



MEDFORD

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

January 30, 2023

RE: Support of HB 2983

To: House Committee on Housing and Homelessness

The City of Medford supports House Bill 2983. Currently Medford has 14 manufactured home parks which comprises about five percent of our housing stock. Currently, the households most likely to live in manufactured homes in parks are those with incomes between \$19,530 and \$32,550 (30% to 50% of MFI), which includes 13% of Medford's households. Analysis of housing affordability shows that about 31% of Medford's new households, in the next 20 years, will be considered very low or extremely low income, earning 50% or less of the region's median family income. One type of housing affordable to these households is manufactured housing. National and state trends for manufactured home park closures, and the fact that no new manufactured home parks have opened in Oregon in the last 15 years, demonstrate that the development of new manufactured home parks in Medford is unlikely unless there is an investment by the State of Oregon via funding from legislation like that of HB 2983.

Manufactured home parks provide an important opportunity for affordable housing for homeownership. Preserving existing manufactured home parks and allowing smaller manufactured units in manufactured home parks are important ways to provide opportunities for affordable, lower-cost homeownership opportunities. HB 2983 would be an important step in providing an opportunity for increased production of manufactured housing as well as preserving much needed existing manufactured housing.

Sincerely,

Brian Sjothun
City Manager