



March 11, 2025

To whom it may concern:

As the Airport Manager of Madras Municipal Airport (S33), I am writing in support of House Bill 2153 (HB 2153). The City of Madras is the sponsor of our local public-use airport.

The Madras Municipal Airport has benefited from ODAV COAR grants, which have greatly enhanced our facilities. More recently, this funding has supported the construction of a new helibase and provided matching funds for a Federal grant to reconstruct a significant portion of our main apron, improve pavement, and install security fencing. These projects have been essential in maintaining and improving the airport.

As Central Oregon continues to grow rapidly, we are committed to developing our airport, which is already a vital asset to the community. Our airport serves as a temporary helibase for rotorcraft during fire season, a key stop for wildfire-fighting aircraft, and a location for emergency, law enforcement and military training. Additionally, it is home to Erickson Aero Tanker, which operates seven MD-87 fire bombers from our facility. With a diverse range of aircraft utilizing our airfield for training and services, our goal is to maintain a safe, high-quality airport for all.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Martinelli

Lorraine Martinelli, C.M., A.C.E.

Cell: 541-777-4935

Email: LMartinelli@Madras.gov