



April 20, 2015

Representative Knute Buehler
900 Court St. NE, H-389
Salem, Oregon 97301

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Re: HB 3283

Dear Dr. Buehler:

I am writing to express the support of the Bend City Council for HB 3283.

On March 18, 2015, the Council passed a resolution which found that through the Mirror Pond Management Board, the Mirror Pond Steering Committee and the Mirror Pond Ad Hoc Committee, a preferred alternative has been put forward. Mirror Pond committees and community discussions go back to before my own tenure on the Council began 10 years ago.

JIM CLINTON
Mayor

As you know, this project would consist of an in-river and riparian area project, and a redevelopment of certain properties in the river corridor.

SALLY RUSSELL
Mayor Pro Tem

VICTOR CHUDOWSKY
City Councilor

DOUG KNIGHT
City Councilor

NATHAN BODDIE
City Councilor

CASEY ROATS
City Councilor

BARB CAMPBELL
City Councilor

ERIC KING
City Manager

The Council strongly supports the removal of Mirror Pond dam, improvement of fish and wildlife habitat, construction of public spaces and trails, and urban redevelopment, especially of decrepit properties adjacent to the river. We view the river corridor in the downtown as an important iconic feature of our City and achieving these results would directly address our economic development and cultural goals, for residents and our many visitors.

We recognize that concerns over some details of the river and redevelopment projects remain, and that continued community involvement is necessary and proper. However, these concerns can and will be worked out; they should not deter us from moving forward. Passage of HB 3283 is the crucial next step. I am committed to getting all the remaining pieces in place.

Thank you, Senator Knopp, and Representative Whisnant for sponsoring this bill.

Sincerely,

Jim Clinton, Mayor