Ways and Means Capital Construction Sub-Committee
HB 5030 (sections 6-7) – Lottery Facilities funs
May 5, 2023 1-3 pm

Chairs Girod and Holvey and Members of the Committee,

My name is Charleen Strauch, the Executive Director of Head Start of Lane County. As you are fully aware Oregon desperately needs more facilities and classroom space to provide early educational opportunities for Oregon's children. I'm here to testify on behalf of the exciting and much anticipated Project we are working on which is the co-location of affordable housing and an early learning center on the old Naval Reserve Site in Eugene. I am here today to talk specifically about the early learning center.

The Early learning Center will have 6 classrooms and spaces for parent meetings and gatherings, a multipurpose room, a kitchen and outdoor play spaces.

Head Start of Lane County serves pregnant mothers, infants, toddlers and preschool age children from low income families.
Early Childhood CARES serves infants, toddlers and preschool age children with developmental delays and disabilities throughout Lane County.
Head Start as been in Lane County since 1978 (45 years) and Early Childhood CARES since 1992 (31 years).

Homes for Good- Head Start of Lane County and Early Childhood CARES formed a partnership over a year ago and have been working towards this goal. This partnership is between 3 programs that have secure and steady state and federal funding. And who have long term, sustainable track records-

We plan to include a child care provider partnership to meet the needs of families for extended hours of care including before and after school hours. All the early learning programs in the center will collaborate to best serve children and families.
We are truly a "shovel ready" project and hope to receive funding from the lottery funds allocated in HB 5030 (section 6-7).

Thank you!