

December 12, 2018

Senator
Representative Jeremie Dufault
Washington State Legislature

_____ is pleased to provide this letter in support of a Capital Budget Appropriation of \$2.5 million to the Housing Authority of the City of Yakima for the Veterans Housing and Services Center (VHSC) to be constructed in Yakima, Washington. The VHSC will convert the existing Yakima Marine Armory into 14 studio units for Homeless Veterans and 27 newly constructed, permanent affordable two- and three-bedroom units to serve homeless veteran families. The rehabbed Armory building will include a one-stop, 12,000 SF, supportive services facility for all homeless veterans in the community. YHA is partnering with Yakima Neighborhood Health, Blue Mountain Action Council and Yakima County Veterans Affairs to provide health and dental care, behavioral health, housing counseling, and case management.

This \$2.5 million appropriation is critical to fill an unmet need in our community for supportive affordable housing and services for homeless veterans. With the support of stakeholders and partners in the Yakima community, YHA successfully applied to obtain the property in 2017 as federally surplus property through the McKinney-Vento Act Title V Property Disposition program. The project has secured Low Income Housing Tax Credits, Housing Trust Fund, HOME funding from the City of Yakima, and funding from the Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program.

YHA has leveraged every dollar available for funding of the Veterans Housing and Services Center and while 78% of the budget is funded, a gap still remains. An appropriation from the Capital Budget would ensure the successful build out of the social services space to provide crucial supportive services to residents and all homeless veterans in our community. There is currently no other resource in Yakima or the surrounding area that provides this level of comprehensive and coordinated services in a one-stop location for homeless veterans seeking services.

Sincerely,

Yakima Housing Authority
Veterans Supportive Housing and Service Center



Yakima Housing Authority's (YHA) Veteran Supportive Housing and Service Center project is the redevelopment of the former United States Marine Corp armory property on Tahoma Avenue in Yakima. The project will create:

- **41 units of supportive housing** for homeless veterans and their families
- **12,000 SF of social service space** targeted for homeless veterans in the community.

The project will include the rehabilitation of the armory building as well as the new construction of townhome and multifamily housing units on site. The social services space will provide comprehensive services in one location for homeless veterans in the Yakima community. Yakima Neighborhood Health Services will operate a primary care clinic and additional social service office space will be occupied by Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (VASH) case managers and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) case managers.

This project addresses the need in Yakima for housing and services for homeless veterans in the community. The former armory building became available as federally surplus property with a priority for homeless use through the McKinney-Vento Act Title V Property Disposition program. With the support of stakeholders and partners in the Yakima community, YHA successfully applied to obtain the property in 2017.

In 2018, YHA secured Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and State Housing Trust Fund funds for the housing portion of the project. However, there are limited resources available for the social services space portion of the project. This capital budget request is to fund these services spaces, which are crucial to the homeless veterans in Yakima and the success of the project.

The project will leverage State Capital Budget funds with Low Income Housing Tax Credits, City of Yakima, and Federal Home Loan Bank funds, as well as the land donation by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services. These funds total \$11,850,000, or 73% of the total development cost.

Uses		Sources	
Land	1,100,000	Low Income Housing Tax Credits	9,000,000
Hard Costs	12,350,000	State Housing Trust Fund	2,000,000
Development Costs	1,850,000	Deferred Developer Fee	600,000
Other Soft Costs	1,750,000	City of Yakima	1,000,000
		Federal Home Loan Bank	750,000
		HHS Acquisition (Donation)	1,200,000
		State Capital Budget Funds	2,500,000
Total Uses	17,050,000	Total Sources	17,050,000



This River Runs Forever Yakima Basin Integrated Plan

Urban Eberhart
Kittitas Reclamation District

Commissioner Cory Wright
Kittitas County

Commissioner Mike Leita
Yakima County

Wendy McDermott
American Rivers

Lisa Pelly
Trout Unlimited

Phil Rigdon
Yakama Nation

Scott Revell
Roza Irrigation District

November 30, 2018

The Honorable Jay Inslee
Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Dear Governor Inslee:

Thank you for your ongoing leadership and support for the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (Integrated Plan). As you develop your budget proposal, we respectfully request that you include \$42.1 million for the Integrated Plan as proposed by the Washington State Department of Ecology. This request would fund projects important to the continued success of the Integrated Plan, including significant construction components of Cle Elum Fish Passage, along with numerous projects implementing the other six elements of the Integrated Plan.

As you know, the Integrated Plan was developed by a diverse group of stakeholders including farmers, irrigation districts, city and county governments, the Yakama Nation, conservation organizations, and state and federal agencies. Our collaboration remains strong and committed to fulfilling our shared goals.

The Integrated Plan calls for substantial water storage improvements for both instream and out-of-stream uses, will protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat, provides increased operational flexibility to meet ecological objectives, and improves the reliability of irrigation, municipal, and domestic water supplies in the basin. Implementing the Integrated Plan over the next 25 years is imperative to Washington State's economy and environment.

Thank you for your dedication to the Integrated Plan. We greatly appreciate your continued partnership.

Sincerely,



Urban Eberhart
Kittitas Reclamation District



Cory Wright
Kittitas County



Wendy McDermott
American Rivers



Lisa Pelly
Trout Unlimited



Phil Rigdon
Yakama Nation



Scott Revell
Roza Irrigation District

cc: Maia Bellon, Director, Department of Ecology
Tom Tebb, Director of Office of Columbia River, Department of Ecology
Sen. Christine Rolfes, 23rd Legislative District, Senate Ways & Means Committee Chair
Sen. David Frockt, 46th Legislative District, Senate Ways & Means Committee Vice Chair
Sen. John Braun, 20th Legislative District, Senate Ways & Means Committee Ranking Member
Sen. Jim Honeyford, 15th Legislative District, Senate Ways & Means Committee Asst. Ranking Member
Rep. Steve Tharinger, 24th Legislative District, House Capital Budget Committee Chair
Rep. Richard DeBolt, 20th Legislative District, House Capital Budget Committee Ranking Member