



414 E. First Street · P.O. Box 970 · Newberg, OR 97132

April 18, 2017

Dear Members of the Ways & Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development,

As Mayor of the City of Newberg I encourage you to pass HB 5025 which includes funding for Governor's Regional Solutions Teams (RST) program.

I recognize the importance of expending dollars in partnership with communities which allows for the highest local priorities to be implemented for job creation by receiving grant and loan funding within the State by region. I have found a true benefit in the role our RST has played in bringing pivotal parties to the table to discuss and find solutions to issues impacting our rural community. In Newberg our RST has been pivotal in:

1. Support of the Crestview Drive project to enhance transportation access to commercial and industrial lands for job creation and necessary coordination efforts with State and Federal agencies
2. Engaging a variety of State agencies in gathering information and regulatory input from the closure of the WestRock mill site to position our community to attract a purchaser for the property and replace the over 200 jobs lost from the mill closure.
3. Providing input for our community's efforts to develop, redevelop and enhance our Willamette Riverfront area.
4. Participating with Yamhill County and its communities in our Economic Vitality Summits to enhance our local rural economy.
5. Providing input on establishment of the Chehalem Valley Innovation Accelerator for early stage start-up companies.
6. Coordinating with Yamhill County cities as well as communities throughout the Mid-Valley Region to enhance our local economy.

I ask for your continued support of the Governor's Regional Solutions Teams and the positive, beneficial community projects they continue to address. Our sincere hope is to see these programs continue with support of HB 5025.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bob Andrews", is written over a faint, larger version of the signature.

Bob Andrews  
Mayor