



December 5, 2018

Clackamas County
2051 Kaen Rd
Oregon City, OR 97045

RE: Support for Clackamas County to enact a Vehicle Registration Fee

Dear Board of County Commissioners:

On behalf of the City of Lake Oswego, we support Clackamas County's consideration to enact a countywide vehicle registration fee (VRF). This would provide the cities and county with greater ability and additional resources to address congestion, safety and maintenance needs on our roads.

Clackamas County is the only one of the three Portland metropolitan area counties that has no local source of transportation revenue. As we have discussed at the Clackamas County Coordinating Committee (C4), new, stable and locally controlled revenue will help the county and cities promote local values such as addressing maintenance needs on aging roadways, and will support opportunities for new projects needed to keep traffic moving reliably and safely throughout our growing region. Additionally, proposals at C4 to create a strategic investments fund from potential county VRF revenue offers a new tool to promote cross jurisdictional coordination to meet our mutual congestion relief and maintenance objectives.

Lake Oswego's allocation of funds through the vehicle registration fee will make a significant impact on our city's long term goal of addressing our backlog of pavement preservation and road reconstruction needs.

We recognize and appreciate that passage of a local funding ordinance can be a challenge, but it is also necessary to respond to countywide needs such as crumbling roads and ever-increasing commute times. We support Clackamas County making a bold decision today to address local funding needs through passage of a VRF by ordinance.

Sincerely,

Kent Studebaker
MAYOR