



# City of Coos Bay

## Office of the Mayor

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February 23, 2015

Peggy Moretti, Executive Director  
Restore Oregon  
24 NW First Avenue, Suite 274  
Portland, OR 97209

RE: Revitalize Main Street Act

Dear Ms. Moretti:

The City of Coos Bay supports the Revitalize Main Street Act. Coos Bay is a community with a rich heritage, which has left us a legacy of a number of grand old downtown buildings. Many of these downtown buildings are multi-story, and some are maintained. Others have fallen into disrepair and neglect. In some cases, this has been occurring for a number of years. The City of Coos Bay has a strong business community with a wonderful active downtown association. Citizens and businesses owners are impatient for these neglected downtown buildings to be restored.

The whole community will benefit from investment and redevelopment of such buildings in the downtown area, where infrastructure and public amenities already exist. Currently, the City and the region are working and investing to promote tourism, but there is lack of a cohesion for our downtown retail businesses due to neglected buildings. This is a drawback to our ongoing tourism effort, and an affront to community dignity and pride.

The City has very little industrial land, and we have long recognized that investment in our commercial downtown core area is key to maintaining a vibrant business community, while increasing the future tax base for our city. Seismic upgrades, elevators, redevelopment of interior spaces, and refurbishment of unique architectural features would all benefit our downtown streetscape.

Last summer we celebrated the reopening of the Egyptian Theatre in our downtown, which came about as a partnership of the City of Coos Bay, the Egyptian Theatre Preservation Association, our greater Bay Area community, generous foundations, and organizations such as yours. Thank you Restore Oregon. We are all benefitting from this achievement and looking forward to more success!

Community pride, sustainability of the resources that the city has inherited as their legacy, tourism and community investment are all reasons that our City Council supports the Revitalize Main Street Act. Please feel free to use the name of Coos Bay as a supporter of this legislation which has produced benefits in thirty-five other states.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Crystal Shoji". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Mayor Crystal Shoji

Cc: Senator Arnie Roblan  
Representative Caddie McKeown  
Coos Bay City Council  
Devan Patel, The World Newspaper