



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: \$2.75 million for the City of Salem — Safe, Clean & Healthy Capital City

Dear Co-Chairs Girod and Nosse,

I am writing to express my support for the City of Salem — Safe, Clean & Healthy Capital City program. These funds would reimburse the City of Salem for the more than \$7 million of fire, EMS and police services that are provided each year for the benefit of the State.

As you know:

- The State does not currently pay any property taxes to the City of Salem for these essential services.
- This is true even though State buildings and land comprise approximately 8% of Salem's total taxable property and are valued at over \$1.8 billion.
- State properties in Salem include not only the State Capitol building and park grounds, but also the 2,040 bed/194 acre Oregon State Penitentiary, the 558 bed Oregon State Hospital, the Supreme Court, The Court of Appeals Buildings, and a large collection of State agency headquarters and facilities.



April 25, 1935 — Fire Destroys the Capitol, Topples Copper Dome.

Salem — Safe, Clean & Healthy Capital City

The more recent 2008 fire resulted in major water damage to then Governor Kulongski's Ceremonial Office and staff areas on the second and third floors of the Capitol. City of Salem firefighters responded quickly to this blaze, preventing fire damage to the adjoining House and Senate Chambers.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request. I hope together we can continue to grow Oregon's Capital City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Andersen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Tom" on the top line and "Andersen" on the bottom line.

Representative Tom Andersen, HD-19