April 1, 2019

Representative Paul Holvey, Chair House Committee on Rules

RE: Support for HB 2974

In my role as a Salem City Councilor I have had the opportunity to understand and appreciate the need for a regional solution to an additional crossing over the Willamette River and I have had the opportunity to understand fully why the earlier proposal was untenable. Some have confused my efforts to kill the previous bridge proposal as a vote against all bridges. Nothing could be further from the truth. That proposal was fraught with problems. Not the least of which were the lack of a regional approach and a significant negative impact on over 100 homes and businesses in Salem.

HB 2974 provides the opportunity to fund, build and maintain a bridge that solves this regional problem. If voters choose to do so, a regional district would be formed creating governing and funding opportunities from a variety of jurisdictions called for by a project of this magnitude.

This bill is an excellent vehicle to address this regional problem. I strongly encourage you and the members of the House Committee on Rules to support HB 2974.

Sincerely,

Chris Hoy Salem City Councilor, Ward 6