



August 7, 2025

The Honorable Tina Kotek  
Governor, State of Oregon  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Governor Kotek:

On behalf of Willamette Falls Trust and its Board, we are sharing our commitments regarding financial transparency and Tribal engagement related to the Willamette Falls Inter-Tribal Public Access Project.

The Project is fundamentally centered on ensuring public access, which in turn demands public trust. The leadership of the Trust places the utmost importance on the prudent management and stewardship of both public and private investments associated with the Project. We welcome the opportunity to work with you and your office to have specific benchmarks related to the \$45 million state investment.

We are also committed to an inclusive, collaborative process that realizes the full potential of Willamette Falls, for the region, for the state, and for the Native Nations for which this location holds tremendous importance. We believe our public access project on the west side of the Falls and the project being done by the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde on the east side of the Falls are complementary. The Trust is committed to open communication and meaningful engagement with all parties and all governments, especially the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. We declare our commitment to repairing and strengthening this important relationship.

With that in mind, we offer the following additional details and potential benchmarks for this transformational project:

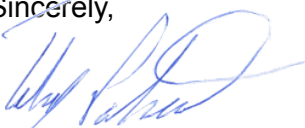
- Portland General Electric supports the Project and has a cooperation agreement with the Trust stating the property will not be sold to another party if the Trust shows readiness by February 20, 2026. Timing is critical. Absent state funding, PGE may seek other buyers, and the possibility of public ownership and access is significantly reduced or eliminated. The lottery bonds are important to demonstrate readiness and set a course for public access.
- Aside from the cooperation agreement, the Trust and PGE have not established any additional terms concerning the property, including specific terms of any sale. Upon approval of the state investment and acknowledgement of readiness by PGE, the Trust anticipates initiating a thorough due diligence process. We commit to asking for your input on the specific terms of the sale.

- The Trust is committed to a public-private partnership and the necessary transparency that goes along with that. The investment from the state is an essential component. Conversations with philanthropic and regional funding partners are ongoing. These state lottery bonds can leverage significant additional resources.
- The Trust will not seek additional legislative appropriations for the acquisition and remediation of the site.
- To facilitate additional investment from regional partners, which may require public ownership, the Trust will work with community and government organizations, including the State of Oregon, to determine appropriate terms of ownership.
- The Trust is committed to open and regular communication with the State of Oregon. Beginning on November 1, 2025 and ending on February 1, 2027, the Trust will meet quarterly with the Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency. Meetings shall include:
  - Updates on progress towards land acquisition, including due diligence and discussions with landowners.
  - Updates on additional public and private funding opportunities.
  - Community engagement activities.
- As required in SB 5531 (Section 38(1)), prior to the sale of lottery bonds, the Trust shall submit to the Department of Administrative Services the mutually agreed-upon terms with landowners and demonstrate a commitment of resources adequate to fulfill the requirements of the agreement.
- Following the receipt of the bonds and execution of any agreement with landowners, the Trust will perform internal and/or external audits, as appropriate and necessary.

The Trust understands the importance of prudent stewardship of state resources and commits to working with the state on developing a letter of agreement between the Trust and the appropriate state entity that establishes the aforementioned benchmarks or similar, as agreed upon between you and the Board.

The Trust is wholly committed to ensuring public access to Willamette Falls. We share your belief that public access must be achieved in the most equitable, responsible manner possible. All Oregonians should have the opportunity to experience the Falls breathtaking power, to learn about its multi-layered history, and to gain a deeper appreciation of Oregon's unparalleled natural beauty.

Sincerely,



Toby Patrick, Board Chair



Kate Brown, President