

The Honorable Gregory V. Smith Oregon House of Representatives District 57

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JUNE 27, 2025

REPRESENTATIVE SMITH FACILITATES FUNDING FOR WARM SPRINGS COMMISSARY PROJECT

SALEM, OR. – Today, Representative Gregory Smith (R-Heppner), Co-Vice Chair of the Joint Ways and Means Committee, voted to approve \$3,843,973,000 for the construction of the Warm Springs Commissary.

The Warm Springs Commissary, a former U.S. Government storehouse built in 1896, will be remodeled to provide a space for retail and food businesses for 400-500 daily visitors.

The Commissary and surrounding site will help revitalize Warm Springs with a community gathering space at a key rest area along the Portland-Central Oregon corridor.

Julie Quaid, WSCAT Board President, celebrates the funding allocation, exclaiming, "The Commissary Project will help invigorate the local Warm Springs economy by providing Warm Springs tribal members with a new community gathering place and an important space to conduct business."

Quaid went on to state, "It will do a lot to strengthen the economic and social fabric of our community. We couldn't have made this happen without the support of the legislature, and we are very grateful!"

Theo Perez, WSCAT Team Board Member, praises the funding allocation, stating, "Thank you to Representative Greg Smith for being a staunch advocate of Warm Springs!".

"Special thanks to Representative Greg Smith, who worked with us for three years to help push this project through, and to Representative Tawna Sanchez, who strongly supported the project," stated Chris Watson, Capital Projects Officer and Past Executive Director of WSCAT.

Smith affirmed his support for the project, stating, "I'm incredibly proud to be a chief advocate for the Warm Springs Commissary project. This investment honors the rich history of the Warm Springs people while building a vibrant economic future for the community."

Smith went on to state, "The Commissary will serve as a hub for entrepreneurship, cultural expression, and economic opportunity, not only for Warm Springs but for the entire region. It's been a privilege to work alongside tribal leaders, WSCAT, and community members to bring this long-awaited vision to life."

Smith was elected to serve his thirteenth term as a State Representative, making him the longest-serving member in the Oregon Legislature, as well as the 4th longest-serving State Representative in Oregon history. He holds a gavel as the Co-Chair of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government. Representative Smith also serves as the Co-Vice Chair of the full Joint Ways and Means Committee. Additionally, he is the ranking member of the House Revenue Committee. To reach out, please visit Rep Smith's Facebook Page or send him an email at rep.gregsmith@oregonlegislature.gov.

Smith is the Republican budget leader who represents the entirety of Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, Wheeler, and Wasco counties, as well as portions of Clackamas, Jefferson, Marion, and Umatilla Counties.

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