



January 31, 2022

Representative John Lively, Chair
House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity
Oregon State Legislature
900 State Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for HB 4092

Dear Chair Lively and Members of the Committee,

I write to express my support for the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council framework being proposed in House Bill 4092. The forthcoming investments in broadband deployment are significant and critical. Broadband investments will invite expanded economic opportunity to Oregon's BIPOC, Coastal, and Rural Communities and help those disproportionately impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic recover. Expanding broadband is another step towards ensuring equitable access to education and healthcare for Oregonians. Thoughtful choices in material selection can enable this generational investment to reach more Oregonians by lowering costs and can also leverage Oregon's environmental commitment by helping to generate recycling markets and reduce carbon emissions.

Northwest Polymers, one of the largest plastic recyclers in the Northwest and Cascade Poly Pipe and Conduit, which uses recycled plastic resin to manufacture conduit applauds the approach in HB 4092. The direction in Section 1 (10)(b) to the Broadband Council to advise the Oregon Broadband office on the "resilience and sustainability" is important. As the bill contemplates federal funding for broadband deployment in Oregon, the state can use its own purchasing power to deliver projects at a lower cost, increase plastic recycling, reduce carbon emissions, and support Oregon manufacturing. I've urged Business Oregon to apply Oregon law and apply the recycled content preference ([ORS §279A.125](#)) to its grant process.

I am deeply encouraged by the strategic approach taken by this legislation and urge the House Committee on Economic Recovery and Prosperity to support HB 4092.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration of my testimony.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Shuholm", is written over the typed name.

Mark Shuholm
Owner