

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE OF LINCOLN COUNTY

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*Strengthening Lincoln County's economy. Attracting and supporting primary jobs.*

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Feb. 25, 2019

Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development  
Representative David Gomberg (Co-Chair)  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: 2019-2021 Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF)

Dear Members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development,

The Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County is a nonprofit agency tasked with economic growth for our county. The Regional Infrastructure Fund is one of the few sources of funding for vitally important necessities for the "common good" such as bridges, transport systems, docks and other basics that our cities/county/special districts must provide. As you may be aware, due to the lack of sales tax on our visitors' spending, the only revenue that small coastal counties or cities get from tourism is room tax – IF that tax is collected on an overnight stay – and the various "sin" taxes. Needless to say that is a drop in the bucket compared to the cost of the visitors on our roads, bridges, water, sewer, etc.

Please do whatever you can do to safeguard precious dollars for assistance to some of our threadbare budgets here in coastal Oregon where population is low and poverty high.

Sincerely,

Caroline Bauman, Executive Director  
Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County