

February 18, 2026

Chair Nathanson, Vice Chairs Reschke and Walters, and Committee:

I testified on behalf of the City of Gresham in favor of HB 4084A during the public testimony yesterday. We continue to support the changes that update this program that align with today's economy.

However, the one area that we do not support is the additional years being added to the program. While having an enterprise zone to use as a tool to spur economic growth in certain areas, it is not without the loss of general funds. Even though we will get a healthy return on that investment, the city must still deal with the loss of the property taxes until that return is realized.

This balance is delicate at best. If the addition of 5 years is added to this program, I would not be able to support any additional enterprise zone applications. The scale would be tipped to our city not being able to bridge the temporary gap of funding until the property came back online.

I urge you to keep the current timeframe as is with no changes.

The enterprise zone is a tool we can use, but only if it doesn't cause more harm than good.

Respectfully,

Cathy Keathley  
Council President  
City of Gresham