



February 4, 2019

House Committee on Human Services and Housing
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2055 Establishes Workforce Housing Accelerator Program within Housing and Community Services Department.
HB 2056 Establishes Housing Development Grant Program.
HB 2360 Establishes Task Force on Use of Surplus Public Lands for Housing.
HB 2228 Establishes Local Government Technical Assistance Program within Housing and Community Services Department.

Dear Chair Keny Guyer, Vice-Chair Noble, Vice-Chair Sanchez, and Members of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing;

I am writing to share the City of Beaverton's support for House Bill 2055, 2056, 2360, and 2228 which will provide critical resources and technical support necessary to increase and sustain the availability of affordable housing.

Without an adequate supply at a wide range of housing affordability, our residents will continue to fall farther behind, severely impacting those most in need and who we are as a community. House Bills 2055 and 2056 in particular propose to provide much needed funding to segments of housing that the market can very rarely supply. We ask that you continue to lead the charge to create new affordable housing resources to help us tackle this immense community need, especially for deeply affordable housing and support services.

New funding tools are critical for jurisdictions to provide stable housing services for our community, including additional funds for emergency rent assistance, wrap-around services for our vulnerable communities, enhancing access to homeownership such as down payment assistance, education, counseling and incentivizing developers to build more affordable homes.

Communities like Beaverton need more resources to assist the growing number of families facing difficulties finding and maintaining the housing they need and can afford. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cheryl Twéte". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cheryl Twéte
Community Development Director