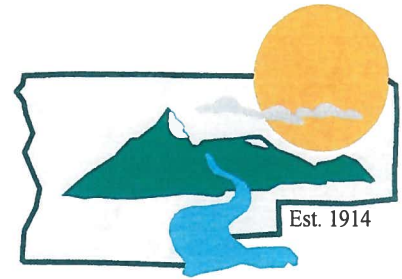


JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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March 22, 2017

Representative Ann Lininger, Chair
House Committee on Economic Development and Trade
Oregon State Capital
900 Court Street NE, Room 453, Salem, OR 97301

Subject: **Support of HB 2743** – A bill directing the Land Conservation and Development Commission to establish and implement pilot program to implement master plan for economic development on land adjacent to airport in rural area

Dear Chair Lininger, Vice-Chair Marsh, Representatives Clem, Gomberg, Helm, Lewis, Post, and Reschke:

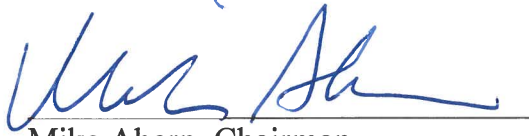
The Jefferson County Commissioners are supportive of House Bill 2743. As a viable partner with the City of Madras, owner of the Madras Municipal Airport, we believe that passage of HB 2743 and the City's participation in the pilot program outlined herein will provide the following benefits to the City of Madras, and therefore, Jefferson County and the greater State of Oregon:

1. HB 2743 will aid the City in expanding its Urban Growth Boundary around the remaining airport property (part of the airport is already in). This method will save Madras and our taxpayers tremendous resources versus conducting a series of UGB expansions in a more piecemealed fashion. Madras estimates a savings of approximately \$350,000 in planning consultant, survey, legal, and staff resources.
2. It grants the City of Madras land use authority to administer its adopted Airport Master Plan utilizing the City's own ordinances and standards on airport property that is currently zoned "Airport Management" under the County's adopted zoning.
3. The legislation enables the City to streamline the permitting process for new development by enabling the City to perform land use decisions on City of Madras owned airport property.

4. It provides the opportunity for more integrated airport infrastructure planning with other infrastructure system plans such as the Transportation System and Wastewater Master plans; current rules do not allow transportation and sewer improvements to be planned within the City's transportation and wastewater master plans on the airport property outside of the Urban Growth Boundary.
5. Lastly, it extends the City's tax base for a consistent and sustainable model of providing city services to the airport.

As you can see, this legislation offers more streamlined development processes for local government and improved infrastructure planning for supporting economic development within Jefferson County and the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,



Mike Ahern, Chairman



Wayne Fording, Commissioner



Mae Huston, Commissioner