



May 9, 2025

Senator Fred Girod, Co-Chair
Representative Rob Nosse, Co-Chair
Members of the Capital Construction Subcommittee
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Letter of Support for Clear Lake Road Infrastructure Funding

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Nosse, and Members of the Capital Construction Subcommittee,

As CEO of The Papé Group, a family-owned business, headquartered in Eugene, with over 80 years of experience supporting industries across the West, **I urge your support for the \$10.5 million infrastructure investment needed to unlock the Clear Lake Industrial Area in Northwest Eugene.**

I write to you not only as CEO of The Papé Group, but as a founding member and Chair of the newly formed **Southern Willamette Innovation Corridor**—a cross-sector coalition focused on transforming the Southern Willamette Valley into a world-class hub for innovation, research commercialization, and job creation. This bold initiative is designed to align Oregon's economic future with the academic excellence of our state's two major research institutions, the University of Oregon and Oregon State University. Our goal is to create the kind of environment that turns academic breakthroughs into lasting family wage jobs and durable private investment across the region.

In support of these efforts, The Papé Group is the lead investor, and I serve as a member of the steering committee, of **Elevate 28**, a Eugene/Springfield effort that dove-tails with the Innovation Corridor to engage the private sector in elevating job creating opportunities in our specific communities.

I say this, not to call attention to myself, but to make sure the committee knows **this investment will be met by the energetic engagement of a community that is leaning-in to**

support the economic development of the Southern Willamette Valley.

But, we need your help! With more than 650 acres of industrial-zoned land, we have the most immediate and scalable opportunity in our region to attract advanced manufacturers, bioscience employers, clean technology firms, and other innovation-driven industries. **We believe this project can generate over 6,000 new jobs and billions in private investment.** To make this site competitive, we need it to become development-ready with essential infrastructure, including wastewater, stormwater, and utility systems.

Our competitors across the western U.S. are not waiting. They are actively investing in similar sites to attract the very companies we hope to welcome to Oregon. At a time of global economic realignment, **If we hesitate - we lose.**

This request is a modest first step compared to its potential return—and essential to realizing a shared vision for long-term, place-based, economic opportunity in Oregon.

I respectfully urge your full support for this catalytic investment.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Jordan Papé



CEO

The Papé Group