



**CITY OF REDMOND**  
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Senator Lee Byer  
Chair, Senate Committee on Business and Transportation  
900 Court St. NE, S-419  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Byer and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon. My name is George Endicott. I am the Mayor of Redmond. Senator Byer, it's good to see you again.

My purpose here today is to testify in support of Senate Bill 120. The bill will give the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) the flexibility needed to support a new and innovative way to meet Oregon's vehicle mobility standards.

Deschutes County and the Central Oregon cities in the County along the Highway 97 corridor, along with ODOT, and with support from the Central Oregon Cities Organization other Central Oregon cities affected by Highway 97, have been working on a novel concept to address traffic congestion along the corridor. Rather than address each intersection on the highway as an individual "utility" we developed an idea whereby the entire corridor, from Madras to the southern Deschutes County line, could be considered on utility. The beauty of the notion is that ODOT would have the flexibility to allow some flexibility for both infrastructure and "soft" solutions in order to maintain transportation throughput for the affected stretch of road.

For the past two years we have visited various ideas and matured our concepts. This bill will provide ODOT the ability to work with the cities and the County to implement flexible and innovative solutions, enabling the cities, the County and the State to enhance economic development for the communities.

In closing, let me say that, as past President of the League of Oregon Cities, I spoke with many mayors along other similar corridors in Oregon – in particular along Highways 99 and 101. All were intrigued with the concept. Please consider giving the Oregon Department of Transportation the flexibility to help our cities thrive.

Thank you.

George Endicott