



# Marion County

## OREGON

### Board of Commissioners

April 15, 2019

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#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
Subcommittee on Education  
Oregon State Capitol Building  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members:

The Marion County Board of Commissioners supports full funding for the Population Research Center at Portland State University included in HB 5024.

In 2013, HB 2253 tasked the Population Research Center with developing population forecasts for cities in Oregon. Cities in Oregon rely on these forecasts, as well as annual estimates, when reviewing their city's need for additional residential and employment land. Previously, counties in Oregon were tasked with developing coordinated forecasts among all the cities in the county. Now that the Population Research Center is providing forecasts, as well as annual estimates, it's critical the Population Research Center be funded so that forecasts and estimates are provided accurately in a timely manner.

In Marion County, cities have reviewed their urban growth boundaries and one has expanded its boundary relying on estimates and forecasts from the Population Research Center. As cities in Marion County continue to grow, they will continue to rely on these estimates and forecasts from Portland State to justify their land use findings and comply with state planning requirements in administrative rule.

We strongly encourage you to support full funding for the Population Research Center at Portland State University.

Sincerely,

Kevin Cameron, Chair

Sam Brentano, Vice Chair

Colm Willis, Commissioner