



April 20, 2017

Senator Betsy Johnson, Co-Chair  
Representative David Gombert, Co-Chair  
Ways and Means, Transportation and Economic Development  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Ways & Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development;

The Oregon Economic Development Association (OEDA) supports the 2017-19 Regional Solutions Team (RST) Budget. OEDA is a statewide non-profit organization working to support economic development professionals who are on Oregon's front line in diversifying and expanding Oregon's economy. OEDA's membership includes a mix of public and private entities from economic development corporations, cities, utilities and other stakeholders interested in attracting investment here in Oregon.

A 2013 Governor's Executive Order Enacted by 2014 House Bill 4015, created Oregon's Regional Solutions Teams. These "One-Stop" centers help drive priority economic and community development strategies and initiatives at the local level, throughout Oregon. They assist both rural and urban/metro communities in coordination of state agency participation and solutions, help drive business, industry and workforce/education development projects and advocate for funding partnerships to accelerate community growth.

The request for \$11,000,000 dollars of State lottery bond proceeds will help Cities, Counties and Regions remove the barriers to development to create longer reaching sustainability, creating a richer, more prosperous Oregon.

Please support the RST 2017-19 Budget. If you have any questions or comments regarding our position, please don't hesitate calling (541) 923-5223.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Stark". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Jon Stark  
President

Cc: Annette Liebe, Central Oregon Regional Solutions Coordinator