

Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium

Mayor Lacey Beaty
City of Beaverton

Mayor Brian Hodson
City of Canby

Mayor Jeffrey Dalin
City of Cornelius

Mayor Gery Schirado
City of Durham

Mayor Brian Cooper
City of Fairview

Mayor Malynda Wenzl
City of Forest Grove

Mayor Travis Stovall
City of Gresham

Mayor Tom Ellis
City of Happy Valley

Mayor Steve Callaway
City of Hillsboro

Mayor Jaimie Fender
City of King City

Mayor Joe Buck
City of Lake Oswego

Mayor Michelle Montross
City of Maywood Park

Mayor Lisa Batey
City of Milwaukie

Mayor Teri Lenahan
City of North Plains

Mayor Denyse McGriff
City of Oregon City

Mayor Ted Wheeler
City of Portland

Mayor Walt Williams
City of Rivergrove

Mayor Tim Rosener
City of Sherwood

Mayor Heidi Lueb
City of Tigard

Mayor Randy Lauer
City of Troutdale

Mayor Frank Bubenik
City of Tualatin

Mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle
City of Vancouver (ex officio)

Mayor Rory Bialostosky
City of West Linn

Mayor Julie Fitzgerald
City of Wilsonville

Mayor John Miner
City of Wood Village

Senator Sollman, Co-Chair
Representative Evans, Co-Chair
Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for Senate Bill 5533

Dear Co-Chair Sollman, Co-Chair Evans, and Members of the Committee

The Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium (MMC) represents the mayors of twenty-four cities in the Portland Metro Area, collectively home to over 1.7 million Oregonians. The MMC writes to express support for SB 5533, the Department of Public Safety and Standards and Training (DPSST) budget.

The DPSST program provides training for officers to meet and maintain standards for all public safety disciplines. Post-pandemic recovery has been a challenge in all sectors of law enforcement, including recruitment and retention of trained law enforcement officers.

The DPSST Training Academy also has faced a severe staffing shortage of instructors, which has led to a large backlog of cadets waiting for training. The DPSST training program requires appropriate funding and resources to operate the program properly and efficiently. Without budgetary support, the training backlog will increase. It has been difficult for local governments to hire public safety professionals and adds insult to injury when those officials must wait many months to complete their certification and training.

On behalf of the 1.7 million Oregonians we represent, the Mayors of the MMC urge the Committee's support for SB 5533. As a good first step, we specifically appreciate the proposal to fund twenty academies in Salem - the maximum number the existing facility can accommodate. Your support for SB 5533 is critical to maximize the academy's capacity for both trainers and law enforcement trainees.

Sincerely,

The Metropolitan Mayors' Consortium