



**Testimony in Support of Williams & Russell Business Hub
Guillermo Sandoval – Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon (MESO)
Ways & Means Capital Construction Subcommittee
February 13, 2026**

Senator Girod, Representative Nosse, and Committee Members—My name is Guillermo Sandoval and I'm Executive Director of Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon (MESO).

I request your support for \$15.96 million for the Williams & Russell Business Hub in Northeast Portland. The Business Hub will support entrepreneurship, small businesses, and job creation during a time when our state needs an economic boost.

MESO is a non-profit organization that provides support and training to small businesses across Oregon. We improve the economic opportunities of underserved individuals through technical assistance, education, and entrepreneurship for the benefit of all Oregonians.

A cornerstone of the Williams & Russell Business Hub will be a permanent home for MESO and its Maker Market, supporting retail, small manufactures, and entrepreneurs positioned to grow into employers and contributors to Oregon's tax base.

MESO will lease office space at the Business Hub and relocate its Makers Market to the Hub providing 70+ small businesses ground floor retail space to sell their products.

MESO brings an array of services and programs to small businesses including access to capital, business planning and advising, market research, Individual Development Accounts (IDA), classes and workshops, networking, mentoring, and connections to local resources and referrals.

The State's investment comes at a critical time for MESO as we need to move to a permanent home.

Please make this investment in Oregon's future so we can bring the Business Hub to life and create more jobs, more businesses, and more prosperity for our state.