



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

RE: Support for Clear Lake Road Infrastructure Funding Request

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

My name is Rusty Rexius, and I'm a third generation owner and Co-President of Rexius, a family-owned and operated company based in Eugene, Oregon. Since 1937, Rexius has provided landscape materials, compost products, erosion control solutions, and full-service landscape construction and maintenance. Over the decades, we've grown into a business that now employs +/-300 people across multiple locations, including our Eugene headquarters and operations in Portland and Central Oregon.

I'm writing today to urge your strong support for funding the Clear Lake Industrial Area Infrastructure Project in the upcoming capital construction budget.

As a company deeply rooted in this region for nearly 90 years, we understand the importance of building and sustaining economic opportunity that benefits families, workers, and communities. The Clear Lake Industrial Area holds enormous potential for advancing Oregon's economic future, with over **600 acres** of industrially zoned land that could generate up to **6,000 new jobs** and attract major employers in advanced manufacturing, clean technology, biosciences, and other emerging sectors.

For companies like Rexius, continued economic development is not just about growing industries — it's about strengthening the regional workforce that all businesses depend on. The core of our work is hands-on and labor-intensive. Whether manufacturing and delivering product, operating equipment, or completing landscape and land management projects, we rely every day on a stable, dependable workforce to serve our customers and meet project timelines. Investments like Clear Lake are critical to broadening our local job base, strengthening workforce pipelines, and ensuring that family-wage jobs with benefits remain within reach for Oregonians.

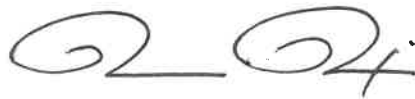
But none of this potential can be realized without basic infrastructure — wastewater, stormwater, utilities, and transportation access — that makes this land development-ready. Without the state's **\$10.5 million** investment, we simply cannot compete with other regions that already offer “shovel-ready” sites to employers. We risk losing transformational economic development opportunities that will shape Oregon's future and long-term prosperity.

We recognize that you face many competing demands in this session and that state investments are under careful scrutiny. But the Clear Lake project offers an extraordinary return by unlocking private investment, job creation, workforce development, and long-term economic vitality for Eugene and the entire state.

On behalf of Rexius and our 300 employees, I respectfully urge you to prioritize this critical infrastructure investment and help secure a stronger economic future for Oregon.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration. I would be happy to provide any additional perspective on how this project impacts businesses like ours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rusty Rexius". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large "R" and "X" being prominent features.

Rusty Rexius
Co-President
Rexius