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House Transportation and Economic Development Committee

Re: Support for HB 4020, 4028 and the ConnectOregon program

Good morning, Co-Chairs and Members of the Committee! I am Marty Andersen of T.Y. Lin International. I recently retired from ODOT, where one of my responsibilities included serving as the Implementation Manager of the ConnectOregon I, II & III programs.

I would like to emphasize the merits of the ConnectOregon elements of HB 4020 and HB 4028. I have seen firsthand how this program has created jobs, served communities and stimulated the Oregon economy, as shown in the selected examples:

- Mt. Hood Railroad CO II, \$700,000: Restored the Mt. Hood Rail line, which now generates \$5M per year in tourism dollars.
- Central Oregon Intermodal Transit Center CO II, \$2.8M: Provides the City of Bend and surrounding communities a central connection location for all transit lines, saving users' time, thus making transit a more appealing option.
- Grant County Runway Extension CO I, \$1.9M; Airport Terminal Building CO II, \$4M: Allowed access for twin engine tankers to support jump teams at the Forest Service Rappel Training Center. Keeping the facility open retained jobs and brought money into the local economy.
- Newport International Terminal Access Improvement CO I, \$2.8M: Helped leverage an additional \$16M in public funding for improvements to the Port of Newport's Commercial Port.
- City of Lebanon / Albany & Eastern RR (23480) CO I, \$1.9M: Resulted in the relocation of a second business to the facility, creating new jobs that were not originally anticipated.
- Port of Morrow Industrial Park East Beach Multi-Modal Freight Trans Load Facility CO II, \$4M: Led to construction of a new 250,000-square-foot facility and over 50 new jobs.
- Rogue Valley Multi-Modal Airport Improvement Project CO I, \$4.76M: Included a new transit center at the airport and loading facilities for air freight, serving the community by making an easy transition from air passenger to or from transit.
- Construct Hangar and Operations Building, Mercy Flights CO III, \$3.7M: Serves the community by providing more reliable air ambulance service to many Southwest Oregon communities, thus saving lives.

I have seen firsthand how CO I, II & III have created jobs, served the communities and stimulated the Oregon economy. It is an investment that has proven a positive return.

Please consider my support of HB 4020 and 4028.

Sincerely,

T.Y. Lin International

Marty Andersen, PE Oregon Operations Manager

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