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Bandon by the Sea

March 24, 2025

Transmitted via email: Rep.CourtBoice@oregonlegislature.gov

The Honorable Court Boice Oregon House of Representatives – 1st District 900 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301

## SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR HOUSE BILL 3654

Dear Representative Boice,

On behalf of the City of Bandon, I am writing to express our strong support for House Bill 3654, which establishes a tiered grant system based on city population. This proposed legislation is critically important to our community, particularly as infrastructure costs continue to escalate, placing a significant financial burden on small, rural, coastal cities like Bandon.

HB 3654 represents a well-structured and equitable approach to addressing funding disparities for capital projects. By implementing a population-based cap on matching funds, this bill ensures that more local tax dollars can be allocated to essential infrastructure improvements. Such a system will provide much-needed financial relief, allowing small municipalities to pursue necessary projects without being overburdened by excessive matching fund requirements that often prevent them from qualifying for assistance.

The City of Bandon respectfully requests your support for HB 3654 and urges you to help advance this critical legislation. The passage of HB 3654 will have a profound and positive impact on cities throughout Oregon, transcending political lines and benefiting communities of all sizes.

My fellow City Councilors and I greatly appreciate your leadership and dedication to addressing the needs of local governments. We look forward to your support in advancing this vital piece of legislation, crafted by small cities for the benefit of small cities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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Mary Schamehorn Mayor City of Bandon