



City of Brookings

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Mayor Isaac Hodges

March 12, 2025

The Honorable Senator Chris Gorsek
Joint Transportation Committee
Oregon State Legislature

Re: Support for House Bill 2153

Dear Senator Gorsek,

I am writing to express the City of Brookings' strong support for House Bill 2153 (HB 2153), which proposes a modest jet fuel tax increase to sustain the Aviation System Action Program (ASAP) and the Critical Oregon Airport Relief (COAR) grant program.

As a COAR grant recipient, Brookings has relied on this funding to upgrade the BOK Airport, a critical facility for wildland firefighting and emergency medical response by CalOr Lifeflight services. It is also the only South Coast airport above the tsunami zone, making it essential for regional resilience. As a small municipality, we could not undertake these improvements without FAA and ODAV support.

The COAR program has been instrumental in enhancing aviation infrastructure statewide, yet demand consistently exceeds available funding. HB 2153 provides a sustainable solution to keep airports operational, safe, and prepared for future challenges.

We urge your support for this important legislation. Please feel free to reach out if you need further information.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Isaac Hodges
Mayor, City of Brookings