



February 15, 2024

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

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Holvey and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to voice my support for the funding of the Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center. The project will bring 50 low-income housing units to the City of Woodburn, as well as wrap-around services for its residents and the surrounding community. These services will be delivered through the Integrated Services Delivery Model, which amplifies community assets and reduces barriers to support, while simultaneously supporting residents in affordable housing units.

Both housing and services are critical for the greater Woodburn area:

- 13.7% of residents live in poverty.
- Per capita income in Woodburn is \$22,311, compared to \$35,393 statewide.
- Children under age 5 comprise 6.9% of the population, compared to 5.4% statewide.
- 57% of Woodburn's population identify as Hispanic, compared to 13.4% statewide.
- 54% of Woodburn residents speak a language other than English in their home, compared to 15% statewide.
- 70% of adults in Woodburn are high school graduates, compared to the 91% statewide.

Though the need in Woodburn is high, the opportunity to empower and transform the lives is even higher; this is why I support the Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center.

The City of Woodburn's mission is to make Woodburn a great place to live, work, and visit, and we are committed to building and strengthening relationships with non-profit, medical and governmental organizations to increase service available to the Woodburn community.

I respectfully request that you approve funding for the Greater Woodburn Opportunity Center. It will empower the community and facilitate immense positive impact in our nonprofit community.

Sincerely,

Frank Lonergan
Mayor of Woodburn

Office of the Mayor

270 Montgomery Street • Woodburn, Oregon 97071

Ph. 503-982-5228 • Fax 503-982-5243