



CITY COUNCIL

555 Liberty St SE / Room 220 • Salem, OR 97301-3513 • 503-588-6255 • Fax 503-588-6354

February 22, 2021

Chair Fahey
Vice-Chair Campos
Vice-Chair Morgan
Members of the House Committee on Housing
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room 453
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Fahey, Vice-Chair Campos, and Vice-Chair Morgan:

I'm writing on behalf of the Salem City Council in enthusiastic support of HB 2004, which would provide the financial means for the City of Salem to establish a navigation center in our community. The recently completed State of Oregon Shelter Study identified the critical need for a navigation center in Salem.

As you know, the City of Salem, like so many other cities in Oregon, is struggling with issues related to homelessness. And while we have committed significant local resources to address this issue, the critical investment in our community following passage of HB 2004 will permit us to operate a navigation center with local service organizations. The navigation center would provide much-needed access to basic services such as toilets and potable water. Operating as a low-barrier center, the navigation center will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and provide intensive case management for each individual passing through its doors.

I am very familiar with the level of need in our community. In addition to serving on Salem City Council, I also serve as Chair of the Salem Housing Authority Commission and as Vice Chair of our regional Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance. I urge consideration of funding for these critical services for our unsheltered neighbors.

The City of Salem is requesting your support and assistance for House Bill 2004 which would provide \$5 million to proceed with the navigation center to assist unsheltered Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Chris Hoy
Salem City Council President
Salem Housing Authority Chair
Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance Vice Chair

cc: Salem Legislative Delegation

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Women, minorities, and disabled are encouraged to apply • ADA Accommodations will be provided upon request