



WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON

February 21, 2025

Senator Khanh Pham, Chair
Senator Dick Anderson, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Housing and Development Committee

RE: Opposition to SB 462 as proposed

Dear Chair Pham, Vice-Chair Anderson, and members of the committee:

Local jurisdiction planners work with members of the development industry on a regular basis and are generally focused on ensuring that development projects move through our review processes as expeditiously as possible, while also ensuring compliance with increasingly complex state and regional requirements, as well as local regulations.

Washington County Department of Land Use & Transportation shares the questions and concerns about SB 462 as noted in written testimony previously submitted by the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) and the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association (OAPA).

In short, this bill seems to offer a solution in search of a problem. It constitutes yet another unfunded mandate (including any potential cost for the training as well as providing paid staff time) for local jurisdictions that are already struggling to fund their most basic services.

Prior to any further consideration of this bill, we encourage a more thoughtful dialogue between the development industry and the state and local agencies that would be affected by this proposal. There may be opportunities to develop a mutually beneficial approach that addresses concerns from all parties, but more time is needed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephen Roberts, AICP
Director of Land Use & Transportation