



February 13, 2026

Senator Fred Girod and Representative Rob Nosse
Co-Chairs: Capital Construction Subcommittee, Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street
Salem, OR 97301

RE: SB 5701 — \$70,000 Funding Request for for McKinley Park in Salem

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Nosse,

I am writing to request funding in the amount of **\$70,000** to support pathway and child safety improvements at McKinley Park in southeast Salem. Funding should be directed to the **McKinley Park Rejuvenation**, which is a non-profit corporation that was formed to facilitate work to upgrade the park and accomplish a vehicle for receipt of public funds and supplemental grants. This non-profit has no paid employees, will not charge administrative costs, and will not have any indirect fees or costs charged for receipt of grants or state funds.

McKinley Park is a vibrant community resource and green space located at 466 McGilchrist St, SE, directly adjacent to McKinley Elementary School. More than 300 neighborhood children access this park as a safe place to play, socialize, and learn. I believe this one-time expenditure is appropriate based on two distinguishing factors:

- McKinley Park has a very unique history of a “neighborhood park” that was created in 1973 after a successful Court of Appeals decision (SCAN v. Lindsey 21 OR App. 578); this history has resulted in a kind of “no man’s land” status, because neither the Salem-Keizer School District nor the City of Salem has complete jurisdiction/ownership of the park.
- There is very strong grassroots support for this project — local neighborhood efforts have already secured funding of approximately \$28,000, including \$8,000 of contributions from parents.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Representative Tom Andersen, HD-19