



CITY COUNCIL

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February 9, 2024

Chair Representative Nancy Nathanson
Vice Chair, Representative E. Werner Reschke
Vice Chair, Representative Jules Walters
Members of the House Committee on Revenue
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Reschke, Vice-Chair Walters, and Members of the House Committee on Revenue:

I'm writing on behalf of the Salem City Council in support of House Bill 4072, which would provide vital funding support to Salem's fire, police and emergency services. These services are typically funded through property taxes, which the State does not pay. While Cities across Oregon are struggling to meet the service needs of our communities due to structural imbalances between revenues and expenditures, rooted in property tax ballot Measures 5 and 50, Salem's need is unique.

In Salem, our challenge funding basic emergency services is exacerbated by the loss of at least \$7.5 million each year due to the prevalence of State government properties in the city. As the State Capitol of Oregon, without a payment in lieu of taxes, emergency services to these state-owned properties are effectively subsidized by Salem taxpayers.

We strongly encourage your support for our community, emergency services, and for House Bill 4072.

Sincerely,

Mayor Chris Hoy
City of Salem

cc: Salem Legislative Delegation

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Women, minorities, and disabled are encouraged to apply • ADA Accommodations will be provided upon request