



Testimony by City of Wilsonville Mayor Tim Knapp Supporting HB 4060, Section 21, Public Transportation Services

Technical Correction to the 2017 Transportation Investment Package HB 2017 Clarifies New Transit Funds Distribution

Scheduled for public hearing on Feb. 12, 2018, before the Joint Committee on Transportation

Co-Chairs Beyer and McKeown and Members of the Committee:

I am testifying in support of a portion of HB 4060, regarding Section 21, Public Transportation Services.

The City of Wilsonville operates South Metro Area Regional Transit (SMART), a Federal Transit Administration-sanctioned urban-area transit provider. We were actively engaged in providing input into the crafting of HB 2017, and continue that involvement through participation with the Oregon Dept. of Transportation's Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Rules Advisory Committee for the bill's implementation.

Although challenging, we are pleased to report that SMART and other local-area transit providers have found the process with Tri-Met on setting up an advisory body and developing new transit-funding services to be working well. The important issue of improved transit funding is crucial to our ability to provide better quality regional public transit, with an emphasis on reducing fragmentation while providing greater access for low-income communities. This focus has led the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee, which includes all of the cities and special districts of the county, to recently empanel a Transit Providers Subcommittee to advise on improved transit services.

We support the proposed technical clarification of Section 21 as it seeks to codify the principles that Tri-Met, SMART and all other area transit providers are able to work together under. While informal discussions and working relationships are proceeding well at this time, we believe that these basic principles and agreements should be placed formally into law. Doing so provides the best long-term assurance that various transit providers work towards an integrated and seamless system that provides the public with better quality transit services.

The City of Wilsonville respectfully urges a DO PASS vote HB 4060, Section 21. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tim Knapp, Mayor City of Wilsonville