



2024 N.W. Beech Street
Madras, Oregon 97741

(541) 475-3625
(541) 475-3652
Fax (541) 475-3905
nuid@northunitid.com

March 27, 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, Vice Chair Smith, Representatives Clem, Gomberg, Helm, Lewis, Post, and Reschke:

North Unit Irrigation District (NUID) would like to express its support of House Bill 2743 as NUID believes that passage of HB 2743 and the City of Madras' (the City) participation in the pilot program as proposed by the legislation will assist in further economic development of airport lands adjacent to the City's current urban growth boundary.

As with many small rural communities in the state, cities and other local governmental agencies must work together to insure responsible development where interests intersect and more importantly where common interests provide for the betterment of the community. That said, and as I understand, HB 2743 is intended to, among other things; promote economic development while promoting industry growth and job creation in rural areas specifically on lands adjacent to airports. NUID believes HB2743 provides the strategic assistance the City needs to allow them to better promote local economic development at the Madras Municipal Airport that can in turn be a catalyst for further economic development investments in rural central Oregon, specifically the City of Madras and Jefferson County.

Although HB 2743 offers multiple benefits more importantly it offers streamlined development processes for local government and improved infrastructure planning for supporting much needed economic development within the City of Madras, Jefferson County and the State of Oregon.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions regarding North Unit Irrigation District's support of HB 2743.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Britton".

Mike Britton
General Manager