

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3962

I spoke directly with Cyrus on this issue at a townhall that took place in Seaside, and I am appalled that once the original 3556 died, there was no consideration at all to the concerns presented. The bill's wording would essentially eliminate the 70/30 split all together, unintentionally. Opening the funds to "Community Infrastructure" as loosely defined in the bill will instantly dry up all the funds there are. Thinking about Clatsop County alone and how blue the county is, I can see the city councils and commissions broadening the term "Community Infrastructure" and go and build a new City Hall (Cannon Beach) with that money. I feel it should be "Tourism Infrastructure".

"Tourism Infrastructure" would narrow down the scope of the bill tremendously and add verbiage that directly and positively impacts tourist facilities to benefit from the funds, but restricts municipalities from being able to run away with the vague definition of "Community". If you take Seaside into account, this could potentially allow the City to use the funds piling up to improve Broadway Street businesses appearance, fund a full time parking enforcement officer, replacement of the boardwalk along the Necanicum River, assist in bulldozing the dunes on the north end of the Promenade where sand builds up and negatively affects multiple hotels promised "Oceanfront Rooms" views, etc. (Of note, none of my hotels are on the Ocean, so this is not self-serving)

Google AI defines "Tourism infrastructure" as: The physical structures and services that support tourism activities. This includes transportation, lodging, attractions, and other facilities that allow people to travel.

- Components of tourism infrastructure
 - o Transportation: Roads, railways, airports, bus stops, train stations, and parking spaces
 - o Accommodations: Hotels, resorts, and other lodging options
 - o Attractions: Entertainment venues, historic sites, and other places that draw visitors
 - o Facilities: Amenities that enhance the tourist experience, such as restaurants, shops, and other services (I would add public restrooms to this)
- Purpose of tourism infrastructure
 - o Tourism infrastructure makes tourist destinations accessible and enhances the overall experience of visitors. It's the foundation for the tourism-oriented superstructure, which includes the attractions and services that enhance the visitor experience.
- Tourism development
 - o Tourism development can create jobs, strengthen local economies, and help

to conserve natural environments and cultural assets.

I know I'm only one voice, but strongly feel this bill is not at all favorable with our industry as written. I feel we both understand and can appreciate how broad definitions have and will get abused and there's no going back. I can see the consequences of this being a free-for-all with how certain groups like to spend money. It would be fiscally irresponsible to open this up to such a broad definition.