



April 7, 2025

Rep. Pam Marsh, Chair, and Committee Members
House Committee on Housing and Homelessness
State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 3939 - Infrastructure for Housing

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Andersen, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, and Committee members:

1000 Friends of Oregon supports HB 3939, and the -1 amendment. 1000 Friends is a statewide nonprofit organization. We have worked with Oregonians for 50 years to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choices. We have long focused on statewide land use planning Goal 10, Housing, to ensure that Oregon's cities and the state deliver diverse, affordable, and sufficient housing in every neighborhood.

House Bill 3939 directs the Oregon Business Development Department to provide specified grant amounts to ten named cities for specified infrastructure projects that will support housing developments in which at least 30% of the homes will be affordable to those with moderate incomes. The bill also requires that:

- the infrastructure project is within the city's urban growth boundary and will contribute to housing development in the UGB;
- the infrastructure project will be completed within 60 months of fund disbursement; and
- the city has identified a planned housing development that will be primarily benefited by the infrastructure project.

A primary impediment to providing the housing Oregonians need, where they need it, has been the lack of infrastructure for much of the vacant residential land already inside Oregon's towns and cities, and the lack of local capacity to finance these projects. HB 3939 is a critical step forward to meet these needs. It is aimed at taking to the finish line specified infrastructure projects and the housing that depends on their completion. We urge you to support HB 3939, with the -1 amendment.

Sincerely,

Mary Kyle McCurdy
Associate Director