



May 7, 2026

Dear RRRFPD Board and Staff,

Our Dorena Main Station project has now been formally submitted on the Senate side and is listed on Senator Wyden's disclosure page, meaning it has entered the Senate appropriations process. Our request is also continuing through the House appropriations process.

Having submissions advancing through both the House and Senate places the project in a strong and competitive position at this stage.

The next phase is subcommittee review, during which each chamber will determine which projects will be included in their draft funding bills. We expect to receive additional information in late June or July. As with all federal funding requests, this remains a competitive process, and inclusion is not guaranteed.

If the project advances through each stage, the current timeline suggests final decisions may occur late this year or early next year, with potential funding availability around summer 2027.

This milestone is especially meaningful for a small rural community such as ours. Advancing to this stage reflects the commitment and advocacy of many individuals and partners who continue working to support rural Oregon communities. We are grateful for the efforts and guidance provided by Senator Wyden, Senator Merkley, Congresswoman Val Hoyle, Governor Kotek's office, Lane County, and the many local and regional partners who have supported our work along the way.

In the meantime, we will continue advancing preconstruction readiness efforts and pursuing additional funding opportunities. This development is expected to strengthen our broader funding position as we continue working toward the commitment made to our community in 2024.

I will continue to share updates as they become available regarding both the Dorena and Disston station projects. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Warm regards,

Kathleen Istudor
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