



Office of Mayor Remy Drabkin

February 5, 2024

HB 4134 Housing Oregon's Workforce (HOW)

Honorable Chair Dexter, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice-Chair Gamba, and Committee Members,

I'm ecstatic to submit this letter of support for HB 4134. Having worked with Representative Elmer and her office on this bill since last August, I can tell you she has dedicated herself to bringing forward a bill that truly serves Oregonians. Housing Oregon's Workforce is a smart and effective policy, it's a one-time infrastructure investment that quickly creates housing.

- Lands are inside the UGB and approved for development.
- Communities under 50K are targeted due to limited access to funding available to larger cities.
- Direct allocations enable cities to initiate infrastructure development without undergoing an application process.
- Developers have committed 30% of the units for workforce housing.
- Local AMI, not Portland MSA, is utilized, focusing on rural workforce development in rural communities.
- Strict timelines guarantee that your investment leads to both infrastructure and housing development within the next 2-5 years.

Each city in the bill has detailed a unit count in the project information sheets provided for a total of 1024 new homes across the State. In McMinnville, this will move a project that has been stagnant for 17 years due to infrastructure costs and allow 290 lots to development.

I strongly urge you to move forward on the funding WITH the policy detailed in HB 4134 Housing Oregon's Workforce (HOW). Non-partisan, effective bills like this foster good governance and a sense of pride.

Respectfully,

Remy Drabkin
Mayor, City of McMinnville