



June 5, 2017

**BOARD
OF
DIRECTORS
2017

Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue
Senator Mark Hass, Chair
Senator Brian Boquist, Vice-Chair
900 Court Street NE, Room 431
Salem, Oregon 97301

**Linda
Stephenson,
President**

RE: Support for HB 2745B

**Robin Mirrasoul
Vice President**

Chair Hass, Vice-Chair Boquist, and Members of the Committee:

**Ann Mowery
Treasurer**

The La Pine Chamber of Commerce urges you to support the bill currently before the legislature, HB 2745B, which will give voters in Central Oregon a choice on whether their areas should fund a public transit system.

**Mary Thorson
Secretary**

HB 2745B offers a number of benefits to our Central Oregon Communities. It gives them local control—each city can choose the appropriate level of service, funding amount, and tool for funding transit in their community. It maximizes efficiency, by retaining regional management for the transit system, minimizing costs and optimizing streamlined and convenient service. It drive economic development, helping local companies attract workers by giving employees a public transportation option that saves time and money. Some communities may choose to ask voters to support funding initiatives, and other communities such as ours may not be ready any time soon.

Tiffany Zeiler

Mark O'Connell

Shelly McKittrick

Rex Lesueur

The La Pine Chamber of Commerce recognizes that our community transit needs may be different than in a larger metropolitan area. HB 2745B enables local funds raised for transit services to actually remain in place to serve the local transit needs that the local voters approve. It just makes good sense.

**Executive
Director
Ann Gawith**

**Executive Assistant
Assistant
Teri Myers**

We ask the Senate Finance and Revenue Committee to support the passage of HB 2745B this session.. Thank you for giving local control of future transit initiatives into the hands of Central Oregon voters.

Sincerely,

Executive Director