

February 16, 2015

Senator Lee Beyer, Chair
Senator Fred Girod, Vice Chair
Senator Rod Monroe
Senator Chuck Riley
Senator Chuck Thomsen

Dear Chair Beyer and Senators,

This letter is to express my full support of SB 534 which allows for city sewer and water to be provided to an airport.

SB 534 provides the critical local control necessary for cities and neighboring airports to work together in promoting economic development opportunities that are mutually beneficial.

Over the past 20 years I have worked hand-in-hand with the City of Aurora, the Aurora State Airport, the Oregon Department of Aviation, local businesses including farmers, and local residents in growing the local economy while protecting valuable productive farmland.

I represented this area as a Marion County Commissioner for more than 15 years (retiring in 2014) and as a state representative for three terms. I was a member of Positive Aurora Airport Management for most of these years.

I know and understand the multitude of critical issues surrounding the needs and concerns in providing water and sewer to the Aurora State Airport from the City of Aurora. Over the years much has been accomplished to grow, protect and enhance the relationships with all parties who have an interest in the City of Aurora, Aurora State Airport, and businesses including farmers, and residents in the surrounding area.

However, the central issue of water and sewer at the Aurora Airport is the key to a viable, productive future for the entire area, but the issue of annexation has been an insurmountable obstacle.

I urge your support of SB 534 which provides the vital tool necessary to keep discussions and planning moving forward and placing decision making where it needs to be, at the local level. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patti Milne
Marion County Commissioner, retired
Former State Representative
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