



Clatsop County
Board of Commissioners

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February 8, 2022

Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program
Business Oregon
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 200
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Jewell School District

Dear Grant Committee,

The Clatsop County Board of Commissioners supports Jewell School District's Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program (SRGP) application. The Jewell School is a vital resource and lifeline in this rural community and will serve many diverse purposes/functions in the event of an earthquake or other natural disaster. We support the school districts commitment to improve key public building infrastructure through retrofit and seismic hardening.

In the event of a large magnitude earthquake, one of the key impacts to the Jewell community—and all of Clatsop County— will be isolation from the rest of the county and region for an extended period of time. Immediately following an earthquake, and in order to lessen loss of life, the community must have the capacity to provide mass care to displaced citizens. The Jewell school property has been long-identified as the only suitable location due to size and proximity, however, concerns remained about the infrastructure viability after an earthquake. The proposed project addresses those concerns, and it also aligns with several local, ongoing emergency management efforts.

As a rural unincorporated area of the county, Jewell will face significant challenges in maintaining the safety and security of their citizens following a seismic event, therefore, we are in full support of the community's effort to render themselves more resilient by making improvements to the infrastructure on which they will rely.

Sincerely,

Mark Kujala, Chair
Clatsop County Board of Commissioners