



May 12, 2020

The Honorable J.W. Foster
Mayor, City of Yelm
106 Second St. SE
Yelm, WA 98597

Dear Mayor Foster,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a letter of support for your grant application to the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office for Phase 2 of the Yelm Prairie Line Trail that will eventually connect the cities of Yelm and Roy.

On May 12, 2020, the Olympia City Council passed a resolution in support of this project. Olympia, along with other communities in Thurston County, have deliberately planned and built an interconnected series of off-street trails and on-street facilities to meet the recreation needs of citizens of all ages and abilities. As we near build-out of this system within our county, connecting to adjacent counties is the next logical step.

Thanks to Yelm's foresight in acquiring this rail corridor many years ago, our area has an incredible chance to provide not only a great local recreational opportunity but one of regional significance as well. Whether people walk, run, or ride bicycles or horses, recreational trails provide incredible benefits both physically and mentally, while allowing people either the solitude they want or a chance to spend time with friends or family in a constructive, active, and social manner.

We acknowledge the importance of this project in helping to realize the dream of a Cross-State Trail allowing multi-day recreational experiences. Such signature facilities and the challenges they offer encourage people to dream and set physical conditioning goals that motivate them to get regular exercise. As the benefits of such activity are experienced, it becomes a normal part of healthy behavior patterns that can last a lifetime.

The Olympia City Council congratulates Yelm for its grant application design and construction of Yelm Prairie Line Trail Phase 2 and encourages the Recreation and Conservation Office to fund this worthy project.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Selby
Olympia Mayor