



**REPRESENTATIVE MARK JOHNSON
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE DISTRICT 52**

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Representative Mark Johnson Appointed By Governor To Help Lead Columbia River Highway Oregon Solutions Project

Project Will Focus On Providing Practical And Sustainable Solutions To Safety And Congestion Issues In Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

Salem, OR – Representative Mark Johnson (R-Hood River) has been appointed by Governor Kate Brown to serve as co-convenor of the Historic Columbia River Highway Collaborative Oregon Solutions project. Rep. Johnson, together with co-convenor Multnomah County Commissioner Diane McKeel and a team of public, private and civic leaders, will work to develop practical and sustainable solutions to ongoing safety and congestion issues in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

“I’m honored to be selected by Governor Brown to help lead this important initiative,” said Rep. Johnson. “The Columbia Gorge Scenic Area is loved by Oregonians and is a national treasure - but all of this attention and affection is resulting in congestion that risks diminishing the quality of the experience for all. I look forward to working with all stakeholders to learn what can be done to manage the increasing demands for use while also looking out for the best interests of local residents.”

Governor Brown’s decision to designate the Historic Columbia River Highway Collaborative as an Oregon Solutions project came at the request of state and local community leaders and after the project received an assessment summary by Oregon Solutions staff. The designation brings with it the support of professional Oregon Solutions staff, assistance in leveraging funding for the project, and will help unite stakeholders and community members together in a collaborative and productive manner. The project’s focus will be on alleviating traffic congestion and safety issues in the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area in a way that will protect and preserve the region for future generations.

[Oregon Solutions](#) was established with the passage of Oregon’s Sustainability Act in in 2001. The group works to solve community-based problems through collaboration with business, nonprofit and government leaders. Since 2001, Oregon Solutions has completed over 60 projects around the state.

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