



May 7th, 2015

Capital Construction Sub-Committee of Ways and Means
Oregon Housing and Community Services Bond Package

Co-Chair Girod, Co-Chair Read, Members of the Committee:

On behalf of ROSE Community Development in Southeast Portland, I would like to urge you to support the Governor's proposal for \$100 million for affordable housing in Oregon. This investment would mark a major first step by the state in addressing the statewide housing crisis.

Even in our service area of outer Southeast Portland, where rents tend to be lower than other parts of the city, people struggle to find affordable housing, often paying more than they can afford if they can find housing at all. ROSE's own properties are filled to capacity, with waitlists at every property. Most of these waitlists have had to be closed for months due to overwhelming demand. This is all despite the recent boom in housing construction in the city.

Governor Brown was a strong supporter of ROSE and affordable housing during her time in the Legislature, representing Southeast Portland. This is a historic opportunity for impactful investment, and we hope that the Legislature follows Governor Brown's lead to provide affordable housing for Oregonians.

The proposed \$100 million housing development bond package will allow us, as a housing developer, to be innovative, flexible and sensitive to our community needs. Statewide, the funds will build an estimated 3,000 to 4,000 new homes, which could affordably house 12,000 to 16,000 people.

Having a place to call home is critical for any family, but especially so for families struggling to make ends meet and prepare their children for the future. We urge your careful consideration of, and support for, this proposed landmark investment in homes for Oregon.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Sauvie".

Nick Sauvie
Executive Director