



May 7, 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,

RE: Support for the Bonding Authorization of \$32 million for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass in SB 5534

I am writing to express my strong support for the Newberg-Dundee Bypass and urge you to explore ways to accelerate completion of this vital project.

A-dec is the largest employer in Yamhill County, the largest privately owned dental equipment manufacturer in the United States, and a global industry leader. We employ 1,150 people at our Newberg headquarters and an additional 150 employees around the world. As our A-dec family continues to grow here in Oregon and abroad, we take very seriously our role and responsibility in helping provide healthy and well-designed communities in which our employees and neighbors live and work.

We have seen the Bypass go from an idea for a solution that percolated in the community decades ago, to a reality today. With 4 of the 11 miles built, we have gotten much closer to that solution, but we must keep the project moving forward to realize all the benefits it can bring. This roadway provides the critical link between A-dec, its employees, and our community, allowing growth of manufacturing in the region.

Although the first phase of the Bypass has brought improvements it has also resulted in new congestion points and unintended consequences that are bad now and will only worsen as growth in the region puts more demand on this corridor. The intersection of Springbrook Rd and 99W in Newberg, and fatal accidents from traffic diverted onto McKay Road are just two examples.

These issues will only be resolved by completing the entire regional Bypass from Rex Hill to Dayton, which will only grow more expensive with time. Thanks to investments made by the Legislature and the Oregon Transportation Commission over the past two years, Phase 2 of the bypass is now shovel ready. This \$32 million in state lottery bond funding will enable ODOT to move to construction on Phase II of the bypass while providing a critical state match that can leverage federal dollars to complete construction. We do not want to miss this federal funding opportunity to leverage the sizeable investments made by the State and local communities and obtain the funds necessary to finish the project.

The Newberg-Dundee Bypass is absolutely vital to communities stretching from the Metro area all the way to the Central Coast. We encourage you to make this project a priority and dedicate the funding needed to move the Bypass project forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marv Nelson', written over a white background.

Marv Nelson
President
A-dec