

CITY HALL 333 Broadabin Sheet SW 90, Box 490 Albany OR 97321-0144 www.cityofalbany.net

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CITY MANAGERY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ URBAN RENEWAL 541-917-7500 [AX 541-917-751]

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Transil 112 Tenth Avenue SW Albany IDR 97321 541-917-7667 FAX 541-812-2571 May 10, 2017

Oregon Legislature Capitol Building Salem, Oregon

Dear Legislators:

The City of Albany supports HB 5505, which includes the request from Linn-Benton Community College for \$7.5m in capital construction funds. The bill is scheduled for a hearing on Friday, May 12. LBCC is committed to meeting the workforce needs of our region. Our region has more than 1,000 jobs to fill in the coming five years in family-wage technical positions.

To meet this need LBCC needs to expand and upgrade its Career Technical Education (CTE) offerings; in Welding, Machine Tool, Nondestructive testing, and Advanced Manufacturing, (Mechatronics), on the Albany campus to meet the workforce needs of the Mid-Willamette Valley.

The voters in Linn and Benton counties have shown their support for LBCC through approval of a General Obligation bond, which provides the matching funds that are required. In addition, the City of Albany is providing \$2.9M for equipment for these CTE programs, and local industry is working to assist with additional equipment.

Investing in LBCC's is critical to meet the work force needs of industry, and strengthening Oregon's economy.

Sincerely,

Wes Nare

Wes Hare City Manager