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May 6, 2021

The Honorable Senator Fred Girod, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Paul Holvey, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301

Co-Chairs Holvey, Girod and Members of the Committee,

The McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce, representing the business community of McMinnville and surrounding communities, has been a dedicated and consistent voice for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass. We are writing about the critical need for finishing the Bypass to realize the full benefits of a completed throughfare to our community, Western Oregon, the central Oregon coast, and, indeed, the entire State.

We understand how investment in new infrastructure and highway modernization is critical to the future expansion, growth and success of our members, their employees, tourists, and our region. The Newberg-Dundee Bypass is a project that will relieve congestion that is paralyzing the flow of commerce and tourism in our region, while creating economic development opportunities, but only if it is completed. This is especially important due to the impacts from the pandemic. Thankfully, Phase I has opened, and Phase II has begun, but there remains a considerable funding gap to complete the project. In addition, congestion issues at Wilsonville Road and McKay have caused severe injury and deaths. Completion of the bypass will boost the economic recovery of the region and potentially save lives.

We urge you to fully support completion of this important byway. Thanks to previous investments made by the Oregon Legislature and OTC, Phase 2 of the bypass is now shovel ready. The additional commitment of \$32M in state lottery bond funding will enable construction, while providing the critical match to leverage federal infrastructure funds to complete the bypass.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership.

With Appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gioia Goodrum'.

Gioia Goodrum, President/CEO