**Special District Infrastructure is Key to Meeting Our Climate Challenge**

Essential services provided by special districts are disproportionately affected by climate events and other emergencies, and special districts are key to meeting the climate challenges facing Oregon.

[NAME OF DISTRICT] provides [TYPE OF SERVICE] to [COMMUNITY/REGION].

[CHOOSE FROM ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING:

Nearly every Oregonian’s drinking water depends on special districts, and most of Oregon’s farmland is irrigated by water that is managed, conveyed, or delivered by special districts. These districts are working every day to develop more local, sustainable, and reliable water supplies.

Billions of dollars in economic activity is generated through special district ports and harbors facing sea-level rise and storm surge.

Fire protection districts, resource conservation districts, and others are confronting wildfires. Regional park districts and open space districts are creating natural infrastructure to absorb sea-level rise and sequester carbon.

Traditional recreation and park districts are building bike and pedestrian paths, as well as providing cooling centers and emergency shelters, and are examples of special districts’ ability to respond quickly and even “re-invent themselves” as needed in a crisis.]

Federal infrastructure packages and statewide bond proposals in the planning stage could help local agencies adapt infrastructure to our changing environment as well as prevent and prepare for natural disasters. Given special districts are on the forefront of the effort to provide essential services and emergency response, they need to be at the table and receive equitable access to funding.