



Testimony by City of Wilsonville Mayor Shawn O'Neil Supporting HB 5024:

Support for Infrastructure Funding Programs Provides Opportunity to Create High-Wage Jobs That Benefit Working Families and State Cooffers and Meaningfully Increase New Residential Housing Production

Scheduled for public hearing on March 18, 2025, before the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Co-Chair Woods and Gomberg, and Members of the Committee:

I am testifying in on behalf of the City of Wilsonville in support of HB 5024, which appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the Oregon Business Development Department for certain biennial expenses and infrastructure funding programs.

In particular, the City supports the Governor's proposed bonding for recapitalization of the following infrastructure loan and grant programs administered by Business Oregon:

- **Pkg. 115 - \$50 million in lottery bond proceeds for the Special Public Works Fund**, which provides loans and grants to communities to build or rebuild essential public infrastructure.
- **Pkg. 117 - \$150 million in Article XI-M and XI-N general obligation bond proceeds for the Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Fund**, which supports earthquake readiness for schools and emergency buildings.
- **Pkg. 118 - \$10 million in lottery bond proceeds for a new Industrial Site Loan Fund**, supporting new and existing development of industrial lands for economic development-related activity.
- **Pkg. 122 - \$30 million in lottery bond proceeds for the Child Care Infrastructure Fund.**
- **Pkg. 501 - \$10 million in lottery bond proceeds for the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund.**
- **Pkg. 502 - \$5 million for the Brownfields Property Revitalization Fund.**
- **\$100 million to capitalize a new Housing Infrastructure Project Fund for grants to municipalities for infrastructure projects that support housing at specified densities and affordability levels.**

However, the City strongly believes that most of these infrastructure development funds are undercapitalized. **The reality is that the need by cities in the State of Oregon for infrastructure funding is over ten-times greater than what has been proposed.**

So, if we had our way, the City of Wilsonville would recommend adding a Zero, resulting in a 10-fold increase, to the proposed budgets of following programs:

- **Pkg. 115 - \$500 million in lottery bond proceeds for the Special Public Works Fund**
- **Pkg. 118 - \$100 million in lottery bond proceeds for a new Industrial Site Loan Fund** that would support hundreds of new family-wage jobs in the Coffee Creek Regionally Significant Industrial Area (RSIA) and Basalt Creek UGB Expansion Employment Area
- **Pkg. 501 - \$100 million in lottery bond proceeds for the Brownfields Redevelopment Fund.**
- **Pkg. 502 - \$50 million for the Brownfields Property Revitalization Fund.**
- **\$1 Billion to capitalize a new Housing Infrastructure Project Fund for grants to municipalities for infrastructure projects that support housing at specified densities and affordability levels.**

The first four programs above specifically help to fund the infrastructure that supports the development of high-wage industrial occupations that directly contribute to increased State income-tax collections. Increasing the funding for these programs is the best way that the State could assist businesses employ more Oregonians in family-wage jobs.

The Housing Infrastructure Project Fund is considerably undercapitalized. The City of Wilsonville alone could use \$100 million to advance infrastructure (sewer, water, roads) to support the advancement of 1,500-1,600 new housing units in the Frog Pond East and South UGB residential expansion areas.

The City appreciates your consideration and urges support for amendments to HB 5024 that increase the funding for the above important infrastructure-development programs. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Shawn O'Neil, Mayor
City of Wilsonville