

**McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce**

417 NW Adams St  
McMinnville, OR 97128  
5/7/2025



The Honorable Senator Kate Lieber, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Oregon State Legislature

Dear Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez,

On behalf of the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce and the more than 450 local businesses we represent, I am writing to express our strong support for the inclusion of key McMinnville infrastructure projects in Senate Bill 5531. These projects are essential to addressing pressing transportation needs in our community and will directly support our city's ability to build housing, foster economic development, and ensure long-term prosperity for McMinnville and the surrounding region.

We respectfully urge your support for the City of McMinnville's two top priorities:

**1. Completion of the Alpine Avenue Street Improvement Project:**

Alpine Avenue is a central corridor in McMinnville's growing Granary District, a mixed-use area home to small businesses, light industrial operations, tasting rooms, and housing. The final phase of this improvement project is critical to fully realizing the district's economic potential. It will provide the infrastructure necessary to attract investment, increase pedestrian safety, improve mobility, and support the development of much-needed housing.

**2. Design funding for Highway 18 Frontage Improvements, with a focus on the intersection of Norton Avenue and Cumulus Avenue:**

This intersection is a key access point to one of McMinnville's fastest-growing areas, where housing, healthcare, and business activity converge. Currently, the layout poses challenges for both safety and traffic flow. Funding the design of these improvements is a critical first step in preparing this corridor for safe and efficient development.

As the Chamber of Commerce, we hear every day from business owners who are trying to grow and hire but are constrained by infrastructure that does not meet the needs of a modern, growing economy. These projects are well-planned, community-supported, and shovel-ready.

We strongly urge you to retain them in the final bill and appreciate your commitment to supporting economic resilience in communities like McMinnville across Oregon.

Sincerely,

**John Olson**

President & CEO  
McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce