

March 27, 2023

House Committee on Economic Development and Small Business Oregon State Legislature

## **RE: Support for HB 2199**

The City of Dallas, Oregon, supports extending the sunsets of the Enterprise Zone program.

Extending the program will allow the City of Dallas, Oregon, to continue to leverage this important economic development tool to draw new investments to our region and help retain and expand existing traded sector operations. Enterprise Zones are sponsored by the local government and serve as one of the only tools we have to attract economic growth and high paying jobs.

Last year the Enterprise Zone was used to leverage the expansion projects for two Oregon-based traded sector businesses in Dallas, leading to the new investment of over \$15 million in new capital construction, machinery and equipment and dozens of new jobs. We look to continue to utilize the Enterprise Zone program to attract new investment into Dallas.

Furthermore, in alignment with the <u>recommendations</u> from the Semiconductor Task Force, passing the extension of the Enterprise Zone program early on will help send a strong signal that the state of Oregon is ready to support economic growth from the semiconductor industry.

Sincerely,

Charlie Mitchell, Economic & Community Development Director