

SALEM AREA
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

President

Ryan Allbritton
U.S. Bank

Chief Executive Officer

Jason Brandt

Executive Committee

Bruce Anderson
NW Natural

Jim Bauer
Willamette University

Brent DeHart
Northwestern Mutual

Barbara Hacke Resch
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

LeAnn Keim
Columbia Bank

John K. Miller
Courthouse Fitness

Board of Directors

Curt Arthur
Sperry Van Ness Commercial Advisors, LLC

Patricia Callihan-Bowman
Express Employment Professionals

Cort Garrison
Salem Health

Byron Hendricks
Prudential Real Estate Professionals

Abby Heppner
Heppner Chiropractic, LLC

Eric Jamieson
Garrett Hemann Robertson P.C.

Terrence L. Kuenzi, CPA
Kuenzi & Company, LLC

Jim Lewis
Salem Association of Realtors

John Pataccoli
Redhawk Vineyard & Winery

Greggery Peterson
Broadway Café

Selma Moon Pierce, DDS

Mark Shipman
Saafeld Griggs PC

T.J. Sullivan
Huggins Insurance

Wendy Veliz Buck
Portland General Electric

Salem Area Chamber of Commerce
1110 Commercial Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-581-1466; Fax 503-581-0972
Salemchamber.org

January 24, 2014

Salem Area Legislative Delegation
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

To Salem Area Legislative Delegation:

The Salem Area Chamber of Commerce continues to be in support of the Columbia River Crossing project despite the latest developments regarding the lack of funding from the State of Washington. Our transportation infrastructure to the north continues to play a vital role in the movement of commerce from and through the Mid-Willamette Valley.

Businesses of all shapes and sizes throughout Oregon rely on a transportation system that allows them to stay competitive in a global marketplace. The health of small businesses throughout Oregon directly correlates with the health of our state. If businesses have a transportation system they can rely upon that allows them to access markets in a competitive fashion, we strengthen our position in the global marketplace and provide more opportunity for Oregonians to find work and support their families.

Traffic forecasting models clearly illustrate the costs of Columbia River Crossing congestion. 15 hours of congestion per day and \$34 million per year in added freight costs by the year 2030 is unacceptable. That is Oregon's reality if we do not move forward with reasonable and practical solutions to address the needs of Oregon's small businesses.

A bottleneck of this significance within Oregon's transportation infrastructure is worth investing in for local economies that rely upon the steady movement of goods and services. As the number one region for agricultural production, the Mid-Willamette valley has a great deal to gain from these improvements.

Thank you for serving as legislators from the Salem area and thank you for listening to our voice in support of small business and a healthy regional economy.

Sincerely,



Ryan Allbritton
President
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce



Jason Brandt
Chief Executive Officer
Salem Area Chamber of Commerce