



LACEY BEATY
34th Mayor of Beaverton

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Chair Nathanson and members of the House Committee on Revenue.

I am writing today in support of House Bills 2321, 2333, 2334, and 2335 to create task forces to study the impacts of Measure 5 and Measure 50 on disadvantaged communities, local governments, higher education, and both small and large jurisdictions.

Since their passage in 1990 and 1997, local governments have been trying to do more with less, as each passing year erodes cities' general funds. The instability of the measures was made abundantly clear during the COVID-19 pandemic, where inflation consistently reached double digits, while property taxes continued to grow at 3%.

The City of Beaverton is facing its second consecutive year with a structural budget deficit of over \$10 million, resulting in difficult decisions to potentially cut personnel, reduce services, or eliminate entire programs. While the city continues to reduce spending, increases in fixed costs, such as healthcare and retirement, continue to constrain budgets.

I am eager to have a conversation about what a sustainable property tax system looks like for Oregon and encourage the House Committee on Revenue to consider adding local government representatives to the task force roster.

Sincerely,

Lacey Beaty
Mayor of Beaverton