



**Testimony by City of Wilsonville Mayor Julie Fitzgerald Supporting HB 4092:**

***Proposed Legislation Provides ‘Road Map’ for Improving Statewide Broadband Internet Telecommunications Infrastructure and Leveraging Federal Funds***

Scheduled for public hearing on Feb. 2, 2022, before the  
House Economic Recovery and Prosperity Committee

Chair Lively, Vice-Chairs Cate and Kropf, and Members of the Committee:

I am testifying in support of HB 4092 that provides a ‘road map’ for improving and extending Broadband Internet telecommunications infrastructure statewide and facilitates Oregon’s opportunity to leverage increased federal funds for public benefit.

Improving public access to high-speed broadband Internet is a crucial goal of state significance that can be advanced with passage of this legislation. The City of Wilsonville is working with the Cities of Sherwood and King City to expand Broadband access in our communities with the support of a 2021 State ARPA legislative allocation.

HB 4092 updates membership of the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council and provides new authority to coordinate with the Oregon Broadband Office. The legislation establishes a strategic framework for state and federal broadband investment and creates criteria for Oregon to work with providers to collect appropriate information and develop accurate statewide “geospatial maps” for identifying coverage gaps and implementing broadband expansion goals.

HB 4092 would institute the Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund that provides a mechanism for the State Library to use state funds for purpose of providing matching funds for federal moneys received by certain libraries for offering broadband access.

The legislation also directs the Public Utility Commission and related agencies to examine the feasibility of expanding the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program and applying residential service surcharge to support access to broadband Internet access service or other telecommunications services needed by the public in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The City appreciates your consideration this testimony and urges a Do-Pass vote on HB 4092. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Julie Fitzgerald'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Julie Fitzgerald, Mayor  
City of Wilsonville