



Eugene Mayor's Office
Kaarin Knudson

February 4, 2026

Representative Daniel Nguyen, Chair
House Committee On Economic Development, Small Business, and Trade
900 Court Se. NE
Salem, OR 97301

The City of Eugene fully supports Governor Kotek's request for a \$40M site readiness investment contained within HB 4088. This investment in Business Oregon's Industrial Site Loan Fund is a game changer for local governments like Eugene. As this committee heard during January Legislative Days, Eugene's Clear Lake Road project is a perfect example of how the Legislature's investments can make a tremendous difference in economic prosperity across the state.

The 650-acre [Clear Lake Industrial Area](#) is located in northwest Eugene and includes 11 large sites that hold the potential to add up to 6,000 new jobs in the region. As you may know, the southern Willamette Valley region lags behind the rest of the state economically, where wages are 82% of the state average. With its good highway access and proximity to the Eugene Airport, the Clear Lake Area offers much needed large and flat industrial parcels to the Willamette Valley. The prioritization of this project by the Eugene City Council and the Eugene Chamber of Commerce speaks to the development of this area as key to our economic future through support for local business to expand and to attract new traded-sector businesses to our state.

Industrial site readiness projects take time and require investments from multiple different sources, hence Eugene's support of the Governor's request for additional state funding for Business Oregon's existing Site Readiness program. State funding from 2025 has allowed Eugene to move forward on Phase One of the infrastructure project and we are currently in the bid stage for the design of the wastewater collection system. This project is a critical investment in industrial land readiness and helps address the statewide demand for large, developable, industrially zoned sites.

Governor Kotek's focus on economic prosperity aligns with key priorities for our region and the City of Eugene. Adjacent to the Clear Lake Road Industrial site is the Eugene Airport which is currently in a multi-year redevelopment effort ([LiftOffEug](#)) that is forecasted to create over \$3 billion-dollar annual regional economic impact. Lastly, a state investment into industrial site readiness clearly aligns with the [Southern Willamette Innovation Corridor](#)'s vision to strengthen regional competitiveness, deepen university and industry partnerships, and build the foundations of a world-class innovation ecosystem. The legislature's support is critical for our regional economy to grow and thrive.

Thank you for your time and on behalf of the City of Eugene, I urge your support of Governor Kotek's request for \$40 million-dollar Industrial Site Readiness investment contained within HB 4088.

Sincerely,

Mayor Kaarin Knudson