

NEWPORT

169 SW COAST HWY
NEWPORT, OREGON 97365

COAST GUARD CITY, USA



www.newportoregon.gov

MOMBETSU, JAPAN, SISTER CITY

April 10, 2019

Senator Lee Beyer
Representative Caddy McKeown
Joint Committee on Transportation
900 Court Street, NE, S-417
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Senator Beyer, Representative McKeown, and the Joint Committee on Transportation:

We are writing to request your support of HB 2402. Over the years, the City of Newport has received Critical Oregon Airport Relief program funding for various projects at the Newport Municipal Airport through the Aviation System Action Program (ASAP).

HB 2402 would remove the January 1, 2022 sunset on the aviation fuel and jet fuel tax that was authorized by HB 2075 in 2015. It will also initiate a legislative conversation about the need for additional resources to fund rural airports and the Oregon Department of Aviation.

State funding was an essential resource for runway reconstruction at Newport's Municipal Airport, as it helped the city meet local grant fund requirements for this project that was 90% funded by Federal Aviation Administration funds. ASAP funding has facilitated a seismic study for the airport, and matching funds for a storm pipe rehabilitation and slope repair environmental study. In addition, the Newport City Council has authorized an application from the Rural Oregon Aviation Relief (ROAR) Program, that is funded with ASAP funds, for scheduled passenger service to/from the Newport Municipal Airport. This funding is a key resource for this endeavor. Without the passage of HB 2402, this funding will sunset in January of 2022. Passage of HB 2402 would ensure that the City of Newport, along with many Oregon cities, would have a continued opportunity to apply for funding to offset a portion of those cities local share of FAA funded projects.

We urge your positive consideration of HB 2402 as it will provide the certainty, growth, and sustainability needed by Oregon's network of local airports, including the Newport Municipal Airport.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dean H. Sawyer". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dean H. Sawyer, Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Spencer R. Nebel". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Spencer R. Nebel, City Manager

EST.

1882