

February 21, 2019

Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Senator James Manning, Jr. (Co-Chair)
Representative David Gomberg (Co-Chair)
Senator Jeff Golden
Senator Bill Hansell
Representative Paul Evans
Representative Gary Leif
Representative Rachel Prusak
Representative Duane Stark

900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: 2019-2021 Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF)

Dear Members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development,

We would like to confirm our support for the Governor's Regional Solutions Program and one of its important tools, which is the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) within Business Oregon's budget.

We recognize the importance of putting dollars on the ground with local authorities to support regional infrastructure priority projects. We have found a true benefit in the role of the Regional Solutions program in our community due to the program's ability to identify priorities, solve problems, and seize opportunities to get specific projects completed. In addition to the Regional Solutions Committee and Team helping with project coordination, streamlining, and facilitation, the RIF had a significant impact on our priority project entitled, Chemeketa Community College (CCC) Diesel Technician Training Program & 2 Year Associate of Applied Science Degree.

Funding from Regional Solutions assists with the funding of infrastructure for the high cost projects such as the new diesel program at Chemeketa. These workforce programs are expensive to offer and necessary for the regional workforce and Oregon's economy. The ability to access these funds to use towards our overall funding strategy makes a difference for projects like ours.

We appreciate your support of the RIF and its benefit to regionally significant projects for our communities.

Best regards,



Julie Huckestein
President/CEO

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