

Oregon Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee

Oregon State Legislature

900 Court Street NE

Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 5531, which presents a significant opportunity to positively impact our communities through the continued support of the Main Street Revitalization Grants.

1. **Economic Growth**

The Main Street Revitalization Grant is essential for driving economic growth in local communities. By investing in infrastructure improvements, business development, and public amenities, this grant provides the necessary resources for downtown areas to thrive. A vibrant Main Street attracts new businesses, retains talent, and fosters a sense of community pride.

2. **Preserving Historical and Cultural Assets**

Many Main Street areas are home to historical landmarks and cultural assets that define the character of our communities. Grant funding enables the preservation and restoration of these treasures, ensuring they remain integral parts of our towns and cities for generations to come.

3. **Encouraging Public and Private Partnerships**

The \$10 million requested in HB 5531 has the potential to catalyze additional investments by leveraging public funds to attract private contributions. Such collaborations can exponentially increase the grant's impact, creating a ripple effect of economic and social benefits.

We request that the state continue its support for the Main Street Revitalization Grant Program, providing at least the \$10 million proposed in HB 5531. This grant will empower local economies, preserve our heritage, and help create thriving, sustainable downtowns.

We urge you to consider our perspective as concerned constituents this Friday and support HB 5531 and the Main Street Revitalization Grant Program. Your support at the state legislative level can help turn the vision of a revitalized Oregon into a reality.

Sincerely,

Mike Dowd

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