



**March 27, 2015**

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on  
Transportation and Economic Development  
Co-Chairs Betsy Johnson and David Gomberg  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Request for State support for funding for the Amtrak Cascades Service

Co-Chairs Johnson and Gomberg and Joint Committee Members:

It recently came to our attention that ongoing funding of the Amtrak Cascades Service between Portland and Eugene was being evaluated and that cancellation of the service is possible.

Tourism and economic development are priorities for Downtown Oregon City. Passenger rail service is an important component of our historic district's revitalization. It provides a sustainable transit option for day trips, long distance travelers, and commuters. Substantial investments by the city in the Amtrak station site have led the way for tourism-related efforts to establish Oregon City as the bicycle gateway to Mount Hood Territory. As the Willamette Falls Legacy Project gains steam, multi-modal transit options will be necessary to service the anticipated visitor demand.

We understand that the service is being weighed against other important services but respectfully request that the funding necessary to maintain the Amtrak Cascade Service is provided. It is an important economic development tool that will continue to pay dividends. The Downtown Oregon City Association will continue to work hard to develop a destination worthy of this important transit option.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J Stone", written in a cursive style.

Jonathan Stone  
*Executive Director*

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