



Apr. 10, 2015

Honorable Caddy McKeown, Chair  
House Committee on Transportation and Economic Development  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, Or 97301

RE: House Bill 2464 issuance of lottery bonds for transportation projects funded from the Multimodal Transportation Fund in 2015-2017

Dear Chair McKeown and Members of the Transportation and Economic Development Committee:

I am writing you today in support of HB 2464 which gives funding to crucial transportation and multimodal projects in Oregon. The City of Beaverton supports this bill because smaller cities, like Beaverton, lack the resources to fund multimodal projects.

In Beaverton, we have a number of state highways that bisect the community. One in particular, OR 8 or Canyon Road, acts as a river that divides the community. Two light rail stations are located on the north side of Canyon Road. On the south side, there are pockets of statistical disadvantaged populations that find it difficult to cross between long stretches between intersections.

The Canyon Road Complete Streets project is the type of project that would benefit from multimodal funding. This project will add crosswalks, new signalization, and intersection improvements which will allow bicyclists and pedestrians to easily and safely cross Canyon Road. The daily average total for pedestrians crossing Canyon Road is 159, bicyclists top out at 125 per day. Beaverton is experiencing incredible growth and Metro anticipates that the Beaverton Regional Center will increase by 4,500 new jobs and 10,000 new residents over the next 25 years. The expectation is that more residents will begin to use multiple modes of transportation to get to and from work, school or the store.

The improvement of the pedestrian environment on Canyon Road also supports more transit ridership by creating easier access to light rail stations. Increased access across Canyon Road also supports transit oriented development and makes lots adjacent to light rail more attractive to developers. Proposed improvements would enhance access

to the Beaverton Transit Center. Most importantly, by improving the crossing and walking environment along Canyon our disadvantaged populations can more easily get to work via bike, bus or lightrail.

Secondly, these improvements will increase the flow of freight across the region and unlock economic development. Currently, outmoded infrastructure slows traffic to regional employment centers and reduces flow of goods along a major freight route. The improvements in signal timing will help control efficient freight movement—saving businesses moving their products time and money. The zoning of nearby parcels allows more density and development than currently exists. The proposed improvements along Canyon improve the pedestrian environment and public amenity in ways that increase the likelihood that nearby lots will develop.

In short, funding such projects will provide direct and immediate safety, livability and economic benefits. For these reasons, we strongly urge your support of HB 2464.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Ealy", written over a printed name and title.

Randy Ealy  
Chief Administrative Officer