



ROTARY CLUB OF GREATER BEND

POST OFFICE BOX 6561 BEND, OREGON 97708

February 18, 2017

Oregon House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce

Representative Jeff Reardon, Chair

900 Court St., NE, Room 431

Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: OSU-Cascades Campus Expansion

Chair Reardon and Members of the Committee:

The Rotary Club of Greater Bend, which has previously supported the launch of Oregon State University - Cascades with a financial contribution of \$25,000, offers our support of the planned campus expansion.

In order to assure a solid future for higher education in Central Oregon, campus capacity must be increased beyond its current allowance of 1,890 students. Our Club supports the OSU-Cascades leadership plan for the expansion and request of \$69.5 million for the capacity increase. We understand how important it is to secure funding of the campus as it is crucial to meeting the educational and workforce needs of Oregon's fastest growing region, generating 15-20 percent of the State's jobs.

The Rotary Club of Greater Bend strongly supports developing a future educated workforce, which is critical to the economic success of the region. The reclamation of the 46-acre pumice mine, campus infrastructure improvements, an academic building, a student success center and a graduate and research center renovation, will help expand the educational opportunities for our local community for decades to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Erik Tobiason".

Erik Tobiason
President, Board of Directors
Rotary Club of Greater Bend