



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 28, 2022

Co-chairs Holvey and Girod and members of the Joint Subcommittee:

In response to Oregon's housing crisis, in 2019 the legislature began investing in work around a Regional Housing Needs Analysis (RHNA) by passing HB 2003. During the 2021 session, the legislature directed further analysis of how to implement the RHNA through a budget note. This work is currently underway by the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS). During this 2022 Legislative Session, we have an opportunity to add an important piece to this multi-year work by considering the nexus between housing and land supply.

Resources have been identified to provide DLCD with \$150,000 to support a facilitated discussion with local governments, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders that will consider and make legislative recommendations on specific issues related to housing and land supply. This letter serves as additional context for the issues to be addressed and who should be involved in the conversation.

With these resources, DLCD in consultation with relevant state agencies would assemble a work group that will review state land use law relating to housing and land supply and will consider the following issues:

- How land within Urban Growth Boundaries (UGBs) can be better utilized to increase housing types and units, including the reduction of restrictive or outdated zoning regulations and the appropriate conversion of commercial and employment uses to residential use.
- How the process and level of data necessary to establish the need for UGB adjustments can be streamlined, while considering the protection of resource lands.
- How the regulatory review of UGB adjustments can be streamlined, while considering the protection of resource lands.
- How to fund additional capacity in cities below 10,000 to plan for and work to facilitate the development of housing in their communities.

In addition, the work group will consider information from the Regional Housing Needs Analysis process administered by DLCD and OHCS in its deliberations.

The work of the RHNA is a crucial piece of addressing Oregon's housing shortage. This additional funding to DLCD will play a vital role preparing the Legislature to take further action during the 2023 Session.

Sincerely,

Rep. Julie Fahey
State Representative, House District 14
Chair, House Committee on Housing