

City of Westfir

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MAILED

4-16-22

April 15, 2022

Heather Buch
Lane County Public Service Bldg
125 E 8th St
Eugene, OR 97401

RE: Reduction of Speed Limit on Westfir-Oakridge Road

Dear Commissioner Buch:

We the Mayor, City Council, and resident petition signers (attached) from Westfir, Oregon, respectfully request a speed limit reduction to 25 mph on Westfir Road, just past the County bridge traversing the Middle Fork of the Willamette River, leading into our downtown area. Within the limits of our City, the road being addressed is Lane County jurisdiction.

The area of most concern is the straight stretch of road just past the County bridge, traveling east. The current speed limit of 45 mph is regularly exceeded by more than 40 mph. With our community continuing to grow, more pedestrian and bicycle traffic travel that road. There are also children and pets who are put at risk with the excessive speeding that regularly occurs on that road. The City is partnering with the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council and the Oregon State Marine Board to seek grant funding to improve a City Park on the west side of City limits, near the County bridge. With that improvement, we can expect to see an increase in traffic (vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle) on Westfir Road. A reduction of the speed limit needs to be implemented to protect the citizens and visitors of our City, now and moving forward.

Currently, Westfir contracts with the City of Oakridge for police and fire services. Because there is a limit on the number of hours Police can patrol Westfir, speeding on Westfir Road is not addressed to the extent that we and our citizens would like to see. As a safety measure, we request that an electronic speed sensor unit with lighted speed indicators be placed near the middle portion of the straight away on Westfir Road (approximately 100 yards east of the "Welcome to Westfir" sign.) We ask that the speed sensor have a camera mounted on the device for recording the license plate of any vehicle exceeding the posted speed limit, for the purpose of

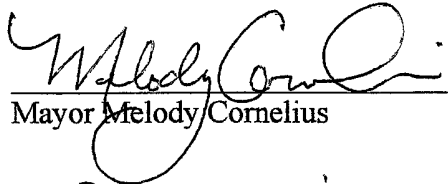
mailing a speeding citation to the registered owner of the vehicle.

As Westfir continues to grow, the safety of our residents is paramount. Tourism is one of the only sources of revenue for our City, and hundreds of thousands of dollars have been invested through county and state grants to support the industry. The reduction of the speed limit to 25 mph will help keep our community safe and encourage our economy to grow.

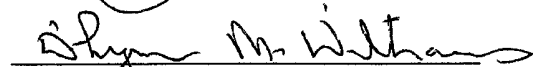
Thank you for your consideration on this important safety issue. We look forward to partnering with the County to address the concerns of our citizens.

Sincerely,

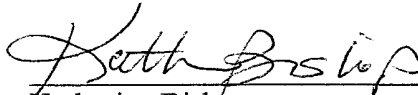
Westfir City Council



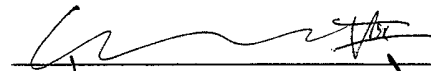
Mayor Melody Cornelius



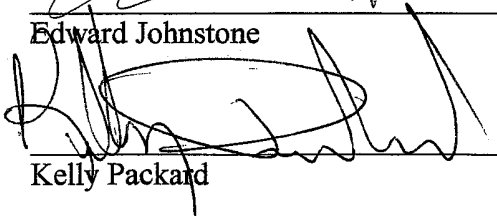
D'Lynn Williams



Katherine Bishop



Edward Johnstone



Kelly Packard

CC: Dan Hurley, Director, Lane County Public Works