

Dear Capitol Construction Joint Committee,

I'm writing to voice my strong support for the **James Beard Public Market** and to urge you to include its request for **\$10 million in Lottery Bond funding** in this year's state budget.

This public market has the potential to become a cornerstone of Oregon's economic and cultural landscape—**revitalizing downtown Portland**, supporting local farmers and small food businesses, and attracting both residents and visitors to our region. Public markets across the country have proven to be powerful engines for **economic growth, job creation, and community connection**—and this one would be no different.

Importantly, this is **not a tax increase**, but a smart use of just **1.5% of the state's current Lottery Bond allocation** to invest in Oregon's future.

Let's bring this long-envisioned project to life and help Oregon move from a "doom loop" to a "bloom loop."

Thank you for your consideration and service.

Sincerely,

Krystal Ngene