



*Everywhere  
Central Oregon  
Works*

April 19, 2017

Senator Betsy Johnson  
900 Court Street NE, S-209  
Salem OR 97301

Representative David Gomberg  
900 Court Street NE, H-471  
Salem OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Johnson and Representative Gomberg:

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) is writing in support of the Ways and Means Committee favorably considering the Regional Solutions budget request for 2017-2019. The request is for \$11M of lottery bond proceeds to support regional priority economic and community development projects. The bills related to the Regional Infrastructure Fund are HB 5025 and SB 5530.

COIC greatly values the Regional Solutions Team model as a means of engaging state agencies to support regional priority projects by removing unnecessary project barriers, providing political support, and helping to fund our region's highest-priority projects.

The Regional Solutions funding and collaborative priority setting is important to COIC and Central Oregon communities. COIC and the Regional Solutions Team work collaboratively to identify high-priority community and economic development projects through the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and at team meetings. A key example is the Central Oregon Transformational Transportation Network Project, which improves access for those living and working in alternate communities, specifically those traveling to OSU-Cascades and Central Oregon Community College, by improving amenities that encourage traveling on transit.

Thank you in advance for your continued support for this valuable program.

Sincerely,

Karen Friend  
Executive Director