

May 5, 2023

Joint Ways and Means Committee  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Steiner and Sanchez, Co-Vice Chairs Girod, Gomberg and Smith and Committee members:

I am writing to express my support for the City of Stayton's Ida Street Sewer Upsizing Capital funding request.

The existing Ida Street sewer line is undersized to properly handle existing capacity and is projected to surcharge manholes during 5-year storm events. The City is actively working to upsizing the pipe, however does not anticipate having sufficient funds for approximately 5 years to complete all necessary upsizing. As a result, they are faced with the inability to approve any new development that would increase demand on the system. This impacts housing supply as well as business development.

As the vice president of Revitalize Downtown Stayton (RDS), it is imperative that our quest to revitalize this historic district continue without further interruption. An investor reached out to us recently because their downtown twelve-unit project was put on hold due of the lack of sewer capacity. RDS is an Oregon Main Street non-profit 501 C (3) and we have been working since 2016 to bring the downtown area back to life.

As an investor in buildings and vacant land in the downtown area, I urge you to support this funding request. I do not want to sit on vacant land another five years, and we need housing in downtown Stayton to support the revitalization.

The City's funding request of \$2,685,418 will help them complete the necessary upgrades to existing infrastructure and allow for new development to occur, opening up multiple areas within the Stayton downtown area to residential, commercial and industrial development or redevelopment that are currently restricted due to the capacity issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julia Bochsler  
Revitalize Downtown Stayton, VP  
Landowner of 20,000 s.f. vacant lot in Historic Downtown Stayton  
Landlord of 10,000 s.f. leased commercial building in Historic Downtown Stayton  
Landlord of 5,000 s.f. leased commercial building in Historic Downtown Stayton  
Citizen of Stayton, Oregon