



April 14, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

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The Hood River Valley Residents Committee is happy to support the proposed rehabilitation plans for the Tilly Jane A-Frame on the northeast side of Mount Hood. The cabin has served generations of outdoor enthusiasts for nearly eighty years, in both summer and winter. It can accommodate twenty people per night, and offers camaraderie as well as shelter. It has been a particularly welcome retreat every winter, when high-mountain weather can become unforgiving for the skiers and snowshoers who flock to the open slopes above it. Indeed, it is the only shelter open to the public on the northeast side of this popular and accessible peak.

For all these years, the cabin has also been recognized near and far for its historic significance. The Tilly Jane A-frame is distinguished by its presence on the National Register of Historic Places, as a part of the CloudCap/Tilly Jane Recreation Area Historic District.

Its many years of significance and usefulness, though, have not protected it from the harsh mountain environment. The income from user fees, averaging \$13,000 annually, can fund ongoing cabin operations such as firewood and basic repairs; but the accumulation of deferred maintenance can be deferred no longer. Major rehab and structural work are required to enable the Tilly Jane A-Frame to survive and serve the public for many years to come. The Oregon Nordic Club, which now manages the cabin, has received an estimate of \$154,500 to complete the most pressing structural needs during the 2016 summer season when nearby vehicle access is possible.

The Hood River Valley Residents Committee joins other user groups in urging funding for the ONC-Tilly Jane A-Frame refurbishment project. We can't wait to visit mountain later this year, to see the great work being done!

Best regards,

Margo Earley
HRVRC Board of Directors