

Dear Chair McKeown and House Committee on Transportation and Economic Development:

I write to urge you to pass the Transit Expansion Fund bill, HB 4078. This legislation is urgently needed and, as you know, has wide bipartisan support. Too often small urban and rural districts get lost in the shuffle of our big transportation bills and this is a great reason to get this piece passed this session. Moreover, too many of our small districts desperately need this funding source sooner than later and thus, passage this session gets us to rulemaking sooner.

You know livable and healthy communities have transportation options and public transportation is one vital option. Rural and small urban transit services have many underserved communities – even choice riders – and that impacts our economic development. We need to and strive to make public transportation an option for our workers, seniors and our millennials.

This legislation will help provide a stable and equitable source of funding which will allow small districts to access federal funds that are too often elusive because of the matching component and restrictions on from where the match may derive.

Many here in the Rogue Valley cherish the hard work of our district and their efforts to keep our service expanding and meeting the increasing demand. This fund will so vitally lighten the load and allow them the hope of bringing those federal funds to our community.

Please pass HB 4078 this session.

Tonia Moro

RVTD Board Member

And Local Attorney

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