This letter is to support funding for the Central Oregon Regional Solutions Advisory Committee's recommended projects in HB 5030.

I have had the honor the honor of serving as the Convener of the Central Oregon Regional Solutions Advisory Committee since its inception. Our committee is composed of elected representatives, plus business leaders, educators and Foundation executives from Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties. We labored hard and, I believe effectively, in determining the two requested projects you will consider funding, both of which will create or maintain jobs in our fast-growing area.

The Transformative Transportation Project will reduce congestion and make OSU-Cascades University more accessible and attractive to area students.

The Innovation Center will stimulate, catalyze and accelerate high-tech and small business development in the Region.

Without your financial support we will not be able to complete these projects in a timely manner.

I know you are facing difficult decisions in this budget cycle and I respect the work you are doing. Thank you for considering our Central Oregon requests.

Tike Helen

Mike Hollern President Brooks Resources Corporation 409 NW Franklin Ave. Bend, OR 97701 <u>mike@brooksresources.com</u> 541-749-2925