oeda
OREGON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
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*March 22, 2023*
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Co-Chairs Woods and Gomberg, and Members of the Committee,

OEDA is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to the service and support of Oregon's economic development practitioners on the front lines of diversifying and expanding Oregon's economy. Our association represents members and stakeholders from more than 180 public and private entities from economic development corporations, cities, counties, ports, utilities, tribes, and many other organizations interested in attracting and retaining investment here in Oregon.

We urge continued investment in the Oregon Business Development Department's (OBDD) biennial budget. OBDD, generally referred to as Business Oregon, is responsible for providing economic and community development enhancement throughout the state—the work this agency does is essential to Oregon's continued economic development.

Business Oregon administers critical programs that assist businesses, local governments, and communities across the state to grow Oregon businesses and jobs. We understand that lottery dollars are always in short supply and there is great competition for these dollars—these are our priority budget requests as these appropriations will each fill critical economic development needs:

**POP 121: Industrial Site Readiness, $50M**

- The Oregon Industrial Site Readiness Program is a key asset for areas hoping to expand or attract traded-sector businesses that create family wage jobs and provide critical tax base for public services.

- OEDA supports Business Oregon's original request of $20M, however with the recent semiconductor recruitment efforts, it is critical to provide increased funding for this economic development incentive.

**POP 090: Advanced Manufacturing Opportunity Fund, $200M**

- The Advanced Manufacturing Opportunity Fund supports essential advanced manufacturing opportunities, including semiconductors, and leverages federal funds, including the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 and the Inflation Reduction Acts of 2022.

- This funding will enhance the state's ability to retain and recruit other large and small manufacturing operations resulting in a range of long-term, well-paying jobs in both our rural and urban communities.

**POP 107: SPWF Matching Funds, $15,724,205 Other Funds (Lottery Bonds)**

- This fund provides market rate and below market rate loans and some grants for municipal infrastructure and other facilities that support economic and community development.

- Specifically, the fund is used to build/rebuild essential infrastructure including levees, water systems, sewer systems, fiber/broadband, and roads. Without infrastructure, there is not capacity for business growth nor housing for employee growth.

Each of these policy option package investments will support long-term economic growth, particularly in rural Oregon by focusing on infrastructure and economic development needs that directly support business expansion and job expansion. We urge your support.

Sincerely,

Caitlyn Quwenikov
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