

February 16, 2024

Representative Lucetta Elmer  
District 24  
900 Court St. NE, H-374  
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Urgent Request for Support: HB 5201 and McMinnville's Third Street Improvement Project

Dear Representative Elmer,

I am writing to you to request your support for HB 5201 on behalf of the City of McMinnville. The city is seeking a \$4,000,000 direct allocation to address critical infrastructure needs outlined in the Third Street Improvement Project. This initiative will repair deteriorating downtown infrastructure, alleviating accessibility and safety concerns and shaping the city's character for generations to come.

McMinnville faces substantial urban challenges without adequate access to resources. With a population of 35,000, we find ourselves in a unique position—too small to qualify for federal programs and simultaneously too large to be classified as rural. Consequently, we are compelled to compete with major urban centers for essential resources.

The existing constraints, influenced by restrictive criteria based on population size and proximity to urban centers, have led us to inadvertently fall through the cracks. We earnestly seek your assistance in overcoming these challenges and delivering effective solutions for our community.

Your support for the City of McMinnville's Third Street Improvement Project is integral to addressing these critical infrastructure issues. We sincerely appreciate your consideration and commitment to our community.

Best Regards,



Patty Herzog