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## City of Sherwood Support of HB 2095 – Public Safety Improvements

Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

My name is Tim Rosener, Mayor for the City of Sherwood, and I am writing on behalf of the City in support of HB2095.

The City of Sherwood is located in southwest Washington County and spans four and a half square miles and is home to 20,496 residents. The city is bifurcated by State Highway 99W (OR99W) and multiple county roads.

Allowing municipalities to be able to operate photo radar will free up limited and valuable police resources to focus more time on higher priority calls and proactive policing. Allowing municipalities local speed authority to be more responsive the safety and wellbeing of our residents and our communities. This contributes to an overall safer community.

The City of Sherwood supports the expansion of photo enforcement. In today's challenging environment and with increasing demands on our limited police resources, photo enforcement is an effective and efficient tool for enhanced public safety enforcement. Photo enforcement frees up our officers to focus on higher priority calls and provide more opportunities for proactive active policing, a hallmark of high-performing police departments.

With the advent of crowd sourced navigation apps, we are seeing a dramatic increase in traffic cutting through are neighborhoods with a disregard for safety and speed limits. Mobile Photo enforcement is critical. We would like mobile radar enforcement expanded to School Zones and neighborhood streets as appropriate.

The City of Sherwood supports giving local jurisdictions more authority to lower speed limits to make streets safe for pedestrians and motorists. The current system of seeking approval from ODOT is cumbersome and lengthy. For Example, On February 20, 2022, the City of Sherwood suffered an unspeakable tragedy. Two juvenile girls were struck and killed along Edy Road while walking home. Edy Road is entirely located in the city limits but is a County Road with an ODOT-owned connection to OR99W. Within days, the city had begun active efforts to complete a speed study. Within weeks, our safety study was complete and indicated a speed reduction was warranted. In March of 2021, after getting support for a speed reduction from the County, the City formally submitted our reports and findings to ODOT, asking for approval to reduce speed limits. Nearly a year later, we are still waiting for ODOT to approve new reduced speed limits on Edy Road.

Solving for maximum safety on our roads is a continuous and dynamic policy and enforcement challenges. Cities like Sherwood are well positioned to understand the overall "On-the-Ground" safety dynamics enabling us to react to needed adjustments promptly to mitigate safety issues before more accidents occur. Expanded Fixed/Mobile radar enforcement tools and speed-setting authority are critical tools that need to be in the hands of the cities.

Best Regards,

Tim Rosener Mayor, City of Sherwood