



February 8, 2023

Representative Grayber, Chair
House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 4155

Dear Chair Grayber and Committee Members:

As cities across the state work urgently to address Oregon's housing crisis, infrastructure costs remain the largest barrier to housing development and housing affordability. All cities are facing infrastructure needs that cannot be met with local resources alone.

The LOC is grateful for the momentum and support this legislative session for infrastructure investment. In response to requests from legislators for near-term infrastructure projects to support housing development, the LOC conducted a brief survey of all 241 member cities. 225 individual infrastructure projects were identified to support over 46,000 new homes of various housing types and affordability levels. Projects range in cost from \$50,000 to \$50 million with a total requested amount of approximately \$827.9 million.

This data confirms that infrastructure costs are an incredible challenge for cities of all sizes across the state, whether urban, rural, suburban or frontier. Furthermore, local capacity and financing constraints mean existing state and federal infrastructure programs are out of reach for too many small and rural cities.

HB 4155 is a critical step for Oregon to make progress on our state's housing goals. A study and map of the financial tools involved in local and state government infrastructure projects to identify specific gaps is greatly needed to support a robust infrastructure investment conversation in the 2025 session.

Thank you for your consideration, the LOC urges your support for HB 4155.

Ariel Nelson, Lobbyist
League of Oregon Cities