



**Testimony by City of Wilsonville Mayor Julie Fitzgerald on SB 5555:**

***State Budget Could Leverage County and City American Rescue Plan Act Allocations with Strategic, Cooperative Funding Programs***

Scheduled for public hearing on April 24, 2021, before the  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means

**Co-Chairs Johnson, Steiner Howard and Rayfield, and Members of the Committee:**

On behalf of the City of Wilsonville, I submit this testimony regarding SB 5555 pertaining to the State Budget in relation to American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) priorities for Congressional District Five.

The City strongly advocates for a statewide plan that coordinates spending between the state and counties and cities on public programs of high priority, such as affordable housing opportunities with wrap-around social services for homeless populations.

This type of cooperative process is key to making a state-local governments partnership work. With local governments receiving their funds directly, we encourage state leadership to focus on collaboration as opposed to mandates to achieve common goals.

Recognizing that local governments are not bound to state directives, we encourage the state to focus on incentives to collaborate. For example, state matching funds can naturally drive local governments towards statewide priorities. This kind of approach can leverage local ARPA funds, ensure we're not unnecessarily duplicating efforts, and ultimately, deliver on our shared goals and priorities for Oregon.

The City of Wilsonville looks forward to the opportunity to work with the state and other local governments to leverage our ARPA funds for prospective programs and projects that provide maximum public benefit. If we work together as partners, especially in planning and implementation, we have a real opportunity maximize benefits to communities across the state. Together we can create a comprehensive plan for Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Julie Fitzgerald'.

Julie Fitzgerald, Mayor  
City of Wilsonville