



21 February 21, 2019

Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development

Senator James Manning, Jr. (Co-Chair)

Representative David Gomberg (Co-Chair)

Senator Jeff Golden

Senator Bill Hansell

Representative Paul Evans

Representative Gary Leif

Representative Rachel Prusak

Representative Duane Stark

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:

- ◆ Strong support for the Governor's Regional Solutions Program and the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) part of Business Oregon's budget.
- ◆ RIF is very unusual because it is locally-driven, reflects regional priorities
- ◆ RIF is also flexible in ways that very few, if any, programs are
- ◆ RIF gets money to rural areas that really need the \$\$\$.
- ◆ Regional Solutions Team is a lot more than a source of money, can assist with regulatory issues and provide an important connection to state government.
- ◆ Truly creative, innovative projects are inspired to move forward by the opportunity to get RIF Funding. Butte Creek Mill rebuild, Bradshaw Drop, Fry Family Farm "food hub," and the Gold Hill White Water Park are projects that will help the Rogue Valley flourish.
- ◆ *Thank you from the Southern Oregon Regional Solutions Convener. These funds connect with community priorities and the assistance of the State of Oregon agencies in their success.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Thorndike", written over a horizontal line.

William D. Thorndike, Jr.

President

(541) 770-1172

bill.thorndike@medfab.com