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Dear Senator Boquist,

We are a family-owned business started in 1993 in McMinnville Oregon. Over the past 30 years, I have served on the McMinnville Downtown Association for 14 years, Third Street steering committee, third street design and improvement committee, and the McMinnville Urban Renewal Board. We have been working for over 20 years on plans to replace a failing underground utility infrastructure that is over 80 years old and rejuvenate the aging downtown streetscape. This work must be done in a timely manner to avoid failure of the underground infrastructure system and the vibrant downtown falling into a derelict state.

I am reaching out to you today to seek your support for the City of McMinnville's **Third Street Improvement Project.**

Why we need your help? McMinnville has BIG CITY challenges without access to BIG CITY resources. As a city of 35,000 people, we are too SMALL to be eligible for federal programs, so we miss out on matching funds for projects like transitional housing development AND too BIG to be considered rural, so we end up competing with large urban centers for resources. We are FALLING through the CRACKS due to constraints imposed by restrictive criteria based on population size and proximity to urban centers.

We need your help to deliver solutions to the McMinnville community. We are seeking your support for our Third Street Improvement Project. We've attached our project flyer for your review.

City of McMinnville's Third Street Improvement Project: \$4,000,000 Direct Allocation

This project will fix deteriorated downtown infrastructure that has led to accessibility and safety issues and will define the character for the next generation. The project is \$11,500,000. The City has secured \$2.9MM (City Urban Renewal) and \$600,000 (City ARPA). We still need \$8,000,000. We are seeking a \$4,000,000 direct allocation from the state of Oregon. We are submitting a request for the Federal Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) funds for the remaining resources needed.

If you need more information or have questions, please contact Heather Richards at heather.richards@mcminnvilleoregon.gov C: 971.287.8322 or Jody Christensen at jody.christensen@mcminnvilleoregon.gov C: 971.387.1800.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Peter Kircher Owner GVB