



LANE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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April 4, 2023

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Sub-Committee on Capital Construction
Senator Fred Girod, Co-Chair, Representative Paul Holvey, Co-Chair
900 Court Street, NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Lane County Support for City of Eugene's Crow Road Housing Project

Dear Senator Girod and Representative Holvey,

On behalf of Lane County, we would like to express our support for the City of Eugene's request for state funds for the Crow Road Housing Project.

In Lane County, the City of Eugene's Crow Road Housing Project would provide critically needed housing at a time when Oregon needs it most.

Eugene will need to produce an average of 1,200 housing units a year to support its expected population growth and address a housing shortage, according to the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development. Also, Eugene is one of the most rent-burdened cities in the state, with 31 percent of households spending more than 50 percent of their income on rent.

The Crow Road Housing Project is located at West 11th Avenue and Crow Road on the southwest edge of Eugene. This area has been identified as one where infrastructure investments would accelerate housing construction. Long planned and zoned for housing and jobs, it is estimated this largely undeveloped area can bring 1,260 housing units and over 850 jobs to the region. The area has access to nearby natural areas, goods and services, and transportation networks, including a frequent transit station.

Currently, the area is not served by wastewater or water infrastructure. This request for \$3.5 million in state funding would help deliver wastewater service to West 11th Avenue and Crow Road and adjacent areas, widen Crow Road to support people walking and biking, and install facilities to extend potable water.

Our housing crisis requires that state and local governments collaborate on efforts to produce more housing. We look forward to continuing to work with Eugene to address our region's housing and homelessness needs. The Lane County Board of Commissioners enthusiastically supports the City of Eugene's request to the Joint Ways and Means-Capital Construction Sub-Committee for the Crow Road Housing Project.

Sincerely,

Pat Farr, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners