



May 8, 2015

Co-Chairs Devlin and Buckley:

We write to urge your support of HB 3526, the Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant Program. HB 3526 will help communities across Oregon, especially in rural and distressed areas, to access the capital needed to revitalize and develop their main streets into vibrant communities.

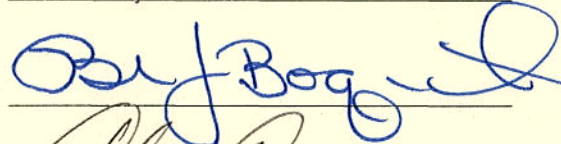
We know that communities throughout the state, especially in rural towns and historically underserved communities, are struggling to secure gap financing for development and redevelopment projects. Currently main streets and downtowns in Oregon lack state-supported funding mechanisms to advance important redevelopment, adaptive re-use, and small business relocation and expansion initiatives. The Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant will help the 90 plus local communities participating in the Oregon Main Street Network to catalyze investment from the private sector and transform their downtowns into vibrant, economically viable communities.

HB 3526 authorizes the issue of lottery bonds in an amount that produces \$5 million in net proceeds and interest earnings, plus an additional amount necessary to pay bond-related costs. This investment in main streets across the state will not only help build communities, but it will bring a return on investment to the state by creating a stronger tax base. We urge your support of HB 3526 to help catalyze investment in the main streets across the state.

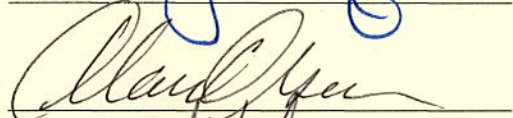
Sincerely,



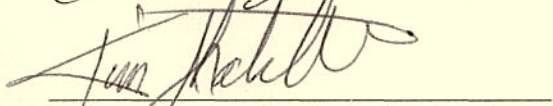
(Shields)



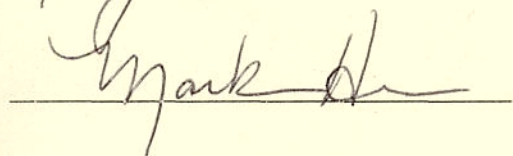
(Boquist)



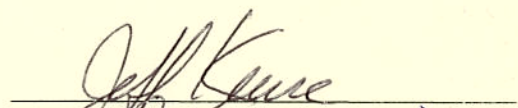
(Olsen)



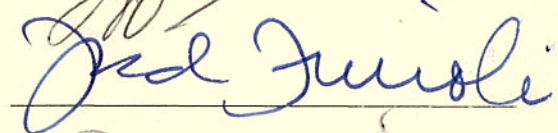
(Thatcher)



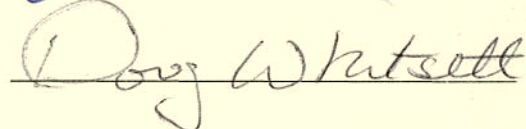
(Hass)



(Kruse)



(Ferrioli)



(Whitsett)

