



February 16, 2024

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

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

Dear Representative Elmer,

On behalf of McMinnville Industrial Promotions (MIP), I am writing to express our earnest support for HB 5201 and to seek your assistance in securing a \$4,000,000 direct allocation for the Third Street Improvement Project in the City of McMinnville.

The Third Street Improvement Project is crucial for addressing the deteriorated downtown infrastructure, which has resulted in accessibility and safety issues. This initiative holds the potential to redefine the character of McMinnville for the next generation, making it a more vibrant and sustainable community.

As a city of 35,000 people, McMinnville faces unique challenges. We find ourselves in the paradox of being too small to qualify for federal programs and simultaneously too large to be categorized as rural. This situation places us in direct competition with large urban centers for the resources needed to tackle our pressing issues.

The constraints imposed by restrictive criteria based on population size and proximity to urban centers have left us falling through the cracks. We recognize the importance of your support in navigating these challenges and delivering effective solutions to the McMinnville community.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and ongoing commitment to McMinnville.

Sincerely,

Doug Hurl