

June 4, 2019

Oregon Senate Committee on Rules Sen. Ginny Burdick, Chair Members of the Committee

Email: srules.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: Senate Bill 10 – Relating to development in priority transportation corridors

The League of Women Voters of Lane County supports provisions to achieve greater density within the metropolitan area, as well as comprehensive long-range planning for improved transportation. We believe public transportation is essential. These principles drive our concerns about SB10, scheduled for a June 5 public hearing before the Senate Rules Committee.

SB10 would mandate a level of planning already underway in the Eugene-Springfield area. The bill's provisions would require additional resources and could disrupt these local planning efforts. Needed infrastructure also doesn't exist in all areas that could be affected. Various transit corridors offer differing challenges and opportunities, which may not be effectively accommodated by the bill. Moreover, Lane Transit District boundaries aren't congruent with Eugene and Springfield city boundaries and must account for a larger service area.

Is it zoning that is holding back denser development? What actions would encourage the housing envisioned by SB10? Would the bill increase availability of low-cost housing? In what ways can the state and local jurisdictions successfully collaborate on these issues?

Oregon's statewide land use program depends upon local implementation that recognizes local conditions. Where people live, work, play and shop and how they get there are at the heart of transit and land use planning. SB10 as written likely would have unintended and undesirable consequences, and we urge your careful consideration of its provisions.

Sincerely,

Keli M. Osborn League of Women Voters of Lane County Chair, Action Committee