



April 17, 2017

Dear Members of the Ways & Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development:

The Salem-Keizer Career Technical Education Center (CTEC) would like to confirm our support for the Governor's Regional Solutions Teams (RST) and recommend full funding this session via HB 5025 and SB 5530. The RST plays a critical role in supporting strategic community development efforts in our Mid-Valley region and across the state.

CTEC is built upon an incredible vision to transform a blighted 150,000 square-foot former manufacturing facility in NE Salem into a bustling Career Technical Education Center serving 1,000 Salem-Keizer high school students with ten different Career Technical Education programs. As an innovative public-private partnership between Salem-Keizer Public Schools and Mountain West Investment Corporation, CTEC's mission is to: prepare students for high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand careers while developing the professional skills, technical knowledge, academic foundation and real-world experience to assure their success upon graduation.

CTEC has benefitted tremendously from the support we have received from Regional Solutions, and specifically James LaBar, our Regional Solutions representative. Not only have we been allocated critical capital funding from the RST to complete the build-out of CTEC, but we have found true benefit in the role our RST has played in bringing pivotal parties to the table to discuss and find solutions to issues impacting our project. The RST has worked strategically and thoughtfully to connect us with legislators, private companies, and other regional and statewide projects to address project issues and support our success. It is truly a model of effective government with the RST focused on removing barriers, increasing collaboration, and providing streamlined, one-stop access to state resources.

CTEC, and specifically Mountain West, ask for your continued support of the Governor's Regional Solutions Teams and the innovative and beneficial community development projects they seek to address. We ask that Regional Solutions receive the full funding it needs to continue achieving positive impact in our community and state.

Sincerely,

  
Chuck Lee, President

Mountain West Career Technical Institute  
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