

Department of Transportation Transportation Development Division 555 13th Street NE, Suite 2 Salem, OR 97301 Phone: (503) 986-3420 Fax: (503) 986-4173

April 12, 2019

Co-Chair Senator Betsy Johnson Co-Chair Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward Co-Chair Representative Dan Rayfield Joint Committee on Ways and Means 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Johnson, Steiner Hayward, and Rayfield,

The Population Research Center (PRC) at Portland State University (PSU) provides research, demographic, and statistical information critical to the state.

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) relies on annual and special population estimates prepared by PRC to:

- Complete transportation modeling exercises which provide information used by ODOT and Oregon's metropolitan planning jurisdictions to satisfy federally required performance planning requirements;
- Allocate gas tax funding to local jurisdictions using population numbers as a formula factor;
- Allocate other funds to entities across the state through population and other formula-based distributions.

We encourage the state's continued support of the Population Research Center (PRC) at PSU. Supporting the state's leading demographic research and training center will ensure PRC is able to provide fair and accurate demographic information and conduct demographic research that supports data-driven decision-making.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Jerri L. Bohard Administrator, Transportation Development Division Oregon Department of Transportation