

Dear Senator Lieber,

I am writing today to express my strong support for the new James Beard Public Market request for \$10 million in funding from the state's Lottery Bond dollars. Public markets have been proven to drive local economies, foster and sustain the small businesses that make Oregon so special, and encourage overall community growth. This market will be a key catalyst for economic prosperity in Oregon.

In the same way that every tourist that visits Portland is told to go to Powell's Books, the James Beard Public Market will be a crown jewel and a must-see for tourists and locals alike. When I visit San Francisco, I go to shop at the Ferry Building Market. When I visit Seattle, I embrace the vitality and energy of Pike Place Market. When people come to Portland, the James Beard Public Market will dazzle visitors and build our economy with every dollar spent there.

Please consider prioritizing this important project in this year's budget and urge your fellow Senators to do the same.

Sincerely Yours,

Christine Walter

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