

Upper Willamette Pioneer Association, Inc. Oakridge Pioneer Museum P. O. Box 807 Oakridge OR 97463 541-782-7000

March 14, 2022

To Oakridge City Mayor and City Administrator:

Inside the envelope of the first Public Safety Fee (PSF) billing was a form to apply for a means based exemption. The museum applied for exemption including required proof of income. We then received a response from Bryan Cutchen stating that our request was "disapproved".

The Upper Willamette Pioneer Association would like to appeal the disapproval of the exemption request based upon the fact that we do not have the means to pay.

The Oakridge Pioneer Museum is run by a Board of Directors all on a volunteer basis and operated as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Our income is from membership and donations, fundraisers and book sales. We provide a service to the community as historians and keepers of the artifacts of our ancestry. There is nothing fancy about what we do and we are lucky to have the ability to provide information to those who inquire about who they are descended from. Oakridge has fascinating history.

Our expenses are simple; phone, electricity, water/sewer and insurance. When this is subtracted from our income the remaining sum adds up to a total of \$55 per month for operation costs. Subtract the PSF from this amount and that leaves very little even for a frugal group of people like ourselves.

Please reconsider the exemption denial for the Oakridge Pioneer Museum. It would not only be good for the museum but, for our community as well. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deanna Wellman-Hadley annal Vellman Hadley

Oakridge Pioneer Museum

The Oakridge Museum is recognized by the IRS as a 501 (c) 3 organization devoted to educational, historical, and cultural preservation. No item or service was given in exchange for this donation.