



# City of Brookings

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February 24, 2026

Attn: House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection 900 Court St. NE  
Salem OR 97301

**Re: Legislative Support for Senate Bill 1585 - Grant Match Relief for Small Cities**

Chair Sosa, Vice Chairs Chaichi & Osborne, and Committee Members:

I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 1585. Like many small communities, we face significant and unavoidable infrastructure needs while operating with limited revenue options. We depend upon grants and user-based revenues. For a small city with a lean operating budget, setting aside large match amounts often means delaying projects, piecing together funding over many years, or foregoing critical infrastructure work altogether. This is not a matter of poor planning-it is simply a function of scale.

SB 1585 addresses this issue in a practical and proportional way. For our City, the proposed match caps recognize our fiscal reality while ensuring our existing local commitment. Just as important, allowing grant funds to be used for planning, engineering, and project support reflects how infrastructure projects work in small jurisdictions, where those costs can be as challenging as construction itself. SB 1585 does not eliminate local responsibility. It makes state investment workable for us and others who lack the tax base, while still safeguarding public dollars and encouraging timely, well-planned projects.

Wendy Giordano, City of Brookings Grant/Project Manager adds, *“With a 2025 population of 6,829, Brookings falls within the 5,000–7,500 population tier under SB 1585. We are currently facing an unplanned \$500,000 chlorine injection system installation due to updated state regulatory requirements. The City did not budget for this project and does not have available funds to cover it. We are already carrying debt for other critical water infrastructure improvements, which limits our financial flexibility. If we were to pursue state infrastructure funding with a traditional 25% match requirement, we would need to contribute \$125,000 in local funds — an amount we simply do not have. Under SB 1585’s proposed 7% cap for cities our size, that local obligation would be reduced to \$35,000, a difference of \$90,000. For a small City with constrained revenue capacity and existing infrastructure debt, that reduction could determine whether a required compliance project moves forward or is delayed.”*

Thank you for your consideration of Senate Bill 1585, and I urge your support. This change would have a real, immediate impact on small cities across Oregon that are trying to maintain essential infrastructure responsibly and transparently.

Respectfully,

Mayor Phoebe Pereda on behalf of City Council  
City of Brookings, Oregon