

The goal of the Estacada Development Association is to build a vibrant downtown as the HEART of the community.

Patrick H. Brennan, Committee Administrator April 16, 2015 House Committee on Transportation and Economic Development Oregon House of Representatives Salem, Oregon

RE HB 3526

Dear Mr Brennan:

The purpose of this letter is to write in support of HB 3526 that is before the Committee. We understand the bill will authorize bonds for a grant program to benefit historic preservation and community revitalization efforts.

The Estacada Development Association, of which I am the Chair, is a Transforming Main Street organization dedicated to the downtown revitalization of Estacada. I believe an opportunity to apply for matching funds will benefit our program and the Estacada community for this reason. Our community like many small towns in Oregon is struggling economically and any help from the state could help us to increase employment and support small businesses that have not recovered from the 2009 recession.

We have a number of buildings that need redevelopment and despite the City's urban renewal efforts funding has not been sufficient to rehabilitate and upgrade several of them so they can be useful. Matching urban renewal funds through this program could be helpful.

Thank you and the Committee for this opportunity to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Phil Lingelbach Chair Estacada Development Association