



February 25th, 2021

House Committee on Housing
State Capitol Building
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support for House Bill 2558

Dear Chair Fahey and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of TriMet to express support for House Bill 2558, which would potentially increase housing availability near “fixed guideway” station areas.

As the transit provider for the Portland metropolitan area, TriMet fully supports and encourages policies to increase transit-oriented development (TOD) to bring higher-density, mixed-use projects within walking distance of transit stops.

TOD projects have many benefits, including increasing transit ridership, reducing congestion and pollution, and creating healthier, more livable neighborhoods. Increasing height and density at and near station areas also has the potential to significantly increase the amount of housing available, including permanent, affordable housing.

TriMet believes that promoting TOD is essential to maximize the significant investment that has been made in developing fixed guideway transportation projects, such as TriMet’s MAX light rail system.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Please let me know if you have questions or would like more information.

Sincerely,

Lance Erz
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