

April 6, 2017

MMC

Metropolitan Mayors Consortium

Mayor Denny Doyle

City of Beaverton

Mayor Brian Hodson

City of Canby

Mayor Jeffrey Dalin

City of Cornelius

Mayor Gery Schirado

City of Durham

Mayor Ted Tosterud

City of Fairview

Mayor Peter Truax

City of Forest Grove

Mayor Tammy Stempel

City of Gladstone

Mayor Shane Bemis

City of Gresham

Mayor Lori DeRemer

City of Happy Valley

Mayor Steve Callaway

City of Hillsboro

Mayor Ken Gibson

City of King City

Mayor Kent Studebaker

City of Lake Oswego

Mayor Mark Hardie

City of Maywood Park

Mayor Mark Gamba

City of Milwaukie

Mayor Teri Lenahan

City of North Plains

Mayor Dan Holladay

City of Oregon City

Mayor Ted Wheeler

City of Portland

Mayor Heather Kibbey

City of Rivergrove

Mayor Krisanna Clark

City of Sherwood

Mayor John Cook

City of Tigard

Mayor Casey Ryan

City of Troutdale

Mayor Lou Ogden

City of Tualatin

Mayor Russ Axelrod

City of West Linn

Mayor Tim Knapp

City of Wilsonville

Mayor Timothy Clark

City of Wood Village

Chair Prozanski, Members of the Committee
Senate Judiciary Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for SB 327

Dear Chair Prozanski & Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

The Metropolitan Mayors Consortium (MMC), representing the mayors of twenty-five cities in the Portland Metropolitan Area, strongly supports SB 327, which would restore meaningful recreational immunity to cities. Restoring recreational immunity is critical to ensuring that our residents continue to have access to public lands. Without recreational immunity, many cities will be forced to close down parks, trails and other public spaces because the potential legal liability will lead to dramatically higher insurance rates. This increase in insurance rates will necessitate cuts in other areas of our budgets.

SB 327 would restore the needed immunity, which had been codified by the courts for years before a recent decision by the Oregon Supreme Court upended years of precedent and exposed cities to extensive liability.

Restoring recreational immunity is one of the MMC's top legislative priorities for the 2017 Legislative Session. We strongly urge your support for SB 327.

Respectfully,

The Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium