



**CITY ADMINISTRATION**  
387 NE Third Street – Prineville, OR 97754  
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April 4, 2025

To: Senator Kate Lieber, Co-Chair  
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair  
Senator Fred Girod, Co-Vice Chair  
Representative David Gomberg, Co-Vice Chair  
Representative Greg Smith, Co-Vice Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means

From: City of Prineville

Dear Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez, Committee Co-Vice Chairs and Committee Members,

**RE: City of Prineville OR26/Third Street Paving & Streetscape Improvements**

The City of Prineville proposes to revitalize the Third Street Corridor from the intersection of Deer Street (west) to the intersection with NE Elm Street (east). The Third Street corridor, specifically the downtown core, is in urgent need of critical improvements in both function and aesthetics. The scope of the proposed project includes:

1. **Repaving and Roadway Improvements** – Perform a full reconstruction and repaving of the roadway through the Third Street corridor. This is long overdue and will address issues with potholes, cracks, and surface damage affecting the overall condition and safety of the road. ODOT has said the pavement is failing and full depth restoration is needed in this area.
2. **Sidewalks and Pedestrian Enhancements** – Rebuild midblock sidewalks in the same downtown core bringing them compliant with current ADA and pedestrian safety standards. The current sidewalks are in poor condition, creating safety hazards for pedestrians.
3. **Mid-Block Decorative Street Lighting** – Install midblock lighting that will improve pedestrian safety and facilitate pedestrian circulation in the downtown core. Third Street represents the “face” of Prineville for visitors and residents alike. The street’s current condition reflects poorly on the City’s image and presents barriers to revitalization efforts.

In 2017, the City was awarded \$3,000,000 in funding from HB 2017, designed to enhance pedestrian safety and improve infrastructure. While the City initially planned to allocate these funds to local street projects, a collaboration with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) was proposed to address the Third Street issues. ODOT at the time also had funding and a need to upgrade ADA facilities throughout the same project area. An agreement was formed between the City of Prineville and ODOT combining funds to form one project to include streetscaped improvements as well as ADA upgrades.



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During the subsequent design phase of the project construction costs increased significantly. As a result, the scope of work was greatly reduced and many of the critical pavement upgrades and pedestrian improvement elements were eliminated. Items of critical concern that were eliminated included full depth pavement reconstruction and mid-block sidewalk and streetscape improvements.

This request of \$12 million would provide the funding necessary to complete the project that ODOT agreed to in the past and would address the issues with this critical transportation infrastructure in the heart of Prineville.

I respectfully encourage your strong support for funding this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caroline Ervin".

Caroline Ervin

Director of Strategy & Economic Development