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January 29, 2025

House Higher Education Committee Oregon State Legislature 900 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Letter of Support for the Sustainable City Year Program at the University of Oregon

Dear Members of the House Higher Education Committee,

On behalf of the City of Sisters, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Sustainable City Year Program (SCYP) at the University of Oregon. Our city had the privilege of participating in SCYP in 2022, and the experience was very valuable to our small community which has a very small staff. SYCP was able to help fill in gaps and allow us to address many projects that have been on the backburner due to limited resources.

I've had the good fortune to work with SYCP on more than one occasion – having also experienced the program for the City of Redmond in 2014 on a variety of projects. Through those efforts, I can safely say that the SYCP program has greatly benefited two Central Oregon communities and many of the student projects are still being referenced and implemented today.

We urge the committee to support funding for the Sustainable City Year Program to ensure that more communities across Oregon can benefit from its positive impacts. SCYP is a unique and invaluable resource that not only enhances the education of university students but also empowers local governments to innovate and thrive.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Scott Woodford Community Development Director City of Sisters swoodford@ci.sisters.or.us