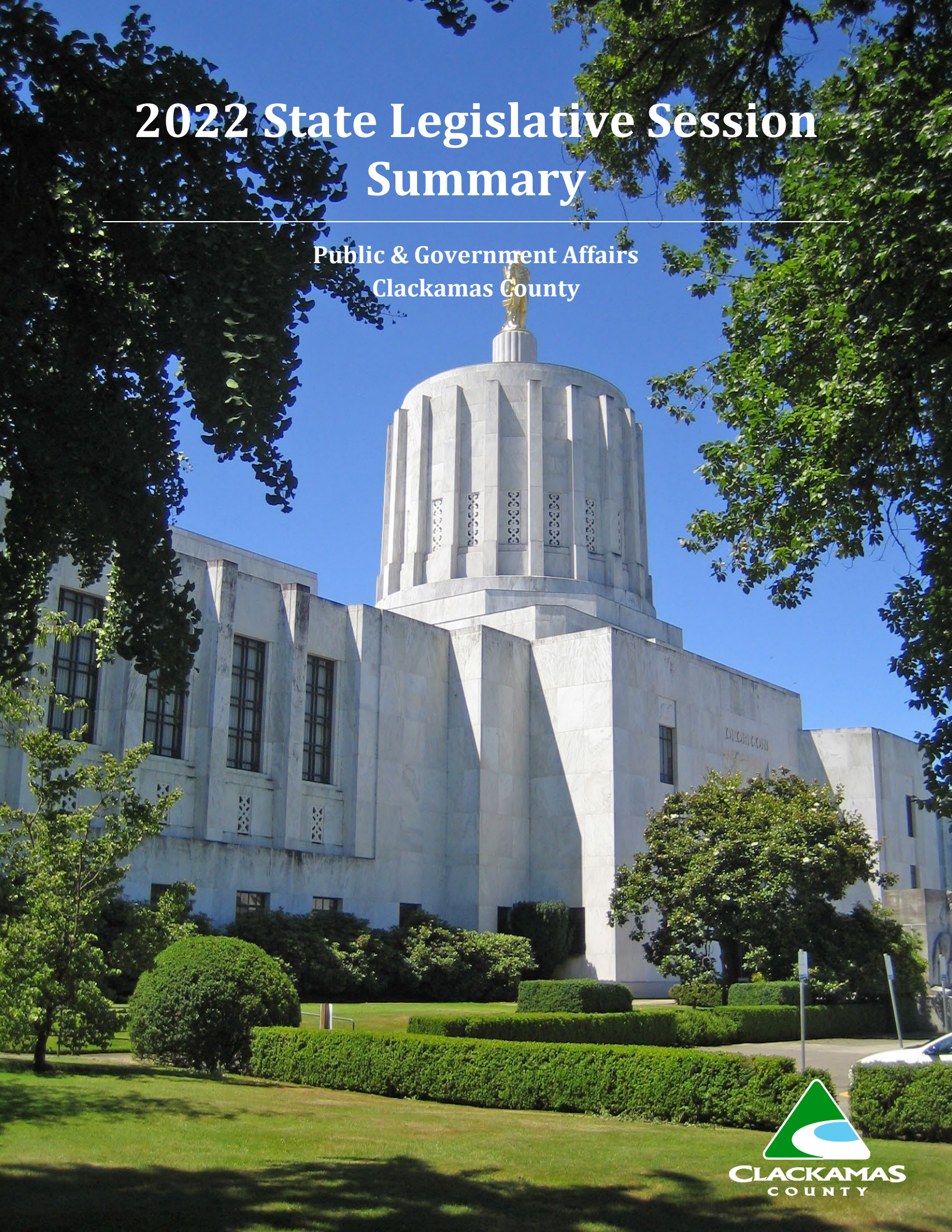


2022 State Legislative Session Summary

Public & Government Affairs
Clackamas County



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2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY

2022 Session Review and Look Ahead

Capitol Dynamics and Interim Preview

From the beginning, the 2022 short session was filled with partisan tension. It manifested itself in the requirement that every bill be read word for word to slow down bill passage. And that strategy worked as nearly 300 bills were introduced and a little over 40 will actually make it to the Governor's desk. While walkouts have become commonplace, both the House and Senate adjourned at 11:59am on Friday, March 4 – 3 days ahead of Constitutional Sine Die.

The magic salve to keep legislators in the capitol for the duration of session? Money. We knew from the November economic forecast that the state was flush (up \$1.7 billion), but no one predicted another \$800 million on top of that in the February forecast. Additionally, another \$400 million in unspent agency funds were available. By the end of session, the Legislature was able to allocate \$2.2 billion.

Moving past the 2022 legislative session, we are about to embark on the largest turnover in Oregon politics in decades thanks to departures due to redistricting, burnout, legislator pay, and for Governor Brown, term limits. Over 30 new legislators are anticipated to walk into the building in the 2023 legislative session, testing institutional knowledge while also bringing fresh energy. They'll be joined by a new Governor and new Senate President.

Clackamas Caucus

With the support of Public and Government Affairs (PGA), Clackamas County's state legislative delegation formed a legislative caucus in 2019 to represent the diverse communities and address key issues affecting county residents. The bicameral and bipartisan caucus is comprised of 15 members from the county's delegation, including 5 Senators and 10 Representatives. Led by Co-Chairs Rep. Mark Meek and Rep. Rick Lewis, Caucus members met throughout the legislative session to discuss issues and foster a team-oriented approach to their legislative advocacy. In 2022, the Caucus focused primarily on funding for the Clackamas County Courthouse and solutions to address the I-205 Improvements Project and tolling.

Department Support and Bill Tracking

PGA both supports and relies on county departments in order to be successful during the legislative session. PGA works collaboratively with each department to designate a primary legislative liaison to work closely with department directors and ensure subject matter experts review each bill relevant to their respective department. This activity requires countless hours to review legislation and amendments, craft and implement legislative strategy, and develop written and spoken testimony.

275 bills were introduced in the 2022 session, of which Clackamas County Government Affairs staff actively tracked 214 (78%) that were related to local government. Of those bills, PGA closely tracked 21 that were considered high priority legislation. Ultimately the county took positions on 6 bills/issues.

In addition to providing legislative support to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and county departments, PGA worked cooperatively with numerous external partners during the session to advance the County's legislative agenda. These groups included state legislators and their staff; legislative committee staff; state agency officials; various state lobby associations, including the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) and League of Oregon Cities (LOC); and other regional and local government partners.

Key Dates and Deadlines for the 2022 Interim and 2023 Regular Session

The 2022 Election will fill three open seats in the Clackamas Caucus and appoint a new Governor for the State of Oregon. All interim Legislative Days will be virtual.

- Primary election: May 17
- June Legislative Days (committee hearings): June 1-3
- Deadline for state agencies to request legislation for the 2023 session: July 8
- September Legislative Days (committee hearings): September 21-23
- Deadline for legislators to request pre-session filed legislation for 2023: September 23
- General Election: November 8
- Deadline for Legislative Counsel to return draft bill concepts: December 5
- December Legislative Days (committee hearings): December 7-9
- Deadline to pre-session file legislation for the 2023 legislative session: December 21
- 2023 legislative session commencement: January 17, 2023

COUNTY INITIATIVES

Initiatives are policy objectives that lead Clackamas County’s state advocacy efforts. They will directly affect Clackamas County in a meaningful way, are in the County’s Performance Clackamas Goals, or otherwise might not advance if not for Clackamas County.

The county adopted two initiatives for the 2022 legislative session, including funding for the Clackamas County Courthouse Replacement Project and the I-205 Improvements Project. Details of the work and outcomes related to these initiatives are below.

Courthouse Replacement Project			
BILL	SUMMARY	POSITION	OUTCOME
HB 5202	\$94.5 Million for the Clackamas County Courthouse	SUPPORT	PASSED
<p>While the 2021 Legislative session authorized \$94.5 million for the Clackamas County Courthouse, a budget note report was required to Joint Ways & Means in January 2022 before the expenditure limitation would be considered in the February short session.</p> <p>The budget note report was submitted during Legislative interim days prior to the start of session. The report was accepted with Rep. Janelle Bynum casting a lone dissent vote and calling for more enhanced minority contractor requirements in the county process. We followed up with Rep. Bynum, sharing that the Construction Career Pathways Project (C2P2) was incorporated into project plans and that Disadvantaged, Minority-Owned, Women-Owned, Emerging Small Businesses, Service Disabled Veterans Business Enterprises (D/M/W/ESB/SDVBE) subcontractor goals would be added. We also confirmed that a “public dashboard” tracking the progress on these goals would be a requirement in the RFP. Rep. Bynum then signaled her support for the expenditure limitation.</p> <p>While the budget note report was submitted, an additional requirement was a copy of the final master funding agreement. After numerous conversations between Clackamas County, the Oregon Judicial Department (OJD), and the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ), the parties were able to finalize the agreement by February 14. In a follow-up meeting, the Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) signaled they were satisfied with the information provided and deferred to the Joint Ways & Means committee for a final decision on the expenditure limitation. In the final days of session, HB 5202 was posted and the expenditure limitation was included in Section 121.</p> <p>This successful legislative outcome can in large part be attributed to the support of the Clackamas Caucus. County staff met weekly with the Caucus, who helped to author a letter to the Ways & Means Co-Chairs and presiding officers in support of the expenditure limitation. Individual members also conducted outreach to their peers to ensure that the provision would be included in the end of session bill.</p>			

I-205 Improvements Project

BILL	SUMMARY	POSITION	OUTCOME
SJR 204	Clackamas Caucus Expresses I-205 Tolling Concerns	N/A	TBD

The topic of tolling I-205 was top of mind for members of the Clackamas Caucus, with Senate Majority Leader Rob Wagner summarizing “there is bi-partisan, region wide concern” with ODOT’s plans. Meanwhile, Sen. Bill Kennemer and others members introduced SJR 204, which proposed an amendment to the Oregon Constitution requiring a public vote on tolls. The bill failed to get a hearing.

In the first week of session, the Clackamas Caucus sent a letter to the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC) to express their concerns. To date, a response has not been provided. Clackamas County staff also met with Joint Transportation Co-Chair Susan McLain to share the county’s perspective and request her assistance on the issues.

On March 3, the Clackamas Caucus wrote the Oregon federal delegation asking for support elevating the availability of federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funds for the I-205 Improvement Project and expressing opposition to tolling I-205 exclusively ahead of the rest of the region. Their letter could not have been delivered at a better time, arriving just hours before each member of the delegation was meeting with ODOT staff.

COUNTY PRIORITIES

Priorities are policy objectives that are elevated because of their impact to Clackamas County, or that directly affect the work, residents, or businesses of Clackamas County. Priorities are often (not always) different from initiatives because of their scale or broader inclusion of other stakeholders impacted by the policies, yet still affecting Clackamas County.

The county adopted two priorities for the 2022 legislative session. Those were support for policies and funding to address the housing crisis and improve housing stability for low income households and support for legislation that provides state indemnification of local governments in cases where the county is acting on behalf of the state to provide services. Details of the work and outcomes related to these priorities are below.

Address the Housing Crisis and Improve Housing Stability			
BILL	SUMMARY	PRIORITY	OUTCOME
HB 5202	Housing Package	SUPPORT	PASSED

Addressing homelessness

- \$80 million – Address immediate homelessness needs statewide, including shelter infrastructure and operations, rapid rehousing, resource referrals, and housing stability. **This will utilize the community action network, resulting in funding coming to Clackamas County.**
- \$50 million – Project Turnkey 2.0, for the Oregon Community Foundation to make grants by Dec. 31, 2023, for community supported projects to convert motels **and other existing structures** to shelters and temporary housing
- \$25 million – Grants to local governments for shelter capacity, hygiene needs, and outreach to people experiencing homelessness. **\$2 million directly allocated to Clackamas County.**
- \$8 million – Support coordinated regional responses to homelessness across the state ([HB 4123](#))
- \$1.2 million – Services and tuition help for homeless youth ([HB 4013](#))
- \$500,000 – Support data-driven policymaking in local governments and improve governmental coordination.

Building and preserving affordable housing

- \$65 million Preservation – Keep affordable housing affordable for families in supported units, preventing displacement
- \$55 million – Invest in building new affordable homes to rent and buy
- \$50 million – Support affordable housing construction projects struggling with market and supply chain disruptions due to the pandemic
- \$35 million – Acquire manufactured housing parks to keep them affordable; seed investment to produce new affordable manufactured homes
- \$10 million – Support land acquisition for affordable housing projects

<i>Supporting homeownership</i>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$15 million – Increase capacity for homeownership centers and other nonprofits that help families navigate homeownership, mortgages, and the home buying process. • \$5 million – Launch a home loan program managed by Hacienda CDC to help first-time homebuyers across the state to make down payments. 			
NONE	Affordable Housing Rent Recovery	SUPPORT	FAILED
<p>In the final days of session, housing authorities across the state sent letters to the Ways & Means Co-Chairs in support of including \$15 million for rent assistance. The Clackamas County Housing Authority sent a letter with this request. Unfortunately, funding was not provided in the end of session bills.</p>			
<u>SB 1536</u>	Access to Cooling	NONE	PASSED
<p>SB 1536 makes new requirements on landlords that will allow tenants, in certain situations, to install air conditioning in their units. It also allocates \$15 million toward grants that will purchase new AC units and heat pumps for low income households.</p>			

State Indemnification of Local Governments			
BILL	SUMMARY	PRIORITY	OUTCOME
N/A	OHA Oregon State Hospital Cost Sharing/Aid & Assist	NONE	FAILED
<p>Just prior to session the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs (AOCMHP) learned that the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) was considering bringing forward a bill proposing that counties be issued a penalty if there is an individual ready to transition from the State Hospital, but there is no appropriate community placement for them. This proposal was also recommended by the court’s neutral expert in the Mink/Bowman case (Dr. Pinals) regarding capacity issues at the State Hospital. AOCMHP sent a letter of opposition to OHA, legislative leadership, and members of the House Behavioral Health Committee.</p> <p>OHA had conversations with many legislators asking them to add their proposal as an amendment to their bills. They also presented it as a solution when presenting to the House Behavioral Health Committee about capacity issues at the State Hospital. Ultimately, every legislator denied the agency’s request to have the cost sharing proposal added to their bills.</p> <p>In the final days of session we heard that the agency was instead pushing for a budget note to instruct them to study cost sharing and that there was interest on the Senate side in supporting this. AOCMHP and partners worked quickly to push back on the idea that this was necessary and offered alternative language for a budget note that did not presuppose cost sharing as a solution to a very complicated problem. When the budget documents were released, no budget note on Aid and Assist or State Hospital capacity issues was included.</p> <p>We expect this issue to return in the interim and will work with partners to determine a path forward.</p>			

OTHER SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION

Clackamas County tracks other significant legislation based on a set of principles approved in the county’s annual State Legislative Agenda. Principles inform the county how to respond to legislative issues that might not be captured by the Initiatives or Priorities, but still affect the communities or operations of the county.

Clackamas County Principle: Grow a Vibrant Economy			
BILL	SUMMARY	POSITION	OUTCOME
SB 1545	Governor Workforce Bill	SUPPORT	PASSED
<p>Governor Brown’s \$200 million Future Ready Oregon proposal sought to expand programs connecting Oregonians to workforce education and remove barriers for those who have been historically underserved or disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. The bill aims to make industry more competitive as it prepares and connects Oregonians to high-demand, high-wage career openings.</p> <p>Early in session, H3S noted that the bill, as drafted, would exclude counties as potential recipients of workforce training grants. As the only entity in Clackamas County that continued to provide workforce training throughout the pandemic, this appeared to be a major oversight. Clackamas County approached the Governor’s Office with an amendment request, which they were happy to oblige. The bill was amended to include ‘government entities’ as potential workforce development organizations that can receive grant funds authorized in the bill. Clackamas County provided a policy statement in support of the bill, noting the amendments. The amended bill passed both chambers.</p>			

Clackamas County Principle: Build a Strong Infrastructure			
BILL	SUMMARY	PRIORITY	OUTCOME
HB 4092	Broadband Omnibus Bill	NONE	PASSED
<p>Bill enables the newly formed Oregon Broadband Office to receive and efficiently deploy federal revenue with the goal of expanding broadband services across the state.</p>			

Clackamas County Principle: Honor, Utilize, Promote, & Invest in our Natural Resources

BILL	SUMMARY	PRIORITY	OUTCOME
NONE	House Special Committee on Wildfire Recovery	NONE	NONE

On February 7, Chair Smith and Daniel Nibouar, Interim Director of Disaster Management, testified to the House Special Committee on Wildfire Recovery, alongside other counties that experienced the devastating effects of the 2020 Labor Day wildfires. Both speakers noted gratitude to the State Legislature for their swift action in 2021 to provide recovery resources, while also highlighting the opportunity to address wildfire prevention and additional ongoing policies that will allow local agencies the ability to respond faster and recover more quickly.

Moving forward, Representative Evans will convene a Disaster Recovery Authority Work Group that will seek to address local and statewide needs following major disasters.

Clackamas County Principle: Ensure Safe, Healthy, and Secure Communities

BILL	SUMMARY	PRIORITY	OUTCOME
HB 4082 & HB 4095	Veterans Bills	NONE	FAILED

HB 4082 – Relating to Veterans’ Remains. This bill moved quickly out of the House early in session without a referral to Ways & Means despite the fact that it would create significant work at the county level for veteran service officers. County staff shared our concerns with relevant committees and learned that the fiscal had been deemed “indeterminate” by AOC. Subsequently, the bill had a public hearing in the Senate Veterans’ Committee but did not move forward after testimony sparked questions on the following three areas: 1) Why no fiscal for the bill when there is extra work to be accomplished by County Veterans Service Officers (CVSOs), 2) potential number of unclaimed remains in any particular county, and 3) extra level of work expected of the CVSOs.

The Senate Chair understood the work that was being asked of the counties and, while he was clear that the work laid out in the bill is important, he also made it clear how important it is to do the work correctly. He moved the bill to Ways and Means, but at the late date in session that this occurred, the bill did not get scheduled for a subsequent hearing and died.

HB 4095 – Relating to Dental Insurance for Veterans. Clackamas County’s concern with this bill was that it put CVSOs in the position of determining if a veteran with an ‘other than honorable’ discharge would qualify for dental insurance. This would have created a precedent that CVSOs did not want to see. They currently play the role of benefit advocate for veterans – not adjudicators – and they did not want to cross that line. We participated in a meeting with the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs (ODVA) and other counties where we discussed ways that ODVA could take on that role. In the end, we were successful and the bill was amended. It will be a combination of ODVA and Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services that determines eligibility, not the CVSOs.

HB 5202	Early Childhood Investments	NONE	PASSED
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Summer Learning Package:
 The Legislature allocated \$150 million for summer learning investments. The funds will be split into three buckets: 1) K-8 enrichment grants (which is likely to be expanded to Pre-K), 2) high school academic grants, and 3) summer community activity grants (to ensure community based organizations can participate). Additional program details are forthcoming.

Final funding allocations on early learning investments:

- \$3.6 million for operations costs to establish the Department of Early Learning & Care – request was \$4.2 million
- \$21 million for the Oregon Center for Career Development (this is to provide two annual \$500 recognition and retention payments to people currently working in early childhood) – fully funded
- \$22 million for Seeding Justice to create a child care capacity building grant program – fully funded
- \$7.9 million for the United We Heal Training Trust for child care services (a partnership of AFSCME and Unite OR) – fully funded
- \$1.2 million for Euvalcree to renovate and strengthen their child care training center – fully funded
- \$8.2 million for Neighbor Impact to support child care start up in Central Oregon – fully funded
- \$26 million for rate increases, which is in [HB 4005](#).

HB 4004 & HB 5202	Behavioral Health Workforce	NONE	PASSED
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AOCMHP put forward a bill to address behavioral health workforce retention, proposing a \$132 million grant program for providers to increase compensation for existing staff, pay a retention bonus, or hire new staff. The concept was introduced as HB 4004, a House Behavioral Health Committee bill.

County-run community mental health programs (CMHPs), like Clackamas, began to explore possible implications of the bill for the equal pay law and union bargaining. AOCMHP coordinated a meeting with several CMHP directors, county HR staff and county counsels. An amendment to the bill was drafted to assuage many of those concerns. When the bill was voted out of committee, Clackamas County’s amendment was adopted. The bill unanimously passed Ways and Means, later passing the House unanimously and Senate 24-2.

One piece of the conversation that was pervasive throughout the discussions on HB 4004 was that a grant program is only a short-term fix and that the state needed a more permanent solution to address the low reimbursement rate for behavioral health professionals. In response to this the legislature allocated \$42.5 million in a special purpose appropriation to increase provider payment rates an average of 30% for behavioral health related Medicaid services.

HB 4098	Opioids Settlement Enabling Legislation	SUPPORT	PASSED
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HB 4098 is a bill that provides a legal framework for the dispersal of the state portion of the opioid settlement funds awarded to Oregon.

A couple of weeks prior to session we learned that the Department of Justice (DOJ) was interested in proposing a bill in 2022 related to the state portion of the settlement funds. Several meetings with DOJ, the Governor’s office, AOC, the League of Oregon Cities, AOCMHP, and individual counties were held to talk through what the bill would look like. The group discussed the best makeup of a board/commission to make decisions about how settlement funds would be spent statewide in accordance with the parameters of the settlement. Ultimately the following makeup of the “Opioid Settlement Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Board” was determined:

The Board consists of:

- (a) The following members appointed by the Governor:
 - (A) A policy advisor to the Governor;
 - (B) A representative of the Department of Justice;
 - (C) A representative of the Oregon Health Authority; and
 - (D) A representative of the Department of Human Services;
- (b) The Director of the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission or the director’s designee;
- (c) The chairperson of the Oversight and Accountability Council established in ORS 430.388 or the chairperson’s designee;
- (d) The following members appointed by the Governor from a list of candidates provided by the Association of Oregon Counties and the League of Oregon Cities or the successor organizations to the Association of Oregon Counties and the League of Oregon Cities:
 - (A) An individual representing Clackamas, Washington or Multnomah County;**
 - (B) An individual representing Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Curry, Jackson, Josephine, Lane or Yamhill County;
 - (C) An individual representing the City of Portland;
 - (D) An individual representing a city with a population above 10,000 residents as of July 21, 2021;
 - (E) An individual representing a city with a population at or below 10,000 residents as of July 21, 2021; and
 - (F) A representative of the Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials or its successor organization;
- (e) The following members appointed by the Governor from a list of candidates provided by the members described in paragraphs (a) to (d) of this subsection:
 - (A) A representative of a community mental health program;**
 - (B) An individual who has experienced a substance use disorder or a representative of an organization that advocates on behalf of individuals with substance use disorders; and
 - (C) An individual representing law enforcement, first responders or jail commanders or wardens;
- (f) A member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, who shall be a nonvoting member of the board;
- (g) A member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, who shall be a nonvoting member of the board; and

The bill moved out of House Behavioral Health, Subcommittee on Human Services, and the Full Committee on Ways and Means unanimously. In the final week of session it passed out of the House and Senate unanimously.

HB 4081	Naloxone Co-Prescribing	SUPPORT	FAILED
<p>In an effort to prevent opioid overdoses, HB 4081 would require pharmacists who dispense opioid prescriptions to offer a prescription for naloxone (or a similar drug) – a medication that is frequently used in the treatment of opioid addiction and overdose. At Rep. Rachel Prusak’s request, the county signed on in support of the bill and added our logo to a coalition factsheet. The bill was opposed by pharmacists and it ultimately died in committee.</p>			
NONE	Public Health Funding	NONE	FAILED
<p>On the heels of a global pandemic, and despite a compelling case and strong effort, a \$25 million funding request for public health did not get the blessing from the powers that be, and no new money was allocated to public health. Partners anticipate working on a request with OHA during the interim in order for the proposal to be part of the next Governor’s proposed budget. We will coordinate with CLHO and the other counties on this work during the interim.</p>			
HB 4144	Public Health After Action Report	NONE	PASSED
<p>This bill began as a very different idea, several months prior to the start of session. The Chief Sponsor, Sen. Steiner-Hayward, was concerned about some aspects of the public response to the COVID-19 pandemic. After several meetings with AOC and CLHO, the original ideas were adjusted to an ‘after action report’ on the pandemic response, which was supported by counties including Clackamas.</p> <p>The bill received a hefty fiscal, but was still funded. There is an opportunity to link the work done through this report to a request for additional public health funding in 2023.</p> <p>While HB 4144 was worked in the Joint Rules Committee, Clackamas County Public Health Director Philip Mason-Joyner testified to the House Special Committee on COVID-19 Response, working on parallel findings to identify action items from COVID-19, noting Clackamas County’s infection and vaccination rates, and the importance of regional collaboration, more flexible/efficient funding models, and collaboration with community based organizations.</p>			
HB 5202	Behavioral Health Housing	NONE	PASSED
<p>The legislature allocated \$100 million to OHA to expand the availability of housing and residential treatment beds for people with behavioral health issues. The funds will be distributed to CMHPs in order to provide an array of supported housing and residential treatment, relieve bottlenecks in the continuum of care, and address health inequities and housing access disparities. The funds are to be used to repurpose or build new secure residential treatment facilities, residential treatment homes, and other types of necessary housing; support operational and administrative expenses related to managing housing; provide supportive services; pay for planning, coordination, siting, and purchasing buildings or land; provide subsidies for short-term shelter beds and long-term stable rental assistance; and support outreach and engagement. The distribution of the funds are expected to be made via formula through CMHP contracts and include input from community members.</p>			

Clackamas County Principle: Build Public Trust through Good Government

BILL	SUMMARY	PRIORITY	OUTCOME
HB 4110	Public Meeting Oversight	NONE	FAILED
<p>HB 4110 was introduced by Rep. Courtney Neron and would have expanded the Oregon Government Ethics Commission’s ability to investigate public meetings – including those of local governments. The bill ultimately failed to receive a work session and did not advance.</p> <p>AOC opposed the bill as written, and proposed suggestions for improvement that would have helped local agencies. Clackamas County monitored the bill, which would have put the funding requirements of audits on the county as well as divert significant staff attention to meet the needs of audits.</p>			
HB 1582	Rural Fire Protection District Annexation	NONE	FAILED
<p>Like in 2021, advocates made another attempt to give rural fire providers the ability to expand their districts with seemingly little to no public process. AOC took the lead in opposing this bill. It remains unclear what problem this is trying to solve that requires statewide legislation.</p> <p>Concerns by Clackamas staff included the inability for the public or affected residents to participate in the decision process for establishing new taxing boundaries and the implications for other special districts wanting similar leniency to expand their district boundaries. Late attempts were made to amend the bill to improve public participation, but the session was well underway and the bill ultimately died.</p>			

Appendix A

Clackamas County 2022 State Legislative Agenda

2022 Clackamas County

State Legislative Policy Agenda



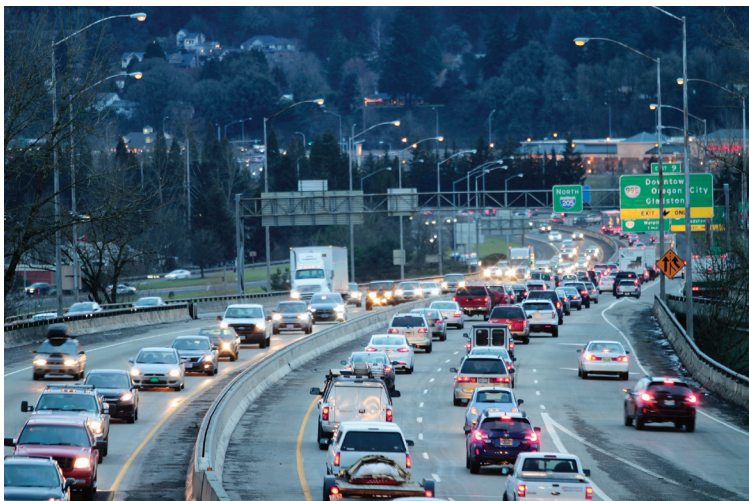
Clackamas County is truly urban, suburban, rural, and wild. We are dedicated to welcoming new residents and businesses, and committed to delivering community services that are dependable, accessible, and equitable to the public.

COUNTY INITIATIVES



Courthouse Replacement Project

Secure final approval on the legislatively-authorized \$94.5 million in state bond funds to support the replacement of the 84-year old, structurally-deficient Clackamas County Courthouse. These state matching funds will support the design, engineering, and construction phases of the project to construct a new, modern courthouse that serves the needs of all county residents.



I-205 Improvements Project

Advocate for state action to resolve traffic congestion and diversion caused by the I-205 bottleneck between Stafford Road and OR 213, including seismic improvements to the Abernethy Bridge. The Oregon portion of I-205 is a federally designated High Priority Corridor and is vital to both the Portland metropolitan region and users statewide. Without additional travel lanes, this section of I-205 will be overwhelmed by forecasted traffic volumes and will negatively impact regional freight mobility.

COUNTY PRIORITIES

- Support policies and funding to **address the housing crisis and improve housing stability** for low income households, including supportive housing services.
- Support legislation that provides **state indemnification of local governments** in cases where the county is acting on behalf of the state to provide services, such as Aid and Assist contracts for mental health programs.

LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

Clackamas County's policy positions will be guided by the five strategic goals below. Priority consideration will be given to policies that advance equity and inclusion, and support the county's goal of being carbon neutral by 2050.



Grow a Vibrant Economy

The county supports legislation that incentivizes businesses to grow and prosper. Successful legislation will ensure the county has dedicated resources for attracting and growing industries and workforce, and has access to an adequate supply of shovel-ready employment lands to expand economic development opportunities.



Build a Strong Infrastructure

The county supports legislation that encourages long-term investments in major infrastructure projects to improve the quality of life of county residents. Successful legislation will ease congestion, expand travel options, enhance seismic resiliency, spur economic growth in employment areas including the Sunrise Gateway Corridor, broaden telecommunication access, and promote science-based and ratepayer-minded water quality protections.



Honor, Utilize, Promote & Invest in our Natural Resources

The county supports legislation that ensures effective and sustainable management and conservation of our abundant natural and agricultural resources. Successful legislation will stimulate and preserve the integrity of our natural resource-based economy, reduce and sequester carbon emissions, and adhere to the public process of Oregon's land use system.



Ensure Safe, Healthy, and Secure Communities

The county supports legislation that improves the health, safety, and wellbeing of all county residents and communities. Successful legislation will support access to community assets, such as parks and libraries, and assist vulnerable populations including residents who are facing homelessness, substance abuse and addictions, behavioral health challenges, and public health threats. Legislation also should help to reduce the crime rate and recidivism, promote and sustain best practices for justice-involved individuals, improve emergency communications and disaster preparedness, and protect survivors of domestic violence.



Build Public Trust through Good Government

The county supports legislation that enhances the county's ability to deliver effective, reliable, and equitable services to county residents. Successful legislation will maintain the county's financial sustainability, allocate sufficient resources for county programs, preserve state and county shared revenue agreements, and support county efforts to attract and retain qualified employees. Legislation also should not impose unfunded mandates, preempt local tax sources, or restrict local government authority.

Appendix B

Policy Statements, Letters, and Factsheets



February 03, 2022

**Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Policy Position
SB 1545 – Related to Workforce Development**

Clackamas County supports a Future Ready Oregon

Clackamas County has been providing workforce services for over 40 years, ensuring high quality and effective programming for low-income and marginalized residents. Our agency prioritizes serving individuals experiencing barriers to employment and include priority populations such as youth, survivors of domestic violence, long-term unemployed, individuals living with disabilities, individuals experiencing mental health conditions, and those with substance use disorder.

More recently, the critical need for the county’s services has become even clearer as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. For 18 months during the pandemic, the County was the only provider of in-person employment services. Staff provided 562 in-person appointments for residents who could not be served remotely. The clients the County serves are often those with extensive barriers to sustainable employment and often require intensive, sustained, and person-centered services to be successful. This work is a critical safety net that ensures residents do not fall through the system.

We believe the intent of SB 1545 is to expand the current workforce system, building upon what is working. In a small number of counties – including both Clackamas and Lane – county governments are playing a critical role in local workforce systems. The two proposed amendments below would ensure they are not inadvertently left out, while also ensuring other existing workforce service providers and community based organizations are able work together for all Oregonians.

- Add “government entities” to the definition of “Workforce service provider” (Sec. 13b).
- In every instance in which all workforce service providers are intended, replace “community-based organization” with “workforce service provider.”

We urge a “YES” vote on SB 1545.

Please contact Chris Lyons at clyons@clackamas.us for more information.

HB 4081

2022

Nearly half of accidental opioid overdose deaths are caused by prescription opioids.

Currently, only 5% of Oregonians filling a high-risk opioid prescription receive an opioid antagonist.

In 2020, 472 Oregonians died of an accidental opioid overdose. In the first half of 2021, 350 Oregonians died.

Nationwide, opioid overdose deaths increased 28% in 2021. Opioid overdose deaths in Oregon increased 40% in 2020, and 45% in 2021.

Contact:

Rep. Rachel Prusak
rep.rachelprusak@oregonlegislature.gov

Elizabeth Howe
elizabeth@howepa.com

Prevent Opioid Overdose Deaths

Ensure patients know the risk and have the tools to prevent overdose

Opioid overdose can happen anytime to anyone using opioid drugs, in any community. Too often, opioid reversal medicine is not in the right hands at the right time. Co-prescription ensures opioid reversal medicine is easily accessible for those at risk of overdose.

HB 4081 would:

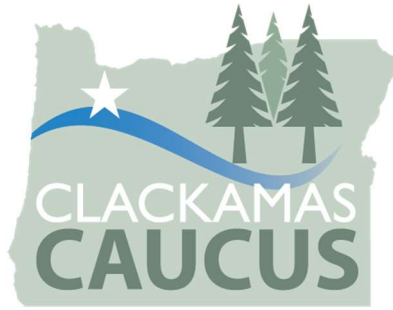
- Require pharmacists to offer a prescription of an opioid overdose reversal medication with any high-risk opioid prescription and provide education about overdose risk and overdose reversal meds.
- Define a high-risk opioid as 90mm or more per day or an opioid concurrently prescribed with benzodiazepine.
- Clarify that the service provided by the pharmacist is reimbursable.
- Become effective January 1, 2023.

Fourteen other states have co-prescription mandates, and in those with data, prescription overdose deaths have declined as overdose education and naloxone distribution has increased.

Vote YES on HB 4081







February 4, 2022

The Honorable Robert Van Brocklin
Chair, Oregon Transportation Commission
355 Capitol Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
[Sent electronically via email]

Subject: Clackamas County legislators united in opposition to current I-205 tolling proposal

Chair Van Brocklin and Members of the Oregon Transportation Commission,

As bipartisan, bicameral members of the Oregon Legislature representing Clackamas County, we write to you to express our serious concerns and united opposition to the current proposal to exclusively toll I-205. We also strongly urge the Oregon Transportation Commission to use *some* federal resources to help finance improvements to I-205.

The plan being proposed right now for tolling I-205 will disproportionately hurt our constituents and local businesses by making them pay more while worsening neighborhood congestion and reducing safety. Tolling local drivers who rely on I-205 for their everyday needs - when this project connects and benefits many parts of the region that will not have to shoulder the same cost - is fundamentally inequitable. Tolling I-205 can only be part of a larger, regional plan for improvements to transportation infrastructure and relief of congestion across the metro area.

Exclusively tolling I-205 will also generate significant traffic and safety problems by diverting more vehicles onto our local streets. This is especially troubling for students and families with young children, as well as seniors or those with disabilities. Our towns and neighborhoods have already experienced substantial population growth over the past decade, which have led to unprecedented levels of local congestion. This project, as it stands, threatens to worsen those trends.

The disproportionate financial burden placed upon our constituents and local businesses by this project – combined with increased traffic and reduced safety – is a real problem that continues to go unaddressed by the Oregon Transportation Commission. Failure to engage in a meaningful dialogue with us and those we represent to address these issues will undermine regional support for this plan and the Oregon Toll Program at-large.

As legislators representing Clackamas County, we will stand with our constituents and in vocal opposition to the current proposal to exclusively toll I-205 until you engage with us further on these issues.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to share our concerns directly and work to find a common path forward.

Sincerely,



Representative Mark Meek (Co-Chair)
House District 40


Representative Rick Lewis (Co-Chair)
House District 18


Representative Janelle Bynum
House District 51



Senator Kayse Jama
Senate District 24

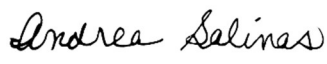

Senator Bill Kennemer
Senate District 20


Representative Courtney Neron
House District 26



Representative Karin Power
House District 41

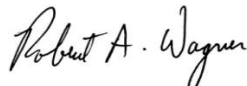

Representative Rachel Prusak
House District 37



Representative Jeff Reardon
House District 48


Representative Andrea Salinas
House District 38

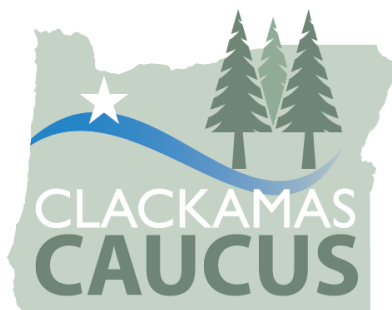

Senator Kim Thatcher
Senate District 13


Senator Chuck Thomsen
Senate District 26


Senator Rob Wagner
Senate District 19


Representative Anna Williams
House District 52

CC: Kris Strickler, ODOT Director
Lindsay Baker, ODOT Government and External Relations
ODOT Equity and Mobility Advisory Committee Members



March 2, 2022

The Honorable Ron Wyden
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
531 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici
2231 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Cliff Bentz
1239 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
1111 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
2134 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kurt Schrader
2431 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

[Sent electronically via email]

Subject: Clackamas County Legislators Request Assistance with I-205 Tolling Concerns

Dear Members of the Oregon Congressional Delegation,

As bipartisan, bicameral members of the Oregon Legislature representing districts located in Clackamas County, we are writing to raise our serious concerns about the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) current proposal to exclusively toll I-205 ahead of the rest of the Portland metro region – and to respectfully ask for your help and support to elevate our concerns with the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC), ODOT, and other relevant stakeholders so we can reach a meaningful solution for Oregonians.

The current proposal for tolling I-205 will lead to more local traffic congestion, reduced road safety, and increased costs to everyday Oregonians; it is fundamentally unfair to our constituents and local businesses, and it will not help create the regional tolling program that OTC aims to establish. For these reasons we are united in our opposition to the current I-205 tolling plan.

This plan will divert more vehicles from I-205 onto our local streets, generating significant traffic and safety problems at a time when our towns and neighborhoods are already experiencing substantial population

growth and local congestion. We are especially concerned for the reduced safety of families with young children, seniors, and those with disabilities. Our local roads and infrastructure, which already experience significant diversion, simply will not be able to handle the additional influx of traffic from I-205 when it is exclusively tolled.

To be clear, there are no transportation alternatives for drivers that want or need to avoid a toll along I-205 except to drive on local roads. Little to no transit exists along this corridor, and no meaningful plan has been proposed to address this gap. Additionally, many local residents will not have the benefit of altering their schedule to avoid peak-pricing proposed by ODOT. Drivers don't choose when their kids are dropped off at school, when they must show up for work, and when congestion happens around them.

Tolling I-205 can only be part of a larger, regional plan for improvements to transportation infrastructure and relief of congestion across the metro area. Unfortunately, that is not what is occurring here. Tolling local drivers who rely on I-205 for their everyday needs - when this project connects and benefits many parts of the region and state that will not have to shoulder the same cost - is fundamentally inequitable to those who live and work in Clackamas County. This plan will increase costs on everyday Oregonians at a time when inflation is already making life unaffordable for too many.

Our repeated requests for dialogue with the OTC have, so far, been ignored. We are now asking for your support and assistance in raising these issues with the OTC and helping us start a serious conversation around addressing them in a meaningful way.

Our concerns around the negative impacts to local traffic and safety – combined with the disproportionate financial burden placed upon our constituents and local businesses by this project – is a real problem that continues to go unaddressed by the OTC. Their failure to engage in a meaningful dialogue with us and those we represent to address these issues will undermine regional support for this plan and the Oregon Toll Program at-large. Said another way, if implementation of the I-205 toll program stumbles, it will create a lack of confidence in the effectiveness of regional tolling, potentially jeopardizing that project. The natural consequence in that scenario is that only I-205 is tolled for several decades. This scenario is unacceptable.

In addition to raising our specific concerns outlined above, we also plan to request the following of the OTC:

1. Create a formal structure to facilitate dialogue with impacted parties and jurisdictions (*Currently, the only mechanism for providing any feedback is to testify at OTC meetings*).
2. Delay tolling on I-205 until federal approval of regional tolling is secured.
3. A commitment to maintaining the current construction schedule for phase 1A (Abernethy Bridge improvements) of the I-205 Improvements Project.
4. A comprehensive financial report that provides transparency to project costs and funding sources.

We welcome the opportunity to work together with your office on elevating these very serious concerns. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter and for any assistance you might be able to provide.

Sincerely,



Representative Mark Meek (Co-Chair)
House District 40



Representative Rick Lewis (Co-Chair)
House District 18



Representative Janelle Bynum
House District 51



Representative James Hieb
House District 39



Senator Kayse Jama
Senate District 24



Senator Bill Kennemer
Senate District 20



Representative Courtney Neron
House District 26



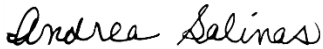
Representative Karin Power
House District 41



Representative Rachel Prusak
House District 37



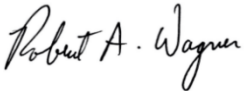
Representative Jeff Reardon
House District 48



Representative Andrea Salinas
House District 38



Senator Chuck Thomsen
Senate District 26



Senator Rob Wagner
Senate District 19



Representative Anna Williams
House District 52

February 24, 2022

Representative Sanchez (Rep.TawnaSanchez@oregonlegislature.gov)

Dear Senator Representative Sanchez:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Housing Authority of Clackamas County (HACC) requesting your support to including \$15 million to stabilize affordable housing in the end of session budget expenditures.

The mission of the Housing Authority of Clackamas County is to provide and develop affordable housing with supportive services for individuals and families on their path to improved health, wellness, prosperity and inclusion. In order to sustain these services, we prioritize financial sustainability and thriving partnerships to ensure our long-term viability. Our organization currently has over \$500,000 in back due rent for tenants who will soon be at risk of eviction. Thanks to previous rounds of the Landlord Compensation Fund made available by the Legislature, and were able to erase some back rent debt for tenants. However, the program included barriers such as an attestation that was difficult to overcome, and OERAP also included barriers to accessing that were difficult for tenants to overcome and because housing authorities operate with narrow margins, significant gaps remain.

The proposed \$15 million into a Housing Stabilization Fund would shore up these affordable housing developments and relieve tenants with low incomes of outstanding debt that would otherwise be an ongoing barrier to maintaining safe and stable housing. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Toni Karter
Interim Director

Healthy Families. Strong Communities.

P.O. Box 1510, 13930 S. Gain Street, Oregon City, OR, 97045-0510 • Phone (503) 655-8267 • Fax (503) 655-8676

TDD 503-655-8639 www.clackamas.us/housingauthority