

League of Oregon Cities Supports HB 3113 The Great Streets Program

Jim McCauley, Legislative Director

Co-Chairs Representative McLain and Senator Gorsek, Vice Co-Chairs Representative Boshart Davis and Senator Boquist, for the record I'm Jim McCauley, Legislative Director with the League of Oregon Cities.

I want to first thank the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) for identifying the importance of advancing investments in the <u>Great Streets Program</u>. As you know this program identifies and invests in safety projects to increase access to walking, biking, and transit. ODOT's focus will be on "main streets" in communities and the state highway corridors that run through communities.

The \$50 million that has been allocated to this program from the federal transportation funds in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) is a great start and we certainly support this investment. I'm hopeful this program will see a long-term commitment to the funding.

What the LOC is offering today is support for additional funding from the state to expand this program to non-state-owned facilities, effectively local roads. We believe as do our cities and partners, investments in transportation safety that improve access and create more opportunities for walking, biking, and transit will improve community livability. The addition of \$100 million into this program would be an incredible investment at the local level.

As you know from other testimony in this committee transportation infrastructure remains a critical component of the Leagues advocacy. Part of this advocacy for this session is a focus on safety improvements, which will include an expansion of funding for the Great Streets program. I'm hopeful you can support this expanded investment.