



CITY COUNCIL

555 Liberty St SE / Room 220 • Salem, OR 97301-3513 • 503-588-6255 • Fax 503-588-6354

May 5, 2023

Co-Chair Senator Girod
Co-Chair Representative Holvey
Members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means On Capital Construction
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-Chair Senator Girod & Co-Chair Representative Holvey:

I am writing you today to urge your support for the Salem-Keizer School District's, Career Technical Education Center at the Salem Municipal Airport.

As you are aware, the Salem-Keizer School District is the second largest in the state and boasts an impressive STEM curriculum, including an Aviation program planned for the Salem Municipal Airport. This program teaches students about avionics, aircraft maintenance, drone engineering and operations, and many other skills using state-of-the-art simulators. Having this program available to our students is critical in keeping them, and our state, up to speed on current and emerging aviation technologies.

Like the City of Salem, our school district suffers from our broken property system, and being the school district of our state capitol, Salem Keizer Public Schools suffers from our huge amount of untaxed property within their boundaries. Without additional support, programs like we're discussing today would not be possible.

The City of Salem is expected to grow considerably in the next decade and will add close to 100,000 new residents to this area. To accommodate the expected residential and commercial growth, we are excited that the Salem Municipal Airport will soon begin commercial passenger flights. This program will go a long way to complement that commercial air service.

One of the six focus areas in the the Airport's Strategic Business Plan is to develop an aviation training facility at the airport, and CTEC is prepared to expand into additional aviation programs beyond their current drone program. The addition of other training programs (pilots, mechanics, air traffic controllers, fabricators, etc.) will generate a local pipeline for

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needed aviation employees. CTEC is partnering with several existing airport tenants (air traffic control, Garmin, National Guard, Flite Wing maintenance and so on) to provide some real-world on-the-job training to go along with their classroom studies. CTEC's presence at the airport combines aviation education and hands-on training, and as their program grows the City hopes to partner with them to develop a full-fledged aviation academy.

Thank you for your supporting our students, educators, and the City of Salem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "CH Hoy", is positioned above the typed name.

Mayor Chris Hoy
City of Salem

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