United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 23, 2010

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Capitol, Room S-128
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Capitol, Room S-146A
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tim Johnson
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 125
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 125
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

As the Committee begins its consideration of the FY11 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill, we write to request support for the following projects. **These projects are listed in alphabetical order.**

Project Name: Alert Aircraft Shelter
Request: $3,900,000
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard
Project Number: TQKD 099101
Service Component: Air National Guard
Project Location: Portland ANG Base, Portland, Oregon
Project Description: This project constructs a third alert aircraft shelter within the Alert Aircraft Area (AAA) at the Portland Air National Guard base. Currently, the base has an alert fighter aircraft loaded with live munitions geographically separated from the AAA. This spare aircraft is required to meet Operation Noble Eagle mission requirements. To utilize this aircraft as a primary or a spare during an alert scramble, the Guard has to load up one pilot and two crew chiefs into a truck, and move them to the alert aircraft located approximately a quarter mile away. All other ASA alert sites have the spare located next to the primary aircraft. This separation does not allow the appropriate time for alert crews to change to the spare jet and make their required launch time. With the current higher headquarters timing criteria, this is unacceptable.

Project Name: Camp Rilea Infrastructure (Waste Water Treatment Plant)
Request: $3,608,000
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard
Project Number: 410819

Service Component: Army National Guard
Project Location: Camp Rilea, Warrenton, Oregon
Project Description: Wastewater treatment plant improvements are required to correct deficiencies of the system built in 1979, which provides sanitary sewer treatment for Camp Rilea's resident and emergency populations in accordance with Oregon Military Department's existing Water Pollution Control Facilities Permit Number 101887 issued by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. The current system has limitations in the capacity and the effluent disposal method. The disposal system has exceeded its designed capacity. In order to continue to provide the capacity to meet the health concerns and sustain operational requirements at Camp Rilea, a different effluent discharge method is needed. The wastewater treatment plant is a central part of the Camp Rilea master plan to develop emergency operations capabilities for Clatsop County and the northwest Oregon region. The camp is the center of support for communities during natural and man-made disasters. The project will include upgrades to existing lagoons, effluent recirculation pump and lines, effluent transfer pumps, approximately 3,500' of force-main, four new rapid infiltration basins, and a water reuse system including filtration, disinfection, and an irrigation pump. The project needs to be completed to meet current and future demand and comply with federal and state environmental laws.

Project Name: Camp Withycombe Infrastructure
Request: $15,757,000
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard
Project Number: 410115
Service Component: Army National Guard
Project Location: Clackamas County, Clackamas, Oregon
Project Description: Construction of the 41 Infantry Division Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) completed in FY2009 requires that additional infrastructure needs be addressed. This project will provide infrastructure utilities to support existing and future construction providing a safe and functional environment for soldiers and tenants. The site's ability to meet minimum standards in infrastructure needs is diminished by increased costs in sewer and water rates due to the influence of ground water infiltration because of broken pipes and old tile systems, failures in water lines, and in the restricted flow of storm waters because of deteriorated conveyance and detention systems. There are antiquated transformers, power lines, and lighting systems and substandard wiring in buildings older than fifty years. There are insufficient communications systems and supporting equipment. Service roads have deteriorated base structures, creating major cracking and pot holes due to the heavy use of commercial service trucks and heavy haulers supporting tenant units and maintenance shops. Infrastructure improvements would include constructing roads with curbs and landscaping, storm and sewer systems with a new man hole connection, power from overhead to underground conduit with pad mounted transformers and sub metering, all overhead copper replaced by fiber communication systems, reconfigured gas lines and connections, lights in compounds, new water lines with new building connections and valves, and street lighting. Infrastructure improvements will save millions in maintenance costs.

Project Name: Joint Force Headquarters Addition/Alteration
Request: $21,285,000
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard

Project Number: 410301
Service Component: Army National Guard
Project Location: Joint Force Headquarters, Salem, Oregon
Project Description: The current Oregon Military Department Joint Force Headquarters building (JFHQ) was built in 1988. This project will design and construct the addition/alteration of 134,361 square feet at the JFHQ building. The project will add 48,715 SF and alter the existing 85,646 SF in a specially designed two story JFHQ, to include expanding and modernizing the kitchen facilities, remodeling/addition of two entry points, upgrading the HVAC system and consolidating information management equipment/work areas. The building's readiness rating, per the Infrastructure Status Report, is Green, indicating the facility is adequate for interim use but is deficient in office space, conference, and classroom space, storage space to support units' requirements, and for needed upgrades in mechanical systems that are not being met. The addition and alteration of the JFHQ building will accommodate joint Air and Army Guard forces including Personnel, Public Affairs, Recruiting and Retention, Property and Fiscal Operations, and Installations Division.

Project Name: Josephine County Field Maintenance Shop
Request: $12,146,000
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard
Project Number: 410058
Service Component: Army National Guard
Project Location: Josephine County Field Maintenance Shop, Grants Pass, Oregon
Project Description: This project will design and construct a new 21,358 square foot Field Maintenance Shop (FMS) to maintain and issue/turn-in equipment for peacetime training and to ensure the equipment is prepared for mobilization. The FMS is an Army National Guard maintenance facility which provides full-time organizational and direct support field level maintenance. This project is a new requirement due to realigned units and an increase in vehicle and equipment density. The new FMS would support units stationed in Southern Oregon that are currently supported by Field Maintenance Shops in Medford. The existing 4,240 square foot Medford FMS does not meet current requirements. The current equipment densities exceed facility capabilities due to realignment and transformation. The increase in equipment density exceeds the capacity of the existing FMS compound for storage of vehicles and equipment and a lack of bays limits in-shop maintenance. If the project is not approved, the transportation time in man-hour allocation and fuel costs will continue to increase funding requirements. Lack of maintenance bays and compound space will continue to increase the maintenance work backlog.

Project Name: Klamath Falls Armed Forces Readiness Center (AFRC) / Security Forces Building
Request: $12,858,000 – Military Construction, Army National Guard
$6,480,000 – Military Construction Air National Guard
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard
Military Construction, Air National Guard
Project Number: 410306 – Army National Guard
KJAO02941 – Air National Guard
Service Component: Army and Air National Guard
Project Location: Klamath County, Klamath Falls, Oregon

Project Description: This project will replace both the Klamath Falls Armory built in 1956 and a building at Kingsley Field built in 1959 with a new readiness center and force protection building to accommodate both C Troop of the 1-82 Cavalry Squadron Dismounted Scouts and 173d Security Force Squadron. The project will provide adequate facilities and enhance security measures to effectively accomplish the assigned mission and functional requirements of Army and Air Guard personnel working in these buildings. Inadequate space and infrastructure continues to hamper readiness, daily security operations, and hinder mobility preparations. Higher operating costs will result due to the physical separation of facilities and the use of multiple older facilities. Degraded quality of life affects morale, recruiting, and retention. Additionally, the readiness center will be available for use by citizens and groups throughout the area through the Oregon Military Department Rental Program, to hold functions and events that further support the local economy.

Project Name: Replace Fire Station
Request: $7,300,000
Account: Military Construction, Air National Guard
Project Number: KJAQ099058
Service Component: Air National Guard
Project Location: Kingsley Field ANG Base, Klamath Falls, Oregon
Project Description: Funds would be used to construct a new fire station to meet the Guard's mission, and to meet all AT/FP and LEED requirements. The 173 FW (the only F-15 Formal Training Unit for the entire Air Force and Air National Guard) requires an adequately sized and properly configured fire station for a 25 person, 3 shift—(7 firefighters per shift), with 8 primary response vehicles. By agreement with the airport authority and FAA, the ANG provides primary crash and fire rescue response to the military and commercial aviation for the entire airport. The current facility significantly lacks adequate space for equipment storage, sleeping quarters, training, protective clothing storage, agent storage, and parking. It is less than 50% of authorized space. Firefighter protective clothing and equipment are currently stored on racks in the vehicle bays causing a major safety hazard when firefighters are called to respond to an emergency. Sleeping quarters are cramped and poorly ventilated. Training space is inadequate. The current facility lacks several components: bio-hazard room, protective clothing laundry, disinfecting area, medical supplies area, and more. Without a new fire department, personnel will continue to work in an unsafe environment. Effectiveness in emergency response will continue to be hampered while living in cramped conditions threatening the department's ability to meet mission requirements.

Project Name: The Dalles Readiness Center
Request: $15,036,000
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard
Project Number: 410026
Service Component: Army National Guard
Project Location: Wasco County, The Dalles, Oregon
Project Description: Funds will be used to design and construct a 45,967 square foot readiness center to support administrative and training functions of A(-) 3-116 Rifle Cavalry, with adequate classroom and administrative spaces for training and operations for homeland security, antiterrorism, and force protection. The current armory in The Dalles was built in 1951. Its

readiness rating per Installation Status Report Implementing Instructions is Black, meaning the cost to restore this facility far exceeds 40% of the plant replacement value. Major deficiencies of this Armory include: failure to meet Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection measures, inadequate parking for unit members, and inadequate military vehicle parking. The Armory also has undersized offices, restrooms, classrooms, kitchen, inadequate heating and cooling systems, utilities, and no fire and life safety systems. This facility does not meet current construction or occupancy codes for ADA, seismic, fire and life safety systems, and is not energy efficient. The site size is inadequate to accommodate facilities required for the unit or to meet current force protection standards, which will reduce maintenance efficiency, and training and mobilization readiness standards will continue to decline. This project is a unique partnership between the Oregon Military Department (OMD) and Columbia Gorge Community College. It will provide prolonged benefit to the local economy as part of the community college campus with classrooms available to the college during the week as well as bringing service members to the area during training weekends. This facility will be available for use by citizens and groups throughout the area through the OMD rental program.

Project Name: Tolbert Bridge, Clackamas
Request: $23,650,000
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard
Project Number: 411004
Service Component: Army National Guard
Project Location: Camp Withycombe, Clackamas, Oregon
Project Description: The purpose of the project is to design and construct a new railroad overpass and road network to a new Camp Withycombe main entrance. The new entrance is being constructed as part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure project for a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC). This project is also part of the Clackamas County Sunrise Corridor Master Transportation Plan. The construction of the AFRC will increase the number of soldiers from 425 to more than 1,300 stationed at the camp, in addition to the 325 full-time employees currently working there. The increase in military vehicles stationed at the camp is more than 450, with a significant percentage being tractor trailers and fuel trucks assigned to subordinate units of two ARNG brigades and the Army Reserve. Roadways will increase in their rate of deterioration of an already severely damaged and overused road network. This deterioration will result in a significant increase in roadway maintenance and repair funding requirements for Clackamas County and the State of Oregon. An increase in traffic will increase the risk of liability to the Federal and State governments since most of the increase in vehicular accidents would likely result from heavy, large military vehicle traffic. The national significance of this project is providing facilities to maintain the mobilization readiness of the Oregon National Guard in support of Overseas Contingency Operations and the capability for soldiers and assigned equipment to respond when called upon by the Governor or the President of the United States for any contingency.

Project Name: Washington County Field Maintenance Shop
Request: $11,376,000
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard
Project Number: 410801
Service Component: Army National Guard

Project Location: Washington County, Hillsboro, Oregon
Project Description: Funds for this project will be used to design and construct a new 21,000 square foot Field Maintenance Shop (FMS) to maintain and issue/turn-in equipment for peacetime training and to ensure the equipment is prepared for mobilization. The FMS is an Army National Guard maintenance facility which provides full-time organizational and direct support field level maintenance. This project is a new requirement due to realigned units and an increase in vehicle and equipment density. This new FMS would support units stationed in Northwestern Oregon between West Portland and the Coast Range, which are currently supported by FMS(s) in North Portland. The distance from supported units to existing FMS(s) and the traffic congestion in Portland increase costs in fuel and labor. The current equipment densities at existing FMS(s) exceed facility capabilities due to realignment and transformation. The increase in equipment density exceeds the capacity of existing FMS compounds for storage of vehicles and equipment as well as a lack of bays limit in shop maintenance.

Project Name: Washington County Readiness Center
Request: $15,478,000
Account: Military Construction, Army National Guard
Project Number: 410093
Service Component: Army National Guard
Project Location: Washington County, Hillsboro, Oregon
Project Description: This project will replace the existing armory in Hillsboro to adequately accommodate units of D Company 2Battalion of the 162 Infantry Regiment. The project will construct a 37,707 sq. ft. facility to support administrative and training functions for the unit, with adequate classroom and administrative space for training and operations for homeland security, antiterrorism, and force protection. At 14,082 sq. ft., the Hillsboro Armory, which was built in 1955, is unable to meet the requirements of newly realigned units. The existing site of 2.3 acres does not meet standards to accommodate facilities required by the newly transformed units or current force protection standards. There are encroachment issues with regard to commercial enterprises wanting to acquire the existing armory site for development. The Hillsboro Armory readiness rating based upon Army-wide Installation Status Report criteria is "Black", indicating the cost to restore this facility far exceeds 40% of the plant replacement value, and does not support the military mission. Major deficiencies of this Armory include: not meeting Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection measures, inadequate parking for unit members, and inadequate military vehicle parking. The Armory also has undersized and inadequate offices, restrooms, classrooms, kitchen, heating and cooling systems, utilities, and no fire and life safety systems. This facility does not meet current ADA construction or occupancy codes, seismic, fire and life safety systems, and is not energy efficient. The Oregon Military Department is partnering with the Washington County Fairgrounds, and this project is planned in conjunction with their Fairgrounds Task Force Master Plan.

We certify that neither ourselves nor our immediate families have a pecuniary interest, consistent with the requirements of Paragraph 9 of rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, in any congressionally directed spending item that we requested in this letter. We further certify that we have posted a description of the items requested on our official websites, along with the accompanying justification.

Thank you for your consideration of these worthy projects. We appreciate your strong and continued leadership and look forward to working with you this year on funding vital to our nation. If you have any questions, please contact Isaiah Akin in Senator Wyden's office at 224-5244 or Courtney Thompson in Senator Merkley's office at 224-3753.

Sincerely,

Ron Wyden
United States Senator

Jeff Merkley
United States Senator