



# CITY OF GRESHAM

February 3, 2020

House Committee on Behavioral Health  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Se. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 4082

Dear Chair Greenlick and Members of the Committee:

I write to express the City of Gresham's support for HB 4082, which seeks to better organize, monitor, and improve Oregon's system of behavioral health. The Gresham City Council strongly supports state investment in mental health and substance use disorder issues. Too often, local government agencies end up as the de-facto service providers for these issues, without the resources or statewide coordination necessary to remedy the situation.

As noted in the Preliminary SMS, Oregon's substance use disorder and mental health outcomes are some of the worst in the nation. Broader high-level attention to this issue, coupled with clear efforts to coordinate resources, will go far towards making meaningful progress.

The Gresham City Council's legislative priorities strongly urge state investment in this critical issue area, and the City of Gresham deeply appreciates the Committee's interest in exploring additional coordination and funding to alleviate behavioral and mental health issues in Oregon.

Sincerely,

Eric Chambers  
Government Relations Director