CITY OF REDMOND
Office of the Mayor

February 13, 2026

The City of Redmond supports the allocation of $100 million in General Obligation Bonds for the LIFT Homeownership Program in Senate Bill 5702.

Throughout Oregon, vital members of the workforce — teachers, health care professionals, service workers, and tradespeople, are struggling to find housing that is affordable where they work. Redmond is acutely aware of this as we are among the fastest growing cities in Oregon and have the only school district among the 25 largest in the state to see a gain in enrollment this school year.

Our community is positioned to address the need quickly, as several local agencies are awaiting funding for their shovel-ready affordable developments. For every $1 million invested through LIFT, approximately five new homes can be built, leveraging additional local and private funding. A $100 million investment would help create roughly 500 homes statewide — homes that remain affordable and continue delivering public benefit for decades.

LIFT Homeownership is an effective tool for creating permanently affordable homes. These are not one-time investments. We've seen LIFT-supported homes in Redmond placed in community land trusts or structured to remain affordable long term, serving multiple income-qualified buyers over time. A single public investment can support generation after generation of homeowners, creating lasting community assets rather than temporary relief.

This level of investment reflects the scale of Oregon's housing production gap. We are significantly behind in meeting demand, and catching up requires bold, targeted action. LIFT represents a long-term capital investment in stable communities, workforce retention, and generational opportunity.

Please include $100 million for LIFT Homeownership in SB 5702 and ensure that Redmond's shovel-ready developments can move forward to meet our increasing housing needs

With warm regards,

Ed Fitch
Mayor
Redmond, Oregon