



February 4, 2026

Senator Janeen Sollman, Chair
900 Court St. NE, S-207
Salem, OR 97301

RE: SB 1526 – Forge Act

Chair Sollman, and members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

The League of Oregon Cities represents 241 incorporated cities geographically dispersed throughout Oregon's diverse landscape. We are grateful for the opportunity to be before you today to testify with provisional support for SB 1526 and forthcoming amendments.

Passing SB 1526 with proposed amendments and establishing of the FORGE Act provides a vital resource cities may access to support municipal public works projects that otherwise may have trouble getting off the ground. A recent infrastructure survey shows that the backlog for public works infrastructure projects in Oregon cities is in billions of dollars.

Additionally, and paramount to cities, responsibly expanding and modernizing infrastructure through public works projects supports multifaceted and significant local economic improvement, especially for a small city. Municipal public projects create high-wage jobs that bolster the local tax base and stimulate local spending with suppliers supporting projects, food/lodging, and other local spending. Essential infrastructure development also promotes economic opportunity as business industries and developers understand that new infrastructure will meet their business needs.

Thank you for your attention to the amendments that have been requested, and for bringing this concept forward.

Greg Miller
League of Oregon Cities