## Senator Johnson

## **FULL COMMITTEE PONY**

## Oregon Business Development Department Change in Use of Regional Solutions Program Funds

On April 20th, the Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommended acknowledging receipt of a report from the Oregon Business Development Department requesting authorization to use of \$60,000 of existing Lottery Bond proceeds for the Rainier Rail project.

Two years ago, the state issued \$9 million of Lottery Bonds to support eight specified Regional Solutions projects. Of this total, \$2 million was approved to fund improvements to the rail corridor in City of Rainier.

A portion of the bond proceeds designated for other projects has remained unspent, however, because those projects did not move forward. The Oregon Business Development Department requested approval to use \$60,000 of these unused proceeds to supplement support for the Rainier Rail project, to increase total Lottery Bond support to \$2,060,000.

The project will provide safety and other upgrades to the rail line, street, and sidewalks in the City of Rainier, to separate automobile, pedestrian, and train traffic. The project also supports underground utility and storm water system upgrades.

The additional funds would be used for contract services, to assist the City in managing its portion of the project, and thereby allow the project to successfully move forward.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends approval.