
- Water Supply for Umatilla Basin - \$11,000,000
- Elgin Health District - \$1,250,000
- Port of Umatilla for EOTEC site - \$1,500,000
- Early Childhood Development Center at the Port of Morrow - \$1,600,000
- Eastern Oregon University Sports Funds - \$913,239
- Eastern Oregon University to fund a new Wrestling Program - \$300,000
- Baum Industrial Site in Union County - \$1,300,000
- Port of Umatilla Water Systems - \$900,000
- Rural Broadband Internet (Rural Wasco County to Sherman County) - \$1,500,000

- ODOT Meacham Maintenance - \$7,500,000
- Condon State Airport - \$2,261,111
- Rural Broadband Internet from Condon to Wheeler County (a portion of the funds will be in District #29) - >\$2,000,000
- Additional Funds for Wolf Compensation - \$130,000

In addition to these regional projects, additional funds could become available through statewide projects. A portion of the funds listed below will be allocated to projects in Eastern Oregon. They include:

- Connect Oregon VI funds - \$45,000,000
- Brownfields Revolving Account - \$7,000,000
- Regional Solutions - \$12,005,000
- Capital Repair, Renewal, Accessibility, for all State Universities - \$65,000,000
- Water Resources Department - \$9,000,000
- Water Projects - \$30,000,000
- County Fair Programs - \$3,864,000
- Predator Control - \$50,000
- Department of Veteran's Affairs for Counties - \$500,000
- College Inside (helping incarcerated citizens earn a college degree) - \$350,000
- K-12 school renovations and seismic upgrades - \$300,000,000

Senator Hansell requested, during the Capital Construction Subcommittee, that \$45,000,000 of the \$50,000,000 in water funds to be allocated to the Umatilla Basin's Water Projects. Currently \$11,000,000 has been earmarked for the Umatilla Basin.

Eastern Oregon is set to receive over \$40 million in project funding and benefits for the region, and could benefit from additional funds from statewide project money. With the chance of additional funds, Eastern Oregon could receive over \$80 million to fund various long-term projects and instruction.

“These investments will help Eastern Oregon build better infrastructure and a strong economy that will help all Eastern Oregonians prosper,” said Senator Hansell.

#