

April 18, 2017

Sent Via Electronic Transmission jwmtr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov.

To: Ways & Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Dear Members:

I am writing to urge your support for the Governor's Regional Solutions Teams (RST) and associated project funding.

As a private business owner engaged in attainable housing and mixed use development in smaller communities across the state I have had the opportunity to work with a number of the RST's.

The RST's offer deep knowledge of the network of state resources and importantly provide one stop access to those resources. This has proven critical for my company and our local public partners as we work together to overcome economic, regulatory and other obstacles to housing development in smaller and rural communities. In addition to acting as a one stop resource, the RST's are also effective at facilitating engagement between the public and private sector; and between local and state entities. Facilitating this engagement is vital to catalyzing and accelerating much-needed economic and community development activity across the state.

The bottom line from my perspective is that the RST's are providing a unique and potent function in support of increased economic and community development activity in Oregon. I strongly urge full funding of their activities and believe in so doing it will yield a high rate of return for every region of the state.

Sincerely.

Dwight D. Unti

President