



City of Falls City
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**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
AND CITY MANAGER
TERRY UNGRICHT**

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OCT 03 2016

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

October 9, 2016

Subject: Application CA16-04

Dear Honorable Mayors, Councilors, Planning Commissioners and County Commissioners,

On behalf of the City Council of Falls City, I would like to voice our support of the proposed land-use actions before you that are necessary for the implementation of the preferred alternative for the third bridge across the Willamette River.

The City of Falls City has in the past and continues to support this effort for a number of important reasons. The preferred alternative would provide an option for commuters and freight without impacting downtown Salem, it would relieve congestion on the current bridge, and provide more efficient movement of goods and services within our region. With the current warnings of a Cascadia fault line event, the new bridge would be constructed to withstand an earthquake event, which would provide critical access for emergency responders in such an event. It is unlikely that the current bridges would withstand such an event.

All residents in Polk County use the current crossing and we all know the traffic problems that occur at the only major crossing of the Willamette River. We support and urge this project to move forward it would have a region wide positive impact, not only to the residents of Falls City, but to all residents of Polk County.

Please enter this letter of support into the record on this matter.

Thank you

Terry Ungricht