



## Eugene Intergovernmental Relations

April 27, 2023

Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain  
Joint Committee on Transportation  
900 Court Se. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

### RE: Eugene Support for HB 2098

Co-Chairs Senator Fredrick and Representative McLain, Vice Chairs Boquist and Boshart-Davis, and members of the Committee, the City of Eugene supports HB 2098 -2 amendment, for the funding of the Columbia River Crossing I-5 Bridge Replacement. As you have heard, the stability and proper functioning of this bridge is critical to the economic health of the state, and of significance to Eugene, with data and information from the 2020 Eugene-Springfield Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP).

- In a Cascadia event, it is likely that Portland and Salem will also be impacted by the event and Eugene will not be able to rely on assistance from these cities. Rather, we will rely on assistance outside of our region and I-5, including the Columbia River crossing, will be critical to transporting support from outside of the region.
- “90% of food consumed locally is produced outside of the area. The vast majority of food consumed in the Eugene-Springfield area is brought in by truck and trailer on I-5 from distribution centers in San Francisco and Portland. Local grocery stores have a three-day supply of food at any one time.”
- It was also noted that almost all backup power systems in Eugene and Springfield rely on diesel or natural gas transported by pipeline from Portland and beyond.

The NHMP included the following estimates for recovery of critical services (Table 2-3) from the *Oregon Resilience Plan*:

Critical Service	Time to Recovery
Electricity	1- 3 months
Police/Fire Stations	2 - 4 months
Drinking Water	1 year
Sewer	1 month to 1 year
<b>Top-priority Highways (partially restored)</b>	<b>6 - 12 months</b>
Healthcare Facilities	18 months

A new I-5 Bridge over the Columbia River is an investment into the future of our state and resilience for our communities.

Thank you,  
//submitted electronically//

Ethan Nelson  
IGR Manager