

Robb Corbett Testimony, HB 2127

Chair Jama, Vice Chair Anderson and members of the Committee:

For the record, I am Robb Corbett City Manager for the City of Pendleton.

I am here to speak in favor of House Bill 2127, which removes a deadline in order for the City to participate in an affordable housing pilot project.

Pendleton has significant challenges providing housing for those with incomes at 80% Area Median Income or less. The percent of renters that are severely burden for 2022 is 25.3%. The existing housing stock in Pendleton is dominated by single family detached homes (low density development), which accounts for almost two-thirds of its housing inventory.

The City was originally platted sight unseen in San Francisco in 1887. This process did not take into account the majority of the available land for home sites outside of the main street downtown areas to be in excess of 12 to 20% slopes, making the cost to build very costly for eastern Oregon residents. In addition, many of the platted lots have SE facing slopes providing inadequate soil depths to construct underground sewer and water infrastructure.

Pendleton's City Council has had a long standing goal to provide more housing of all types for its residents. House Bill 2127 will provide an opportunity for builders to construct affordable housing that is greatly needed in our area.

I want to thank DLCD for their assistance to date in this process and am open to any questions you might have.

Thank you,

Robb Corbett

4/26/23