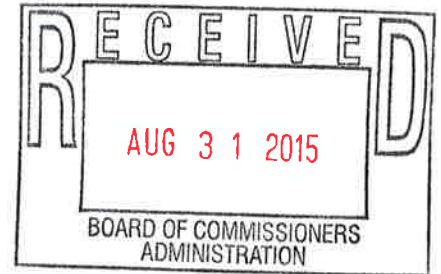




CITY OF SISTERS

August 26, 2015

Alan Unger
Deschutes County Commissioner
PO Box 6005
Bend, OR 97708



RE: Sisters to Black Butte Ranch Paved Trail

Dear Commissioner Unger,

The City of Sisters is gaining an increasingly positive reputation as a cycling- and pedestrian-friendly city. We have achieved a Silver designation as a Bicycle Friendly Community (from the League of American Bicyclists) and a Bronze designation as a Walk Friendly Community. Getting people out of cars and into walking and cycling is part of the Vision Statement crafted by the community in 2007. Consistent with this vision is our interest to connect with our natural environment and surrounding communities via non-motorized modes of travel.

The economy of Sisters is dependent on recreational tourism. Amenities that bring visitors to our town—and encourage them to stay longer—make economic sense.

The City of Sisters recognizes a proposed trail between Sisters and Black Butte Ranch has sparked controversy. We appreciate your effort to re-engage our community—to listen and learn from opponents and proponents alike. Sisters City Council supports your plan to work with the U.S. Forest Service to conduct a thorough and robust public process so that we end up with the best trail possible for our community.

Sincerely,

Chris Frye
Mayor