



**City of McMinnville
Municipal Airport**
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March 26, 2025

Joint Committee on Transportation
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97701

Subj: Support for HB 2153

Co-chairs Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice Chairs Starr and Boshart Davis, and members of the Joint Committee on Transportation:

The McMinnville Municipal Airport supports HB 2153. This Bill increases the tax on fuel used in aircraft equipped with turbine engines and adjusts concurrent with Consumer Price Index changes. HB 2153 will provide funding for the maintenance, repair and improvements on airport infrastructure across Oregon.

Grants provided by the Oregon Department of Aviation (ODAV) greatly assist airports in Oregon through cost share grants. The turbine fuel tax increase will allow Oregon airports to take advantage of the federal Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grants that typically provide a 90% share. The ODAV grants also help to reduce the impact on city and county general funds and thereby reduce the tax burden on citizens.

McMinnville Municipal Airport is presently seeing a significant increase in corporate aviation use. The City of McMinnville and the Municipal Airport are concurrently in the master planning phase for the Airport and a large Innovation Campus located adjacent to the Airport. It is our combined desire to dovetail activities so the Airport can become part of a multimodal transportation location. Additional corporate aviation as well as electric and other Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) activity is anticipated. These electric and AAM aircraft will be operational in the near future, and airports across Oregon will need to make a variety of improvements to support this significant and expensive paradigm shift.

I request your support for passing HB 2153. This will help by providing necessary funding for the public airports throughout Oregon.

Thank You,

F. T. "Willy" Williamson PAB
Airport Administrator
McMinnville Municipal Airport