



OPPORTUNITY  
KNOCKS

Opportunity Knocks  
705 SW Bonnett Way #1000  
Bend, Oregon 97702

February 21, 2017  
House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce  
Representative Jeff Reardon, Chair  
900 Court Street NE, Room 431  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**RE: Support for HB 2782 – Full Funding of OSU-Cascades Expansion**

Dear Chair Reardon and Members of the Committee,

My name is Aly Waibel and I am the Executive Director of Opportunity Knocks, a nonprofit organization of 20 plus years that serves the business community in Central Oregon. **I am writing on behalf of the Opportunity Knocks Board of Directors to respectfully request the committee to support the full funding of the OSU-Cascades expansion.**

Opportunity Knocks (OK) is a 501 (c) 6 membership supported and supports collaborative growth in Central Oregon by matching industry and community leaders with a trusted, local, facilitated group of peers who act as mentors, or an informal Board of Advisors. As of January 2017 we serve nearly 200 Central Oregon companies and community leaders in industries such as tech, bio sciences, outdoor and consumer products, food and manufacturing.

The OSU-Cascades expansion project will provide Central Oregon with the economic stability and educated workforce needed to sustain the rapid economic growth of our region. We strongly support you in supporting full funding for the expansion of the OSU-Cascades campus.

Respectfully,

Aly Waibel, PhD  
*Executive Director, Opportunity Knocks*

**On behalf of OK Board members:**

Jim Schell, *Opportunity Knocks Board Chair*  
Georell Bracelin, *GB2 Agency*  
Valarie Rekward, *Delicious Design*  
Jamie Christman, *Bend Chamber of Commerce*  
Rich Lyon, *Bend Commercial Glass*  
Alan Dale, *Bryant, Lovlien & Jarvis*  
Steve Curley, *COCC Small Business Development Center*

Preston Callicott, *Five Talent Inc.*  
Shannon Mara, *Sudara*  
Manny Freitas  
Karen Douglas  
Ken Streater, *Community Growth Leader*  
Jay Riker, *Cascadian Group*

**And OK facilitators and team members:**

Peter Wheary, *Greenloop Solutions*

Kermit Yensen

Sam Lanier, *CEO of FireWhat*

Ben Watson, *Sudara*

Ron Fritz, *Tech Soft 3D*

Jerry Andres

Brenda Spears, *BUZZTAG*

Craig Jones, *Amolite*

Vic Martinez, *Bend 2030 and Payne West Insurance*

Julie Kelleher, *Sisters Vacation Rentals*

Ali Cammelletti, *Camelletti Consulting*

Phil Torchio, *The Brooomsmen*

Andrea Sigetich, *SageCoach Inc.*

Travis Davis, *PayneWest Insurance*

Valerie Yost, *Brooks Resources Corporation*

Michelle Alvarado, *Wahoo Films*

Preston Callicott, *Five Talent Software*

Jamie Rose, *Cascadia Vehicle Tents*

Noelle Fredland *Old Mill District & Les Schwab Amphitheater*

Coby Horton, *US Bank*

Jeremy Groh, *Combined Communications*

Joanne Matthews, *Joanne Matthews Consulting*

Eric Strobel, *BBSI*