

May 9, 2025

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 Robb Evans, and I am the owner of Converted Kitchen, a Eugene-based kitchen remodeling company focused on delivering gorgeous, budget-friendly, and high-quality remodels to value-minded homeowners. With over forty years of experience in sales, design, construction, and marketing, I have seen firsthand how closely the health of small businesses like mine is tied to the overall strength and vitality of our local economy.

I am writing today to express my strong support for funding the Clear Lake Industrial Area Infrastructure Project in the upcoming capital construction budget.

As a small business owner, I understand that when local industries grow, the entire community benefits. Industrial development doesn't just create jobs within manufacturing and production — it also drives demand for housing, retail, services, and home improvements. When people have access to good jobs, they are able to invest in their homes, support local businesses, and help sustain a vibrant, resilient community.

The Clear Lake Industrial Area, located between the Eugene Airport and Highway 99, represents over **600 acres** of industrially zoned land with the potential to bring up to **6,000 new jobs** and major private investment into our region. But today, this site remains underutilized because it lacks the basic infrastructure — wastewater, stormwater, utilities — needed to attract employers and development.

For small business owners like me, this is about more than just big projects and major employers. It's about ensuring that Eugene continues to grow in a way that creates opportunity for everyone — from the trades to the service sector to small, family-owned companies like mine. Expanding the region's economic base opens new markets, supports a healthy housing pipeline, and helps ensure that working families can thrive here.

I know you face difficult decisions and competing demands, especially in today's budget environment. But I believe the Clear Lake Industrial Area Infrastructure Project is a smart and necessary investment that will pay dividends for the entire community, not just for large companies.

On behalf of Converted Kitchen and the small business community, I respectfully urge you to prioritize this critical infrastructure funding and help build a stronger future for Eugene and Oregon.

Thank you for your leadership and for considering this important request.

Sincerely,

Robb Evans
Owner
Converted Kitchen

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